

MINUTES

APPROVED

Vestry Meeting –Wednesday, October 11, 2017 - 7:00 PM

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

Absent with regrets: Mary Bridget Burns

Open at 7:15 p.m. with prayer.

Bible Study – Matthew 22: 1-14, The Parable of the Wedding Banquet

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the minutes of the September vestry meeting, emailed September 26, 2017.

Christian Formation Project - Fr. Richard

Fr. Richard is using the leads from the welcome cards to phone those who may be interested in preparing for confirmation. As yet, he has not heard back from anyone.

It was explained that the welcome cards are working well. Fr. Richard reviews the cards first and annotates when necessary. Then they go to Chris for an email note thanking the person for filling out the card and expressing our happiness in having them join us. If no email address is provided, a handwritten note is sent.

Updates from September vestry meeting - Ecumenical and Interfaith Opportunities

- Laugh in Peace (professional Christian/Jewish/Muslim comedians describe their religious life and take questions), \$500 per church plus ticket price (est. \$25 per head)/Total cost \$10K.
Fr. Richard told other pastors that we would be able to participate with the \$500 seed money.
- Prayer for Christian Unity Pulpit Exchange 28 JAN 2018 (Pastor Kirsten will come to HTEC; I would go to BLC)
This is on the calendar to happen.
- Community Youth Program - comprised of mainline parishes (traditional) from Sturbridge/Southbridge/Brimfield/Charlton (accept as a possibility?)
Because the last clergy meeting involved a tour of St. Luke's Guesthouse, Fr. Richard has not had an opportunity to speak with Pastor Janet about the community youth program. He will convey that we want to focus on our young kids.

Rental of Our Space

Susan was telling Jane Cutting about repurposing our space downstairs. Jane told the family liaison person at West Street School, Michele Ortiz, and Michele expressed an interest in meeting with us. Perhaps we can meet with her to learn about the needs of the community and how we may interact. Diane offered to reach out to CFC, which covers many local towns, to explore potential opportunities for rental.

The Presiding Bishop, Bishop Curry, will be in Springfield this weekend to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the cathedral. Fr. Richard recommended that we switch up the service on Sunday, October 15, to the opening hymn, offertory and Eucharist. We would then recess to the parish hall to follow the mass as it is broadcast live from the cathedral.

Upcoming events

Stewardship Breakfast 11/19. Nancy will bring sign-up sheet to next vestry meeting.

Review events

Building Committee – Tamsin

- Kitchen Renovation - Inspections will follow wiring up the dishwasher. Signs above the grease trap and food prep sink as required by plumbing inspector will be prepared. Butcher block is in and carpentry is completed. Brian has helped put things back in kitchen, and he will sand and treat the butcher block with mineral oil. Once everything is put back in place, Tamsin will call Board of Health for inspection. Mark quoted \$2,265 to replace 3 windows so that we will be lead free; however, his quote did not include trim work. Tamsin will ask Mark to give us an updated quote, including cost to dispose of windows if necessary, and we will then have an email vote.
- The YMCA security deposit cannot be returned until keys returned, Sharps are removed, a walk through is completed and toys are removed. Tamsin will send an email to the Y to set up the walk through.
- Sexton Job applications – The Indeed posting has generated 7-9 applications. Newspaper ads will run this week and next. Chris will send thank you notes for applications. Applications will be reviewed and interviews conducted after 10/23. The current plan is to allow up to 8 hours a week for the Sexton to clean and about 12 hours a month for odd jobs by Brian.

The fire alarm has been tested, and they think they have solved the problem in the panel.

Carol Hanson contacted Tamsin to thank the angel who is mailing the bulletin and the Sunday sermon. She has asked for an updated parish mailing list because she sends birthday cards to parish members.

Stewardship- Journey to Generosity – Eileen and Lynn have presented, and Joe is scheduled for 10/15.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the Treasurer's report emailed October 7, 2017.

A motion was made by Susan to put the YMCA income into a reserve account minus 10% to go to the mission and outreach fund to be used as needed. Motion seconded and approved. These funds will be segregated for tracking purposes.

Susan emailed the 2018 budget to the vestry. Not all numbers are known yet.

Closing prayer – Prayer for the Parish

A motion to adjourn at 9:15 was seconded and approved.

Respectfully submitted by Peg Nelson, Clerk

Next Vestry meeting November 8, 2017 7:00PM