

Holy Trinity Church, Southbridge, MA

Minutes of August 10 Vestry Meeting

Present: Lorraine Brumskine, Eileen DeMings, Jean Frost, Lynn Garland, John Grant, Susan Howland, Mother Judith Lee, Cat Reith-Lowery, Robin Yates

Regrets: Lana Pieczynski, Nancy Waugh

Meeting started with Holy Eucharist

Acceptance of Minutes: A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve and accept the minutes from June 8th meeting.

Treasurer's report – Nancy sent out reports and a written summary – a motion was made to approve, it was seconded and carried. Susan asked if anyone had an objection to the financial reports being posted on the website with the minutes from the meeting. There were no objections so Susan will take care of that.

Priest's Report

Pastoral Care check-in

Mother Judith announced that there will be a baptism on August 28th, a member of the Russell Morris family. The Morris family were members for many years.

Bishop's visitation will be moved from Fall of 2023 to Spring of 2023. That will work better as a goal for the confirmation class.

What have we done well? There was a question about an option for Practicing our Faith being recorded for people who can't make it to the in-person or Zoom due to work. Mother Judith has been considering having sessions at another time for people who can't be there. She will continue to pursue that option.

What could we have done better? - Youth Faith Formation in the Spring went well but the Summer was much busier than expected. VBS – first day was wonderful but the second day did not happen. More realistic goals need to be set.

NEW BUSINESS:

–Josh Spooner's application to be Worship Leader was approved via email, and a motion made, seconded and carried to confirm the approval of Josh's application for Worship Leader.

A motion made, seconded and carried to approve Employment Agreement for Anne Bouvier-Monroe

A copy of the 90-day Staff Review of Chris McTigue was provided to Vestry Members for their review.

Susan Howland and John Grant wrote up Volunteer Position Descriptions for the Communications Coordinator and Technology Support Officer, respectively.

Approval of Volunteer Position Description for Communications Coordinator – motion made, seconded and carried.

Approval of VPD for Technology Support Officer – motion made, seconded and carried.

Notes from Warden's Meeting with the Bishop on June 21st. Since the Pandemic the Bishop has been meeting with the wardens from the Diocese. Susan will send a copy of the notes she took at the most recent meeting.

Review of Timeline for 2022 goals

Worship – Altar Guild - increasing numbers – Lorraine has joined so there has been some progress, would still like a few more participants

Adding diversity to music in service – does seem to be happening - more music from LEVAS, Celtic music

Involving youth and children in service – for acolytes we need to set a date for some training and fitting for robes – send out email

Ecumenical services – Mother Judith informed the local clergy that we are going to host an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service this year.

Faith Formation

Adult– going strong, in place of social studies group there is a reading group

Youth – planning for a pre-confirmation class, Fall Programming to start in October – 1st and 3rd Sundays: first Sunday will be Youth service, 3rd Sunday the youth will meet together after the service. On the 2nd and 4th Sundays activity packets will be available to families, both electronically and at the church. 3 age groups –youngest (4-8) meet with parents, 9-12 meet with someone other than parents, teenagers meet for pre-confirmation, taught by Mother Judith and Cat Reith-Lowery

VBS reinstitute – started in August

Pastoral Care

Committee has begun to meet, will meet quarterly

Eileen reported it has been difficult trying to organize a get-together; people have been communicating but can't seem to be in the same place at the same time. There was some discussion about some other options for an informal get together for the end of the summer – more information needs to be gathered.

International Dinner – being planned, good way to bring us together around Veteran's Day

MINISTRY REPORTS

Communications - written report submitted

Building Report written report

Faith Formation – addressed earlier in the meeting

DOK – Lorraine reported that barrels were sent recently. The DOK chapter at St. Monica's Episcopal Church in Hartford have collected items to be sent to Liberia. They had a Liberian priest, so they know the Liberian story. Lorraine will be going to worship with them this Sunday and pick up the items they have collected.

Stewardship – no report

Praying Hands – written report

Executive session – no notes

The Vestry unanimously voted to support Jean Frost's application to Loving the Questions and proposed to pay the fee of \$300.

The Vestry unanimously attested to Lorraine Brumskine's application for nomination to the vocational diaconate.

A closing prayer was read by Jean Frost at 9:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Jean Frost, clerk