

**HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
VESTRY MEETING MINUTES**

January 10, 2024

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. [Isaiah 43:19]

Present: Lynn Garland, John Grant, Robin Yates, Cat Reith-Lowery, Eileen DeMings, Jean Frost, Nancy Waugh, Lorraine Brumskine, Lana Pieczynski, Susan Howland

Regrets: none

HOLY EUCHARIST

OPENING BUSINESS

Acceptance of Minutes: December 13, 2023 – Jean Frost **A motion was made to accept the December minutes, it was seconded and carried.**

Treasurer's Report: December – Nancy - Nancy sent the financial information out via email, she did not receive any questions. **A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report.**

A motion was made to send \$2,000 to the trustees for the Diocese of Western Massachusetts to be added to the Dirlam Fund. It was seconded and carried.

A motion was made to send \$240 to the trustees for the Diocese of Western Massachusetts to be added to the Holy Trinity Legacy Fund. It was seconded and carried.

Resolution: Approval of amended 2024 budget **A motion was made to approve the amended 2024 budget, it was seconded, and carried.**

PRIEST'S REPORT

Pastoral Update

Thank you to outgoing Vestry members: Lorraine Brumskine & Lana Pieczynski

Debriefing: What have we done well? Caroling was fabulous – the two people they caroled for were very appreciative. A blessed event for all involved. The Christmas Eve service was very special.

What could we have done better? Nothing noted.

NEW BUSINESS:

Our next Vestry meeting falls on Ash Wednesday so we have decided to hold our meeting on February 7th.

Nomination of convention delegates and alternates, and new Vestry members John Grant Vestry Delegate, Robin Yates Vestry Alternate Delegate, Lorraine Brumskine Delegate, Cat Reith-Lowery Alternate Delegate.

Ryan Bousquet has agreed to be placed on the ballot as a nominee for a Vestry member. The second open position will remain open. Nominations from the floor will be asked for at the Annual Meeting.

Update: Negotiations for sharing clergy with Bethlehem Lutheran Church After our December Vestry meeting Susan Howland spoke with Canon Rich Simpson, Canon Rich

spoke with Sara Andersson – Associate Bishop in the Lutheran Synod, Sarah Anderson spoke with the leadership team of Bethlehem Lutheran Church, and they are interested in having a conversation with us about sharing a priest. There will be a meeting on January 18th at 7 pm at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Canon Rich Simpson, Sara Anderson, Mother Judith Lee, Pastor Dan Purtell, Lynn Garland and Susan Howland, Mike Wimberly and Terrie Novak will attend.

Planning: Annual Parish Meeting

8:45-9:15 – Budget Review in the Parish Hall

9:30 Service of Holy Communion, with the Annual Meeting to follow. Both will take place in the Parish Hall, and VBS will happen from 9:30 to 10:15

The service will be streamed on Facebook and the meeting will be hybrid, accessible on Zoom .

Buffet Coffee hour: Vestry hosting – Vestry members will bring what they brought for the Stewardship Breakfast

Planning: Shrove Tuesday & Ash Wednesday

Shall we plan on having a Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper? YES

Whose responsibility is this? Family Worship

Who will be the point person? Eileen will be the point person. John

Grant will be cooking, youth that are willing can help.

Ash Wednesday services: Ashes to Go – Mother Judith and Pastor Dan will administer at on Hamilton Street in the morning, then move to Bethlehem Lutheran in the parking lot, and in the afternoon will administer ashes in the parking lot at Bethlehem Lutheran; services of Holy Eucharist will take place at Holy Trinity at noon & 7 pm.

MINISTRY REPORTS

- Communications – Susan Howland – see the report in The Annual Report – beginning in February Susan will continue to be the webmaster but will no longer be the communications coordinator. Cat Reith-Lowery expressed an interest in getting more involved with communications.
 - John Grant reports that he has been working with new microphones and has some suggestions for Mother Judith
- Building Committee – Tamsin Lucey – a written report was submitted. Tamsin spoke with Lynn about the situation in the boiler room: a puddle of oil-tinged water on the floor of the boiler room. It was due to the high ground water, snow and rain, a water burp (Susan will also be stepping away from the Building Committee but will continue to track the oil usage and bulk buy oil when the price is right.)
- Cooking for Life – Tamsin Lucey – no report
- Landscaping Committee – Lynn Garland – no report

- Family Worship/Faith Formation Steering Committee – Eileen DeMings – plans for Lent: We will continue with the Lenten bags, and we will plan to resurrect the Resurrection Gardens;
Adult formation will include Sacred Ground through the Diocese. Meeting for evening groups has become difficult – people have different schedules; there are plans for doing more with BLC. Right now, the focus is on a Lenten program – perhaps an instructional Eucharist on the Sundays in Lent. Sunday School curriculum revisions are being discussed.
- Super Bowl Sunday February 11th – Who will organize? Cat will work on that.
- Daughters of the King- Lorraine Brumskine, Robin Yates Lorraine found some barrels, prices started at \$125 each; she hopes to get 3 barrels for \$300. There is a lot to send, school supplies and books.
- Stewardship – Nancy Waugh, Lynn Garland – There are new counting sheets on the computer for 2024. Nancy has ordered fewer boxes of envelopes because there are fewer people using the weekly envelopes. She is looking into having special envelopes available for Christmas and Easter offerings for those who do not have the boxed envelopes.
- Praying Hands Ministry – Susan Howland – see the Praying Hands Ministry Annual Report. Going forward this ministry will be informal.
- Hospitality – Cat Reith-Lowery – a lot happened this year. The Hospitality Annual Report is very thorough, please read it.

CLOSING PRAYER & ADJOURNMENT A motion was made to adjourn; it was seconded and carried. Cat Reith-Lowery said a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Frost, clerk