

MINUTES

Vestry Meeting –Wednesday, January 10, 2018 - 7:00 PM

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

Absent with regrets: Mary Bridget Burns

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

Bible Study – John I, 43-51.

**A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the revised minutes of the December 2017 vestry meeting, emailed January 4, 2018.**

Worship

- Changes to Liturgy for January Sunday services – Fr. Richard sees these changes as a way to bring silence into the liturgy. Generally, the vestry felt that the format worked well and that it offers people a new way to hear the liturgy. The word ‘silence’ will be inserted into the proper places in the bulletin so that visitors will understand that we are not moving to the next reading immediately. We will ask for feedback at the annual meeting. Another suggestion was to gradually transition to lengthening the silence, starting at less than 30 seconds and working toward that.
- Funeral and Wedding Policies – Susan will email a template for funeral and wedding policies to the Finance and Building Committees and the Vestry. Please offer suggestions for changes and corrections; those who participate in the online discussion will be invited to form the committee for writing the final policies.

Ecumenical and Interfaith Opportunities

- Laugh in Peace (professional Christian/Jewish/Muslim comedians) event date has been changed to 2019. The committee is in the process of engaging an event planner.

**A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the Treasurer’s report emailed January 2018.**

**It was motioned, seconded and approved to accept the revised Budget 2018, emailed January 1, 2018.** This budget is a reality check, and the vestry thanked Susan for making the tough but necessary decisions.

Using the end-of-the-year Financial Statement, Susan explained how our checking/savings balance can be \$118,311.59. She discussed the various vestry designated and temporarily restricted funds. Also, she explained that the Holy Trinity savings account is funded primarily by the YMCA money and free cash. Going forward, it might be necessary to help the parish understand why we need a good strong pledge situation with such a hefty amount in the bank.

Upcoming events

- Annual Meeting – January 21, 2018, with rain/snow date of February 4, 2018.
- ECW luncheon at Barbara Kalber’s at Noon on January 14, 2018, to honor Bobbie Helbig. Arrangements have been made for carpooling to ease the parking situation.
- January 28 – Pulpit swap with Bethlehem Lutheran Church.
- Souper Bowl of Caring – February 4, 2018. Traditionally, the youth help to ladle and sell soup. Parishioners are invited to bring soup. It raises about \$200 and maintains the youth connection.
- Mardi Gras Pancake Supper – 5 p.m. February 13, 2018. Susan will make the mix. John will cook. Tamsin will pick up the meat at Stearns.
- March 3 – collective 60<sup>th</sup> celebration by Tamsin and Susan Grant, similar to what Joe did.
- March 29, Maundy Thursday Seder.

We will discuss a date for the Vestry Retreat at the February 5 vestry meeting, when the new vestry is seated.

Lynn inquired about the procedure to advise new members that they are now on the vestry. Fr. Richard will send an email to Lorraine and Lana thanking them, letting them know about the first meeting date after the annual meeting, and explaining that they will be receiving the notebook and keys. It was suggested that, going forward, we have a template for a note to new members.

#### Review events

- Family Worship production, December 17, 2017 – By all accounts, it was wonderful, best ever. Each year Family Worship keeps outdoing the previous year's production. It was especially good to have mics on all the children.
- Epiphany Supper, January 6, 2018 – The kids stole the show, again, and there was more than enough food for the 32 who attended.

#### Building Committee

- Susan reported that the Building Committee met in November. They are getting estimates from Cole Contracting for the downstairs bathrooms (2 estimates—1 cosmetic, 1 structural to make it handicap accessible), heating covers, outside brick work on church, painting outside trim and repairing rot, and an estimate to replace the parish hall windows. John mentioned that the fire escape needs painted, and the retaining wall needs to be looked at.
- We are still in conversation with the Montessori School for them to rent the playground-side half of the basement with restrooms and hall at \$1,500. This rental income would take care of a lot of the work that Cole Contracting is quoting. Shelby O'Day, the director, has not gotten back to us. Susan will write up a report and send out.
- The office safe has been replaced with a locked filing cabinet. Brian Canty is putting in a hinged table to give the counters additional workspace under The Bread Box Company regarding our gas bill. Holy Trinity will pay a base bill of \$21.70 for 13 therms. The Bread Box Company will be billed for and pay everything over 13 therms. We will also keep an eye on the electric and water/sewer bills. In response to John's question, Tamsin said that she (the Bread Box Company) cleans the grease trap every two weeks.

#### Other business

- Food donations for the food pantry – Rose Reith said that she has heard nothing since her email. She will give us an update at a later time.
- Suggestion for the Church Christmas decorations – It has been suggested that in September we move the Christmas greens and candle poles down from the balcony to assess the condition.
- Changes to the Ministry Scheduler – Each ministry's point person needs to be in touch with that committee about whether they want to continue and then to provide a schedule to Chris for the ministry scheduler.
- Facebook – Chris puts up what she is told to put up. It would be nice to identify someone who would like to become an editor, not necessarily an administrator.

Closing prayer- Prayer for the Parish

**A motion to adjourn at 9:20 was seconded and approved.**

Respectfully submitted by Peg Nelson, Clerk

Next Vestry meeting, February 5, 2018 7:00PM