

Vestry Meeting 18 January 2016

Present: Sr. Warden Dan Shoemaker, Jr. Warden Catherine Harrington, Treasurer David Waletzko, Nancy Thompson, Mary Lee Isely, Jenny Burke, Randy Pastorius, James Elam, Jane Pederson, Laura Neiderhofer, and Clerk Christine Seaton. Vestry nominees Teresa Shaw and Wayne Jarvis and Mike Johnson.

Absent: Fr. Tom Gehlsen, Matt Stiles

Called to order: 7:05 p.m. by Senior Warden, Dan Shoemaker.

December 2015 Vestry Minutes: Correction: "Dan provided **and** explained..." A motion was made by Laura Neiderhofer to approve the amended minutes from the December Vestry Meeting. The motion was seconded by James Elam and approved unanimously.

Transitional Priest Update: Dan Shoemaker noted that Fr. Tom's last Sunday will be this Sunday, January 24. The Vestry has planned a small farewell reception between the two services. A cake and planter has been ordered and cards will be available for parishioners to sign.

Dan Shoemaker reported that a new transitional priest, Debbie Brown, will be serving Christ Church during the time until the new rector arrives. Her first Sunday will be Sunday, January 31, the day of the Annual Meeting. Catherine Harrington reported that Debbie functions as a supply priest and not as a transitional priest.

New Rector Update: Dan Shoemaker stated that Anna Doherty, new rector, and her husband, Jeremy had their baby, a little boy. Janeen Leick, head of the Search Committee, will be head of a New Rector Welcoming Committee. A gift will be sent to Anna. Anna and Jeremy are planning to be in Woodbury sometime in late January or early February to look for housing. The New Rector Welcoming Committee is working on a binder of information about the Woodbury area. The office area is being updated; a new desk will be ordered. The tentative target date for Anna's arrival is the first Sunday after Easter, April 4. Dan recommended small group lunches or dinners of 8-10 parishioners to allow Anna an opportunity to meet the most people in the most opportune way.

Parish-wide Communication Update: Dan Shoemaker wants to ensure that information from the Vestry gets into the Good News at Christ Church. Laura Neiderhofer reported that the communication coordinator oversees the parish website and the email blasts and the Good News. Greg Guffey is no longer in this position; the parish website has been down since last Thursday. Diane Waletzko is willing to post items, photos, or articles to the website. She will not write content to be posted on the

site. Jane Pederson noted that having Diane post things would help and then various people can be asked to contribute content. Chris Falteisek, Music Director, is willing to continue writing content for the site.

Music Update: Catherine Harrington and Dan Shoemaker met with Chris Falteisek re: services through Lent. Chris has visited with Debbie Brown, interim, to get the music. Chris reported that the organ is failing; it cannot be repaired due to its age and lack of availability of parts. To get the best financial deal, Chris recommended buying an organ that has been used by Orchestra Hall for one year. That organ costs \$40,000. An additional cost would be \$10,000 to clean the current pipes. The organ under consideration is electronic and has many more features than the church's current organ. To get the best results from the new organ, the pipes should be cleaned. The plan is for Blaine Hubert to oversee a capital campaign for the new organ after the Annual Meeting. Catherine reports that there is a bit of a split within the congregation as to the need for an organ.

Dan Shoemaker said there may be no Seder Dinner this year; many on the Vestry would like it to continue. However, there is much work involved in this. Dan recommended a Vestry member take the lead on this project and then work with Chris and Debbie Brown. In the past, the previous rector, Ernie Ashcroft, did most of the ordering and overseeing. Dan suggested the Seder Dinner be added as an agenda item for next month's meeting.

Financial Statements:

Christ Church ended the year with \$52,000 in the bank. The cash flow account is fully funded.

The 2016 budget was reviewed by David Waletzko. Current pledges are \$258,000.

There is the potential for 2-3 more pledges to come in.

Compensation and health insurance for the Music Director were discussed.

Currently the budget is balanced and the 2016 finances are in very good shape. The Finance Committee was 100% supportive of the current budget. See attached forms.

A motion was made by Jenny Burke to approve the 2016 general budget, including the music director compensation package; it was seconded by Nancy Thompson. The motion carried unanimously.

The parish continues to seek a Parish Life Minister, either full-time or part-time.

However, the input of the new rector is wanted. Therefore, the Parish Life Minister position will not be filled prior to the arrival of the rector.

David Waletzko reported that the Finance Committee wants to review the fees charged by Christ Church for the use of the facility for weddings and funerals.

David would also like to notify the parish at the Annual Meeting about how the "Dire Need" fund was utilized in 2015 (how many times it was accessed and for what purposes; no names will be given).

Good News Update: Dan Shoemaker reported that the Vestry needs to thank Fr. Tom for his service, welcome Debbie Brown as interim, and update the parish with news

about Anna Doherty. Catherine Harrington reported that an article about Debbie Brown is already in progress. Catherine will prepare the information about Anna. Dan suggested that prayers for Anna and her family be added to the weekly Prayers of the People. James Elam asked if the date of Anna's expected arrival is public knowledge. Dan stated he will check with the ECMN Office to confirm Anna's start date.

Annual Meeting Update: There will be one service only on 1/31 at 9:30 AM; the Annual Meeting will follow. Dan Shoemaker suggested that the Annual Meeting be condensed to under two hours. Items to be addressed include: elect new Vestry members; present 2016 budget; presentation on stewardship by Blaine Hubert; Chris Falteisek present about the need for an organ. Reports for the Annual Meeting should be submitted to Linda Deaver, secretary, by the end of this week. Vestry members were asked to bring treats for the coffee hour prior to the Annual Meeting. Laura Neiderhofer will send out a sign-up sheet for vestry members.

Parish Dinner Update: The dinner plans for 1/30 are underway. James Elam has volunteered to help with the dinner.

Consent Agendas: No reports needing consent agendas were presented at this meeting. Those reports will be folded into the Annual Meeting.

Clerk Update: Christine Seaton has volunteered to be vestry clerk.

Other Business:

Per Catherine Harrington - The announcements at both services are given by Vestry members. Nancy Thompson and Teresa Shaw declined to offer announcements in 2016. Catherine will put out the schedule for this.

Jenny Burke questioned whether there is a hidden key for the facilities. She was a teller at one of the services and was the last to leave; she had no key and someone had to go home to get a key to lock up. This is an item for further discussion.

Dan Shoemaker reported on an incident that occurred at the church yesterday morning during service and reaction of some members to behavior that was viewed as disruptive. Dan Shoemaker reiterated that Christ Church is a warm and welcoming church; he also stated that parishioners should feel safe during worship.

Meeting adjourned: 8:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Seaton
Vestry Clerk