

Minutes of Regular Vestry Meeting
Monday, April 15, 2013 and Following
Christ Episcopal Church
Woodbury, Minnesota

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Phil Vander Haar. Phil led the vestry in prayer.

Present: Senior Warden Phil Vander Haar; Junior Warden Shannon Erickson; Treasurer Dave Leick; Clerk Catherine Jacobson; elected vestry members Paul Fisher, Greg Guffey, Catherine Harrington, Jan Pereyra, Charlene Peterson, and Jim Westcott

Absent: Rector Ernie Ashcroft; elected vestry members Dan Shoemaker and Susan Vold

Prayer and study: We read John 10:22-30 (in which Jesus tells the Jews that they do not believe because they are not His sheep) using Gospel-based discipleship and three different translations of the text. After the first reading we asked ourselves, “What word or phrase struck me?” After the second reading we asked, “What is Jesus saying to me or to the church?” After the third reading we asked, “What is Jesus calling me or the church to do?”

Approval of the agenda: Greg moved that the agenda be approved. Motion seconded and carried.

Approval of vestry minutes: Paul moved that the minutes of the March 18th regular vestry meeting be approved. Motion seconded and carried.

Finance report: Dave presented the treasurer’s report for March 2013 and the balance sheet for March 2013. There were several items of note. March was a good month financially due to Easter. Stewardship income was ~\$31,500, and total income was ~\$34,000. Income year-to-date is ~\$89,200, more than a quarter of our budgeted income, though we are only a quarter of the way through the year. In response to a question, Dave said that all of the loose offering from the Good Friday services (~\$200) will go to support the Church in Jerusalem. Utilities to date are ~\$5500, \$1000 less than at this time last year, perhaps due to the new windows and lighting installed as part of the capital campaign. The Hospitality line item shows a negative expense of \$947; we took in money for the Seder meal but all of the expenses haven’t been paid yet. The income will offset those expenses. Expenses for the month were ~\$18,600, giving us a surplus of ~\$15,400. Year-to-date expenses are ~\$68,800, and our year-to-date surplus is ~\$20,400. Dave said that they have discovered that we have one last street assessment payment of ~\$3000 to make in May, but most of this is already covered by additional pledges. Our checking account balance continues to be healthy at ~\$48,800 because it contains ~\$32,200 from the Lilly Grant (as shown in the Transmittal Fund). Sabbatical expenses, including some of Linda Deaver’s time, should go against that. The vestry discussed setting up an additional fund for sabbatical expenses, to assist in generating a sabbatical report for the Lilly Fund, answering questions about those expenses, and creating next year’s budget. Our savings account is at ~\$46,500, reflecting the Building Fund. This will go down quickly; we have now paid for the carpeting in the

classrooms, and Rodger Pereyra and Pierre LePere have been given authority to pursue replacing the boiler. The vestry received the treasurer's report.

Update on a wireless microphone: Shannon said that adding a wireless headset would require some rework of our system; the total quote is \$1838. The vestry discussed the need to include microphone maintenance costs in the regular budget. Greg moved that up to \$1900 be authorized from the capital campaign for the purchase of a third microphone and upgrades to the system. Motion seconded and carried.

Election of new vestry member: The vestry discussed candidates to fill the open seat on the vestry. The vestry authorized Phil and Shannon to approach a parishioner. We will hold the election at the next meeting.

Update on sabbatical activities: The vestry agreed that Sundays are going well. It is important that vestry members be aware of the sabbatical activities that are going on; they have been publicized in a brochure. The vestry discussed having a book club around *People of the Way*, by Dwight Zscheile. It was decided that the June vestry meeting will start at 6 pm, and a discussion of the book will be held afterwards. Shannon will change the time of the June vestry meeting on the church calendar and put an announcement in the Good News before the meeting so that parishioners are aware of the change in time. Phil will send vestry members the title and author of the book.

Ministry team reports:

Building & Grounds: Jim said that the team did not meet in March. The team has been doing maintenance and repair around the church and snow shoveling as necessary. The team is working on creating a pass-through from the kitchen into the fellowship hall. They have gotten two bids on the heating system and have chosen one. Jim will ask the team when indoor and outdoor cleaning days will be.

Communication & Marketing: Greg said that the list of vestry members and ministry teams will be on the website by next month. Catherine J. will send Greg vestry minutes in the future, so that they can be posted on the website.

Faith Formation: Charlene said that the team met on March 13. There was a Christian Education program on April 7 telling people details about Ernie's sabbatical, and a brochure has been produced which lists all of the details that were discussed in that program. Two new people have been hired as nursery staff: Sandy Dokka and Penny Barnes. Summer ministries are set, and all details are in a recently produced brochure. This past Saturday there was a very successful food drive at local grocery stores, with programming at Christ Church following. The Outreach team organized and led this activity, but parish youth helped with the food drive and participated in the programming. The team will meet on April 16.

Finance & Legal: Dave said that the team investigated facility use donation rates. Our current rate for commercial activities by a non-parishioner is \$150. Dave also said that

the diocese has record retention guidelines. The team, with Aaron Twait as lead, will take a day and try to purge some records from the vault. They will involve Jamie Mair in this activity.

Outreach: Catherine H. said that last Saturday's food drive went very well; more than 3000 pounds of food and \$200-300 in cash were collected for the Christian Cupboard. Unfortunately, CD White and Carrie Montez, the current chairs of the Outreach team, will be moving. Catherine plans to work with George Ham in the next few weeks and months to reinvigorate the Outreach team with new chairs and a new, defined scope and vision.

Pastoral Care: Jan said that she has received from Jamie Mair a list of people who are interested in helping with meals and so forth. Jan, Phil, and Shannon will talk with George Ham about what he sees as needs in the pastoral care area.

Small Group Ministries: None

Stewardship: None

Strategic Planning: None

Welcoming & Evangelism: Paul said that a team meeting was held last Monday. He's looking forward to being involved in this team.

Worship & Music: None

Junior warden's report: Shannon said that seven coffee hour teams are in place, and an eighth team will be created. Leaders will serve for one year. She is still taking volunteers. Written directions for hosting coffee hour have been created.

Senior warden's report: Phil said that in the fall we will have author Dwight Zscheile conduct a session with the parish and a session with the vestry. Phil asked that we keep Laura Eryou in our thoughts and prayers, as she has been hospitalized. Phil also asked that, especially during Ernie's sabbatical, we keep our eyes and ears open and let him and Shannon know of any issues. Phil distributed a message from the bishop about the Boston Marathon bombings.

Final review: Catherine J. reviewed our action items:

- Shannon will change the time of the June vestry meeting on the church calendar to 6 pm and put an announcement in the Good News before the meeting so that parishioners are aware of the change in time.
- Phil will send vestry members the title and author of the book we'll be discussing immediately after the June vestry meeting.
- Jim will ask the team when indoor and outdoor cleaning days will be.
- Catherine J. will send Greg vestry minutes in the future, so that they can be posted on the website.

- Jan, Phil, and Shannon will talk with George Ham about what he sees as needs in the pastoral care area.
- Vestry members are asked to keep Laura Eryou in their thoughts and prayers.
- Especially during Ernie's sabbatical, vestry members are to keep their eyes and ears open and let Phil and Shannon know of any issues.

Adjournment: Phil closed the meeting with prayer at 8:39 pm.

Vestry activity following this meeting: On April 24-26 the vestry conducted business via email, per our bylaws. Phil moved that Kathryn Pratt be elected to fill the vacant vestry position until the next annual meeting. Motion seconded. All vestry members voted. Motion carried.

Catherine F. Jacobson, Clerk