

APPROVED

HOLY TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
VESTRY AGENDA August 14, 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: John Grant, Susan Howland, Jean Frost, Robin Yates, Nancy Waugh, Ryan Bousquet,
Mother Judith, Lynn Garland, Eileen DeMings
Regrets: Dave Monroe, Cat Reith-Lowery

HOLY EUCHARIST
OPENING BUSINESS

- Welcome back, Mother Judith!
- Acceptance of Minutes: July 10, 2024, Jean Frost **A motion was made to accept the minutes from July 10th, it was seconded and carried.**
- Treasurer's Report: Nancy Waugh **A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report, it was seconded, and carried.**

PRIEST'S REPORT

- Pastoral Care Check-in
- Plans for Faith Formation Faith Formation Steering committee will be meeting tomorrow – they will discuss the Retreat for August 25th. There will be an Instructional Eucharist at 11 am. The retreat part of the morning will be focused on The Big Way of Love for Kids. The BIG Way of Love for Kids comes from the Way of Love, a rule of life with seven spiritual practices that help us all to look, live, and love more like Jesus. There are playing cards with activities on them for all ages. Mother Judith got some decks of cards for people to take on Sunday. While Pastor Dan is on Sabbatical, we at Holy Trinity can be more focused on learning more about the Episcopal Church to become more grounded in our denomination.
- A review of how the past three months have gone – we are used to changing gears with different priests and things seem to be going well with Pastor Dan. Has the later service caused any issues for people? Heat is an issue for a few of the older parishioners, there are others who have other things that have to be done so they are not able to come at 11 am. Going to the 9 am service at Bethlehem Lutheran is an option for people who need an earlier service
- What does the vestry and congregation need during Pastor Dan's sabbatical? – addressed above
- What have we done well? Getting Food Share into the building, adjusting to Pastor Dan and then having Mother Judith back
- What could we have done better? Updating the parish directory more frequently. Last time it was updated was 2021.

FOLLOW-UP FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:

- Food Share Update - They have officially moved in. Wednesday August 21st they will resume distribution of food to those in need. There were a lot of people who helped with the move-in. There will be a Blessing at their Open House in September, when all their volunteers will be present. They are planning to hold a very high-profile event; state and local officials will be invited.

- Plans for Directory Update – A copy of the last directory will be in the narthex for people to update their information on Sundays.
- We are now listed in the newspaper. An email was sent to the email address listed in the digital copy of the Southbridge evening News.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Confirmation of the email approved motion to put a lockbox on the church for Food Share, at their cost. **A motion to allow Food Share to install a key-code lock box near the undercroft entrance at their expense was made via email and sent to all vestry members, it was seconded, and carried.**
- Confirmation of the email approved motion to establish a QuickBooks account for Food Share income and move that income into the building fund. **A motion to establish a separate QuickBooks account for Food Share income and to move that income into the building fund had been made and sent to the Vestry via email, it was seconded and carried.**

MINISTRY REPORTS (as appropriate)

- Communications: Susan Howland, Cat Reith-Lowry, John Grant – Susan continues to update the website as needed.
- Building Committee: Jean Frost - Food Share has moved in. The floors in the classrooms look great. Oil was ordered and delivered, and has now been paid for. There is still a lot of oil in the underground tank. Tasse's is waiting for enough truck tanks to be empty, in order to remove the remainder of the oil and the sludge. When the cold weather arrives, we will go on automatic delivery.
- Collaboration Team: Cat Reith-Lowry, Dave Monroe – Mother Judith reported on what was shared at the Bethlehem Council meeting. They have been meeting monthly, tossing out ideas of how to share ministries, brainstorming ideas. A shared Youth Group, maybe something in each church's newsletter about what the other church is doing.
- Endowment Committee: Susan Howland – no report, endowments are reported on the financial reports. They are updated quarterly.
- Landscaping Committee: Lynn Garland, Dave Monroe – the tree outside the church has been trimmed, safely. AND the shed has been cleaned out.
- Family Worship/Faith Formation: Eileen DeMings – done earlier in the meeting
- Youth Program: Dave Monroe and Ryan Bousquet had an initial meeting with Heather Miranda from Bethlehem Lutheran. On Friday the 23rd there will be dinner and activities
- Daughters of the King: Robin Yates reports that things are going well, began study. Judith Reich will take part in a service of re-dedication on August 25th.
- Stewardship: Nancy Waugh, Lynn Garland – Nancy did find the material she was looking for on the TENS website, and she will look for volunteers to speak during October.
- Hospitality: Lynn Garland FF Steering Committee will discuss refreshments for Sunday's retreat

CLOSING PRAYER: meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm and a "popcorn prayer was said with contributions from everyone

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