

## Holy Trinity Episcopal Church - Minutes of Vestry Meeting April 9, 2025

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]

### HOLY EUCHARIST

**Present:** John Grant, Pastor Dan Purtell, Nancy Waugh, Dave Monroe, Lynn Garland, Jean Frost, via Zoom – Ryan Bousquet, Robin Yates

**Regrets:** Eileen DeMings, Susan Howland, Cat Reith-Lowery

### OPENING BUSINESS

- Acceptance of Minutes: March 12, 2025, Jean Frost - The minutes were amended to show that at our March meeting we did approve Food Share's request to open on a Wednesday or Thursday evening. **A motion was made to accept the amended minutes from the March Vestry meeting, it was seconded and carried.**
- Treasurer's Report: Nancy Waugh The financials and a summary were sent out via email. **A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report, it was seconded and carried.** Nancy will be sending out an email with a date for the Audit Committee to meet.
- Pastoral Care Check-in
- What have we done well? Retaining wall project got started, Shared service went very well, people mingled and sat with people with from the "other" church. Cathedral in the night went very well. Signs for the services during Holy Week were put out, Nancy was starting to put the signs up and Jean arrived, and helped, then Greg showed up, and he helped finish the job.
- What could we have done better? Cleaning up the kitchen after the Pancake supper and after cooking food for the Cathedral in the Night. The fire alarm went off after the cooking had been completed and the griddle was being cleaned. Chairs were moved from the kids table in the parish hall, but were not replaced with chairs from downstairs before the shared service coffee hour. For the brunch – there was a written sign-up sheet and an email with an on-line sign-up went out so there was at least one item that was on the written sheet but not on the on-line one, so that item was doubled up.

**PRIEST'S REPORT** There will be two more Confirmation classes, at Bethlehem, April 28 and May 8<sup>th</sup>. Bishop's visit is coming up in May. Pastor Dan is working on the paperwork. He will meet with the bishop a week before Confirmation (May 18<sup>th</sup>). He has been enjoying the Fresh Start program for new clergy in the Diocese. Pastor Dan will be taking a few days for himself after Easter.

### FOLLOW-UP TO PREVIOUS BUSINESS

- Review of shared service – done earlier
- Retaining Wall update - work started last Friday, nothing was done Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, work expected to resume on Thursday.

- Update on Eagle Scout project: - Josh has submitted his paperwork to the Scout council, he is now waiting for approval of his project. We need to determine the location for the library box - Josh wanted to put it near the bench area but Lynn feels it would be better between the ramp and the sidewalk. Those present agreed with that location.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Motion request for Jean to participate in Lay Preacher training through the Diocese - **A motion was made to approve Jean's enrollment in the Lay Preacher training through the Diocese of Western MA, it was seconded and approved enthusiastically.**
- Offer from Tamsin to share her experiences with churches in England – During last Sunday's service Tamsin offered to share information and pictures of her travels to several different churches while she was in England recently. We felt that people would be interested. Because of Tamsin's schedule, it won't be done anytime soon but we will plan for it to occur when she has recovered from her surgery.
- How do we share information about social justice opportunities with the parish? There are bulletin boards in the foyer where information could be posted, announcements could be made during coffee hour, and people can post on their own Facebook pages.
- Lynn learned of an opportunity to recycle unwanted religious items to be given to other churches. A review of things to consider - there is a metal Advent wreath, an Icon that used to hang at the back of the church, and a picture of Mary and child that were found during the clearing out of the balcony space. There was no dissent about sending those items from the members present. The group taking the items will be in the area at end of April – early May.
- Rosilda's kitchen is doing very well.

#### **MINISTRY REPORTS (as appropriate)**

- Communications: Susan Howland – no report, Cat Reith-Lowry, John Grant – old laptop is very old and works poorly (it has already been replaced). John recommends decommissioning it and clearing off all church documents, etc. before possibly offering it to anyone interested in taking it for exploring a computer (not as a functioning computer).
- Building Committee: Jean Frost sent out a report. The electrician will send his guys to Holy Trinity on either Tuesday or Thursday after Easter. John would like to show them where he would like new outlets in the sanctuary. Greg suggested the undercroft floor be waxed in the Fall since it will be a big job, maybe 20 hours. Perhaps Columbus Day weekend or Labor Day weekend
- Endowment Committee: Susan Howland sent out a report.
- Landscaping Committee: Helen Boyle has some Hostas and bleeding hearts that she would like to plant near the stairs leading to the undercroft door.
- Family Worship/Faith Formation: Eileen DeMings sent out an update via email– Viewing of The Chosen is continuing.
- Youth Program: Dave Monroe and Ryan Bousquet – the only date that was available by interested parties for a joint game night was the evening before the Bishop's visit in

May. It was decided that it was not a good time, so there will not be a game night in May.

- Daughters of the King: Robin Yates – They are still doing the study on the book Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World, the barrels have been sent off to Liberia. (no more complaints of gas odor in undercroft)
- Stewardship: Nancy Waugh, Lynn Garland - Nancy spoke with Kathleen from BLC about stewardship – what we do/have done. Kathleen was interested in a narrative format for a budget.
- Hospitality: Lynn Garland - going smoothly

**CLOSING PRAYER** Nancy Waugh

**ADJOURN:** 8:43 pm