

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vestry Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2015

Vestry present: Rev. Sandi Kerner, Rick Cole, Ben Bruno, Anne Larrick, John Rick, Stew Wolfe and Cindy Coleman.

Vestry Absent: Elizabeth Forrest, Jon Brew and Peter Boone

Opening Prayer: Rev. Sandi Kerner opened the meeting with prayer.

Guest Presentation: Greg Dunaway, Treasurer

Greg gave a presentation on the new ACS Financial Suite using his laptop and the large dropdown screen in the Parish Hall. He demonstrated the types of reports that can be generated such as reconciliation, expenses, chart of accounts, etc. and helped all to grasp a better understanding of the system capabilities.

Greg has been working with Nancy Foster and has made suggestions for "best practices". Nancy is working with Jean Suttler to get her training up to speed. Once implementation is complete all of the church accounts and information will be stored in one place. All endowment accounts are now in ACS and will be updated quarterly. Restricted accounts will be the next group to be entered in ACS. Nancy will be helping Jean with this process.

Currently Greg and Jean have administrative rights in ACS. Greg will provide vestry with "read only" rights so they can access ACS on-line at any time to see the status of accounts and view their commission budgets.

The church checking account can now be monitored on-line. Greg welcomes questions and suggestions for improvement.

Cindy Coleman will contact Wally at ACS to verify if copies of bank statements and receipts can be scanned and attached to reports.

Interview: Linda Ricker

Linda Ricker attended the vestry meeting for a Q&A to help her progress from Postulant to Candidate and for the vestry to formally consider her recommendation to the Bishop as a Candidate for Holy Orders as a Deacon.

Linda explained that the process for her thus far has been transformative. She explained what she has learned about being a deacon during her internship since January. She has been participating in a study on Human Understanding which envelopes pastoral care. She will have to submit a reflection paper. There are eleven (11) in her class and she is the only one from this area.

Linda currently serves every Sunday at St. John's, Chester, as she continues her diaconal formation, and has preached there several times. Her mentoring Deacon is Becky Dean.

Linda was asked about how she practices self-care. She responded that she is giving herself one hour each night and she enjoys her dogs.

Linda was asked how she sees her diaconal ministry evolving. She responded: Prison Ministry, The Gathering and Prison Hospice.

When asked what the hardest thing was for her during this process, she responded: leaving St. Luke's and studying while still working full-time.

MOTION PASSED: The vestry voted to approve the" Certificate of Candidacy for Ordination to the Diaconate by Rector and Vestry of Parish to which the Postulant Belongs".

MOTION PASSED: The vestry voted to approve Vestry Minutes of March 19, 2015.

Sr. Warden (report attached)

Ben Bruno spoke about creating a visual video for the church website that would highlight church activities.

He also expressed disappointment in attendance at the parish-wide meetings held to share the results of the CAT survey which was explained by our consultant, Lynn Ellen Queen. There is concern that we could lose momentum and that a strategic plan needs to be completed.

Anne Larrick suggested that the vestry come up with a 10/20 year plan. Rick Cole suggested that a 5 year plan would be more achievable. Anne suggested a Saturday meeting for the vestry to discuss so they don't lose sight of our vision.

Jr. Warden

John Rick announced that VDOT has set a schedule for the road construction on Three Bridge Road to begin the end of April. John reported that he and Peter Boone have been in contact with Shelbeck Excavating Company regarding agreement on storage of their equipment on church property. It is anticipated that the road construction and paving of the driveway on church property should be completed by June 10th. John Rick distributed a copy of the VDOT F92 License Agreement Laydown Area sketch and COI as well as a copy of email correspondence detailing work day schedules, list of equipment and crew description.

John Rick also raised the issue of a zoning variance that has previously been granted to St. Luke's. He suggested that serious consideration be given to moving the cemetery wall to prevent loss of this variance.

Rector (report attached)

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Stewardship (report attached)

Additional pledges have been received bringing the annual total to 80 and \$182,790.

Communications

Website has been updated and is running smoothly. Stew Wolfe is attending ACS training. ACS Realm has many communication capabilities and Stew is learning how to use to maximize its capabilities.

Youth Christian Formation

Anne Larrick reported that Senior Sunday will be May 31st. We have four (4) seniors.

She also announced that the J2A Urban Adventure is planned for the first weekend in May. They will take a trip to DC to build confidence and a sense of community for the group that will be making pilgrimage in 2016.

Adult Forum –

Anne Larrick reported the following recent topics discussed:

- Why are our boys floundering and is there a role for the church to help?

- Chat in the hat

Upcoming topics include:

- Book discussion of an Anne Lamott book led by Blakely Reynolds
- Homelessness in America led by Clara Stokes
- How does your faith impact your political views led by Maureen Benway

Welcome to St. Luke's

Rick Cole reported he is currently working with several potential new members/families. They may be paired with members so they feel a "connection" with the church.

Outreach

John Rick discussed the presentation on "Toxic Charity". He suggested we could have a booth at the Power Show next year as it was too late to plan for this year.

Finance (report attached)

Expenses are over income by \$7,000. Last year this time we were over by \$4,000. We are currently short \$900 for the HVAC replacement. (This deficit amount was questioned and will be researched with an update to the vestry at the May meeting).

John Rick said we will be receiving a check for \$7,500 and another for \$1,000 from VDOT. He said that Betty Handy has requested that some of that be set aside for a brick apron at the front driveway entrance.

Anne Larrick requested a typed, updated sheet that would include contributions, earnings and what expenditures are for. She would also like overall policy and historical information of each endowment account.

Closing Prayer: Led by Anne Larrick

Meeting adjourned at 9:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Tucker, Register