

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vestry Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2014

Vestry present: Rev. Sandi Kerner, Teno Bratton, Peter Boone, Ben Bruno, Cindy Coleman, Rick Cole, Steve Moore, Anne Larrick, Jon Brew, Elizabeth Forrest, John Rick, Stew Wolfe

Vestry Absent: Shelly Shock

Guests: Lynn Ellen Queen, Katie Wojcicki

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

Mutual Ministry Review (report attached)

Our guest, Lynn Ellen Queen of Queen and Associates, facilitated a thorough discussion on the topic of her report "What is a Mutual Ministry Review?" She advised we develop a process of strategic planning. The discussion should be about what a Mutual Ministry Review is in the context of our Baptismal Covenant. The cycle should be planning, executing and reviewing and we need to stick to the cycle. Mutual ministry reviews can be done annually, or based on the planning/working stage timing.

Members of the vestry had an opportunity to discuss their commission/ministry and address what has gone well this year. Among successes mentioned, the visioning process was done and budget balanced. It was suggested that a ministry audit form be designed.

It was acknowledged that many individuals take on tasks without being on a committee and a "thank you for your service" should be placed in the Sunday bulletin. It was also suggested that thank you cards signed by the vestry should be mailed to these individuals. We need to show gratitude and respect the dignity of all.

Lynn Ellen Queen also recommended that we need a logo for the church website and a marketing plan. Her goal tonight was to introduce a "larger view."

A more thorough discussion of this review will be continued at the vestry retreat in January and then will be open to the entire parish at a future date.

The retiring vestry members present were asked to comment on their commissions. Teno Bratton, Jr. Warden said he was surprised at how much it cost to maintain the facilities. He also acknowledged that we all need to support Sandi more.

Steve Moore commented that there are many people working behind the scenes and not necessarily on a committee. He also commented that we need to be better organized in Outreach.

Thanks were given to Lynn Ellen Queen for all she has done and Sandi led us in prayer.

Our next guest, Katie Wojcicki gave us an update on plans for a pilgrimage for the J2A students which is part of a two year path to confirmation. The pilgrimage will teach them to walk the path of life as a Christian adult in a meaningful and modest way. Fourteen (14) children have signed up for a one week journey planned to be held in June 2016. Destination options are being explored and the goal is to stay within a day's drive. Funding: each child/family will be expected to pay 1/3, remaining 2/3 funds from fundraising and parish support. Plans for a parish-wide fund raiser such as a chili or stew sale with pre-orders, is being projected for May 2015.

MOTION TO SPONSOR the pilgrimage was APPROVED.

MOTION PASSED to approve Vestry Minutes of November 20, 2014.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Teno Bratton reported that he has purchased and installed solar lights to illuminate the outdoor church signage. If these prove to be insufficient, then another option will have to be considered.

RECTOR'S REPORT

Sandi shared a thank you note received from Bishop Hollerith for St. Luke's pledge to donate ten percent (10%) of plate and pledge income to the diocese.

Sandi also shared that Creating Safe Churches for Congregations course can be taken on-line. All vestry members are required to take this course.

Plans are being made for the vestry retreat to be held in January. Sandi offered the dates of Saturday January 17th or January 24th. She will email vestry to get a consensus.

Sandi announced that Manakin Episcopal Church has invited interested members of St. Luke's to attend training for the Stephen Ministry.

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Stewardship

Ben Bruno announced that 53 pledge cards have been received to date for \$129,980. Last year's pledge amount was \$159,290. Ben will reach out to remaining past pledgers.

Communications

Website has been updated.

Stew Wolfe requested a small budget increase for thank you cards.

Youth Formation:

The annual children's Christmas pageant is planned for next Sunday with a meal following. Anne Larrick asked for support in attendance from members other than parents of children in the play.

Adult Formation:

John Rick had no report.

Outreach:

Steve Moore announced that 35 Thanksgiving bags and \$345 in Food Lion gift cards had been donated.

Steve also announced that the Food Pantry Cookbooks have been published and are now on sale for \$22. They are being sold at the Powhatan Pharmacy and Plaza Pharmacy. Steve will check to see if he can get a few to sell at St. Luke's.

Finance: (report attached)

Peter Boone suggested postponing approval of the 2015 Budget until January when we have more complete numbers. This recommendation is for this year and all years going forward.

Cindy Coleman gave a recap of November income and expenses.

Other:

Sandi presented gifts to the retiring vestry members: Teno Bratton, Steve Moore, and Shelly Shock (absent).

Sandi gave a copy of "Beyond Business as Usual" to each new vestry member: Rick Cole, Elizabeth Forrest, and Anne Larrick. The current vestry has been using this as a study.

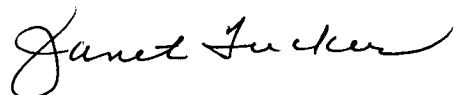
Sandi also gave each of the new and continuing vestry members a personal gift copy of "Celtic Christian Communities"

Next vestry meeting is Thursday, January 15th at 7:00 P.M.

Closing Prayer: Led by Sandi Kerner.

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Janet Tucker, Register