

## MINUTES

Vestry Meeting –Wednesday, December 13, 2017 - 7:00 PM

Present: Fr. Richard, Nancy Waugh, John Grant, Susan Howland, Mary Bridget Burns, Lynn Garland, Tamsin Lucey, Diane Nichols, Rose Reith, Peg Nelson

Absent with regrets: Bill Pieczynski

Open at 7:05 p.m. with prayer.

Bible Study – John I: 6-8, 19-28

**A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the minutes of the November vestry meeting, emailed November 14, 2017.**

### Christian Formation Project

Fr. Richard will begin confirmation classes on January 7, 2018, following coffee hour. There will be about 12 classes, and, although there is only one candidate, he is hopeful that others will participate to make this a meaningful experience for the candidate.

### Update - Ecumenical and Interfaith Opportunities:

- The group will take more time to organize the Laugh in Peace event and probably schedule it for early in 2019.

### Upcoming events:

- Family Worship production December 17, 2017 – Lynn and Susan offered to help set up and perform hostess duties.
- Epiphany service and supper will be on Saturday, January 6, 2018, beginning at 4:30 with a plan to eat around 5:15. Mary Bridget suggested that because Epiphany is an important celebration for the Puerto Rican community, this would be a good time to find ways to invite and include our neighbors. Signage will reflect that this is the Festival of Kings celebration and efforts will be made to contact community leaders, perhaps even suggesting that the abuelas might like to prepare food.
- The Annual Meeting will be held on January 21 with a snow date of February 4.
- Barbara Kalber has offered to host an ECW luncheon at her house after church on January 14, 2018, honoring Bobbie Helbig.

### Review events

- An important outcome of the Mutual Ministry Review was that we might want to revisit boundaries and time commitment, particularly regarding Fr. Richard's responsibilities. Also, do we now have a fresh appreciation of goal setting? Canon Mott suggested that we work on 2 or 3 items in each section so this could be subject matter for our 2018 retreat or perhaps we can work on this in a shared Vital Teams meeting.

### Building Committee – Tamsin

- Montessori is still interested in renting the playground (left) side of the basement. Shelby O'Day has gotten her license and will learn in about 4 weeks whether the school is eligible for vouchers. It is her desire to expand over time, but for now she would occupy about 800 square feet of classroom space. We need to determine a feasible rent, which may look something like a little less than \$1 per square foot (we charged the YMCA \$1/sf) plus a utility fee. If West Street School wishes to house a program at Holy Trinity, they could possibly use the undercroft. The vestry gave support to move forward.

- Quinebaug Valley Singers have used space at Holy Trinity for their music library for more than 30 years. **A motion was made, seconded and approved to terminate the existing relationship with the Quinebaug Valley Singers.**
- Dave from Cole Contacting will do a walk-through of the property, including the downstairs bathrooms, to see what needs doing.
- Susan successfully petitioned for a waiver of the \$200 board of health certificate fee. This might be the last year that the fee will be waived because the town is changing its rules.
- Greg, our new sexton, is working out well.
- The windows for the kitchen were not ordered as thought, so they will be installed in the spring.
- Because LeBlanc is so busy, the Building Committee is considering retaining Mike Garon as resident electrician.
- Gordon has finished the heating under the sink in the annex and in the main kitchen. Chris will make more laminated signs about not touching controls. Those 2 heaters only circulate water that is in the boiler at that time; they will not call for the burner to come on.
- We need to do something about the safe in office so that it will lock/unlock more easily.

The Treasurer's report, emailed December 9, 2017, was not discussed in the interest of time.

#### 2018 Budget

There is a \$22,544 pledge shortfall for 2018. **A motion was made, seconded and approved to affirm the staff figures as they now stand in the budget.** Perhaps 10 more pledges will come in, but that will not make up the difference.

#### Other business:

- New vestry members for 2018: Mary Bridget Burns will step off. Lorraine Brumskine will take her spot. Bill Pieczynski will be asked what he plans to do. Diane Nichols will assume the Jr. Warden position. Nancy Waugh will fill a 2 year slot.
- Annual Reports are due to Chris by January 7, 2018.
- Food donations for the food pantry: Because the current system is showing a decreased number of donations, Tamsin asked if this is a ministry that we want to continue. Should we return to the old system? It was agreed to table this for a later meeting.
- The February vestry meeting will be on February 5.
- Diane offered the North Brookfield Senior Center for our 2018 vestry retreat. Fr. Richard will learn Canon Mott's availability and then set a date.
- Parish Leadership Day is March 17. Perhaps we will not have March vestry meeting because of all that is going on.

Prayer for the Parish

**A motion to adjourn at 9:25 was seconded and approved.**

Respectfully submitted by Peg Nelson, Clerk

Next Vestry meeting January 10, 2018 7:00PM