

ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vestry Meeting Minutes

March 20, 2014

Vestry present: Rev. Sandi Kerner, Ben Bruno, Shelly Shock, Cindy Coleman, Stew Wolfe, Steve Moore, John Rick, Jon Brew.

Vestry Absent: Peter Boone and Teno Bratton.

Opening Prayer: Led by Rev. Sandi Kerner, we read in unison a prayer by Sir Francis Drake.

Guest Presentation: Steve Moore introduced our guests Ms. Connie Beekman and Mr. Tom Verbeke, of Emmaus Christian Church on Rt. 711. Steve contacted them as part of our effort to reach out to churches in the area and work together in common ministries.

Tom and Connie gave a presentation on the Kairos prison ministry program. They educated us on the formation of teams and the commitment required. They explained how their goal is to build Christian Community within the prison. A website is designated for each week that the team visits a prison and a sign-up sheet is on the site for people to volunteer to pray. There is a prayer wheel with slots for someone every half-hour for a 24 hour period. Prayers are for the team, the inmates and the corrections officers. A link to the website will be sent to St. Luke's for anyone interested in the program.

Connie and Tom also told us how we could support Kairos with prayer, cookies, posters, placemats, monetary donations, attending a closing meeting, becoming a team member and donations of personal hygiene items for Christmas packages.

For each weekend they go to the prison they take approximately 1,000 dozen cookies. They will send us recipes with specific limitations. Cookies can be frozen and collected for a designated weekend.

Town Hall Meeting Recap

Ben Bruno said he thought there was good audience participation but turnout was disappointing. He suggested that we have a quarterly meeting and that we need to communicate better to parishioners when the meetings will be held to increase attendance. It was discussed that in addition to posting on the website and notice in newsletter and/or bulletin, a personal letter should be mailed to members with a notice such as "This is the first meeting of our visioning process".

Jon Brew said he had reviewed a copy of the last vision statement and it appeared that some items were not accomplished. John Rick commented that his observation was correct but one of the most important items was to increase the number of children attending, which has happened.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – postponed until April meeting.

RECTOR'S REPORT

Sandi reported that she has been very busy with pastoral care issues. She asked for prayers specifically for Carol and Jim Doyle, and Pat & Bill Lucas.

Sandi has continued her search for a Congregational Consultant. She has had a response from two possible consultants. One is not available immediately due to an out of the country trip. The other one would very much like to meet with Sandi. His name is Loren B. Mead. He is an Episcopal Priest and the author of "The One and Future Church" which Sandi is currently reading.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Peter Boone will be hosting a group of local Senior Wardens at St. Luke's next Tuesday. They meet monthly.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT (attached)

COMMISSION REPORTS:

Fellowship:

Pancake supper for Shrove Tuesday had to be postponed due to snow but was held the first Wednesday of Lent.

The next event will be the Easter Sunday brunch and egg hunt.

John Rick offered his home place for a church wide picnic this summer. He has open fields for baseball, games, etc. and suggested hiring a vendor to cook BBQ on site.

Worship:

Lent, Easter and Holy week activities.

It was noted that Margaret Storti has been a good music coach to the congregation.

Communications: (report attached)

Website has been updated weekly.

Janet Tucker and Stew Wolfe have met and transitioned responsibilities for communications. Stew has also met with Rick Cole and offered his help as needed. Stew also volunteered to meet with Cindy Coleman and Elizabeth Forrest to discuss how he can help with software, data management.

Youth & Christian Formation:

John Rick and Jennifer Kramer will be leading a 4 week course on vulnerability, using material entitled "***Daring Greatly***": How the Courage to Be Vulnerable Transforms the Way We Live, Love, Parent, and Lead by Brene' Brown.

Upcoming presentations are being publicized in "*The Prescription*" and e-news.

John is still researching to find three monthly subscriptions for the use of parishioners.

Outreach: (report attached)

Steve Moore reported our local and individual support spending is up 30%.

Steve also announced that the Food Pantry will be moving from Bethesda Church to make room for their new building. The Coalition of Churches is trying to get a grant to use the old Post Office.

Steve is talking with Pam Cole to determine if St. Luke's will have a booth at the Power Show the last weekend in April.

Finance: (report attached)

Cindy Coleman reported that as of March 18th, 60 pledges for \$150,290 have been received. Following was discussion on our current deficit and how we have operated in the past several years with a deficit and have relied on drawing from endowment funds. Ben Bruno suggested making phone calls and sending a letter to all members to raise the shortfall for the operating budget. Ben said he would meet with Lee Kramer to research data trends, get historical data and review old minutes to come up with a dollar amount to ask people for a one-time donation.

Lee Kramer is working with a certified financial planner and has invited him to make a presentation at our Lenten study next Wednesday on personal financial planning.

MOTION to ACCEPT Treasurer's Report.

Other:

There was discussion about considering having only two Sunday services during the summer months. We need to survey folks to see what service times they would attend.

The April Vestry Meeting date has been moved to April 24, 2014.

Closing Prayer: Led by Sandi Kerner.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.

Janet Tucker

Register