

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vestry Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2015

Vestry present: Ben Bruno, Peter Boone, John Rick, Anne Larrick, Cindy Coleman, Elizabeth Forrest, Rick Cole and Jon Brew.

Vestry Absent: Rev. Sandi Kerner, Stew Wolfe,

Opening Prayer: All read responsively a Prayer of Preparation.

MOTION PASSED: The vestry voted to approve Vestry Minutes of April 16, 2015 meeting.

Sr. Warden (report attached)

Ben highlighted items in his report including compensation consideration of Laurel Harrelson. After reviewing her compensation it was agreed to leave it unchanged.

Ben also raised the issue of paint bubbling/peeling on the inside church walls. Peter Boone said that James Shores will be painting. There is some moisture/mold. Mr. Shores will use a sealant on a small section on the back of the church and if approved he will use it on the remainder of the walls. Peter mentioned that one single parishioner has volunteered to pay for this.

Other items of concern/discussion included contacting our insurance carrier to make sure we have liability coverage if a child is injured on the playground, recruiting HS/college kids to wax sanctuary floors this summer and cleaning carpet in the hallway and nursery. Rick Cole volunteered to meet Peter Boone on a Saturday with carpet cleaning equipment. John Rick raised the concern of poison ivy on the church grounds. Due to the massive growth he suggested that a professional be hired. He will also ask the Foreman of Shelbeck Excavating if they will use their equipment to take down some of the trees that are engulfed with poison ivy and massive roots (located where their equipment is currently stored on church grounds). Elizabeth Forrest mentioned that goats have been used to eliminate poison ivy and she may have a contact/resource.

Jr. Warden

Peter Boone reported that only a few people had come to help with the clean-up.

Peter discussed options for repair or replacement of the HVAC unit in the Parish basement. Currently the AC works but the heat does not. He has met with Bobby Quinn of Griffith Heating & Cooling and the approximate cost to repair the heating portion would be \$1,189 with a one year warranty on the parts. Total replacement cost would be approximately \$5,980 with a ten year warranty. Total replacement including ductwork would be approximately \$8,000. It was suggested that the \$7,500 coming soon from VDOT could cover this expense.

Peter will continue to talk with Bobby Quinn to make the best recommendation.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Fellowship:

Elizabeth Forrest reported that we had successful Easter activities.

There will be a Sunday school picnic on June 7th. Chicken will be provided and all are asked to bring a dish to share.

Elizabeth plans to form a formal Fellowship Committee and will begin meeting in September. Suggestions were made to help re-energize fellowship including resuming publication of the event schedule so everyone knows well in advance. Also discussed was the Adult Dinner program which has been discontinued. It was suggested that Foyer Dinners might be started to fill the void and hope to include more young adults. It was even suggested that babysitting services might be provided by J2A students as a fund raiser.

Stewardship: (report attached)

Ben Bruno discussed highlights of his report including sharing a summary of his telephone conversation with Ed Tracy at the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia. Their discussion included the issue of endowment funds. Ed Tracy recommended that Ben engage Michael Spear Jones as he has experience with endowment funds. Another possible resource that was offered for consideration was Michael Kerr, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, Diocese of Virginia. Ben will arrange a time to meet with Michael Kerr and discuss use of endowment funds for good causes.

Elizabeth Forrest suggested creating new endowment funds with specific use for building maintenance

Youth Christian Formation:

Anne Larrick reported that Senior Sunday will be May 31st and we currently have four (4) seniors. Two (2) seniors will be speaking at Sunday services. She asked for names of others who might be graduating from college.

Anne also announced that there will be a Sunday school picnic on June 7th following the 10:00 services.

J2A Urban Adventure was the first weekend in May which was a trip to DC to build confidence and sense of community for the group that will be making pilgrimage in 2016. Eleven (11) students and five (5) adults attended. Students participated in a night walk around the monuments, a full day scavenger hunt, and Sunday services at the National Cathedral.

Vacation Bible School will be offered in August for children. Adult forum and children's Sunday school will break for the summer and resume in the fall.

Adult Forum:

Recent topics included a discussion on Homelessness and Caritas led by Clara Stokes. They discussed the possibility of support by assisting another church that has facilities for temporary bedding, etc.

A presentation on EFM was made by Paula Price. She will offer a class at St. Luke's if enough sign up.

The Adult Forum group baked cookies and packed lunches for the Gathering Place.

Outreach:

John Rick and Jon Brew reported they have met to discuss the response to their presentation on Toxic Charity and how can they ignite interest from our Parish. They plan to talk with Ruby Leonard Food Pantry, Powhatan Free Clinic and Rusty and Avis Gates with Back Packs of Love. They will also seek Sandi Kerner's permission to talk with a group of local pastors to generate interest from other churches. Elizabeth Forrest suggested that this effort should not be a "business plan" but to answer the question "what is the Spirit calling us to do?"

Elizabeth Forrest also suggested a community garden. It was mentioned that St. John's has purchased land to build a facility for the food pantry.

Finance: (multiple reports attached)

Cindy Coleman reported that expenses are over income. April YTD revenue was \$92,269 and Expenses \$94,060.

Cindy emailed the vestry, along with her reports/attachments, detailed answers to questions posed to Greg Dunaway at the last vestry meeting regarding ACS, establishment of online checking, restricted accounts, etc.

Nancy Foster will be asked how many hours it will take her to prepare the Parochial Report. Current funds allocated to pay Nancy have been exhausted.

Discussion – Goals for 2015

John Rick suggested that a report be made to the congregation about building repairs. We need to emphasize strategic goals and not publish a list of short term goals because the vestry is dealing with those issues.

Peter Boone added that we can't just publish a list and forget it. We need to have the congregation invested with a way to measure.

Anne Larrick stated we need a long term vision in place.

Cindy Coleman suggested we set a few objectives that are obtainable in a year and have a timeline for long-term goals.

Rick Cole asked "what comes first?" Using the Holy Cow report, draft a mission statement and the budget will follow.

John Rick stated he feels there is a void in adult formation at St. Luke's. He said only two people have been attending Centering Prayer. He plans to contact other churches to see if there is any interest.

It was the consensus of the vestry that there is a need to continue brainstorming and to have quarterly, ½ day retreats. The first of these sessions has been set for Sunday, June 28th after the 8:00 AM service.

Closing Prayer: Led by Ben Bruno, all joined hands and prayed the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Tucker, Register