

Minutes of Regular Vestry Meeting
Monday, July 21, 2014
Christ Episcopal Church
Woodbury, Minnesota

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ernie Ashcroft.

Present: Rector Ernie Ashcroft, Senior Warden Shannon Erickson, Junior Warden Dan Shoemaker, Clerk Michelle Rebholz; elected vestry members Catherine Harrington, Mary Lee Isely, David Waletzko, Susan Vold, Randy Pastorius, Matt Stiles, and Laura Niederhofer, Jane Pederson, Greg Guffey

Absent: Treasurer John Potter

Prayer and study: Ernie led the group in prayer. We then read Three Parables (Matthew 13: 44-53). We asked ourselves, “What word or phrase struck me?” “What is Jesus saying to me?” and “What is Jesus asking us to do?”

Approval of the agenda: Sue moved that the agenda be approved; motion seconded and carried.

Approval of vestry minutes: Dan moved to approve the minutes; motion seconded and carried.

May Financial Statements: Ernie presented the financial statements in John’s absence. Under Income, we received the check from Bright Horizons, who uses our building once per year for a children’s program. There was a large open plate in June (approximately \$900). Total income was approximately \$24,000. For the year, there is a modest deficit of approximately \$700, but we paid \$15,000 to MMS this year versus \$8,000 last year. June and July are lean months since people are away. Often parish members give their pledges at the beginning or end of the year. Ernie asked vestry members to stay current on pledges and pay in the summer. Ernie asked that if there were any more detailed questions they save them for the next meeting or e-mail John.

New Minister of Worship: Chris (Falteisek) will be our new Minister of Worship. He plays the organ as well as piano and more contemporary music. Ernie has met with him several times; he has lots of ideas. He is going to start with building and redeveloping an adult choir in the fall. He is also a composer. There will be a meet and greet scheduled just after he starts, in mid August. The intent on the choir is practice once a week; then in January, he would like to start a children’s choir. Chris has worked for a variety of churches and religious services in the past. There was discussion about what night the choir practice should be on so that it doesn’t conflict with other church activities.

Rector’s Roundtable: We are unable to get Jay for a dinner theatre fundraiser so are looking at a murder mystery event. Next month, the vestry meeting on August 18 will be shortened and spouses are invited. The meeting will start at 6:30 instead and last a half hour. Shannon will coordinate what each person should bring.

Consent Agenda: The consent agenda was considered received by the vestry, with the following correction and additions:

There was a typo on Pastoral Care Committee: Archdiocese should be Diocese.

For Outreach, Catherine Harrington reported that Alida will again be doing the school supplies table for school children in need.

Laura stated that for Buildings and Grounds, the hinge on the lower doors is broken and the Capital Campaign volunteers suggested replacing them with windows. Dave Leick has suggested that no decision be made yet until the funding from the Capital Campaign has come in. The issue was tabled.

Thoughts Regarding a Trip to Ireland: Ernie will be holding a meeting in August to gauge interest in a June 2015 trip to Ireland. No more than 15 people would be able to go on this trip.

Junior Warden's Report: Dan stated he had nothing additional to report.

Senior Warden's Report: Shannon is looking for more 10:30 churchgoers for coffee teams; vestry members should keep an eye out for 10:30 families that might be willing to help. There was discussion about what time the coffee teams could begin cleaning up after the 10:30 service; it was agreed that coffee teams could start cleaning up at noon, although that time may be pushed later for special events (e.g., baptisms). Shannon also had an update on music; she found several old pieces, including one from 1902. Also, Chris's first Sunday is August 10.

Rector's report: Ernie had a form for vestry members to sign consenting to Dana's ordination to the priesthood. Members signed the form.

Final review: Michelle reviewed our action items and items tabled:

- Michelle will send corrected minutes to Greg for posting on the website
- Vestry members are encouraged to pay their pledged in the lean summer months;
- Vestry members should watch for members attending the 10:30 service that are willing to be on a coffee hour team;
- The decision on replacing the doors in the lower entry with windows was tabled;
- Ernie will host an informational meeting on an Ireland trip.

Adjournment: The meeting closed at 8:05 pm.
Michelle Rebholz, Clerk

Committee Reports For July 2014 Vestry meeting

Pastoral Care Committee (Mary Lee Isely)

This was a committee of one -- Deacon George Ham, who moved to St. Cloud a few weeks ago with his wife, Kathryn Pratt.

Prior to his departure, George recruited and helped train three parishioners -- Sandy Dokka, Aaron Twait and Janine Leick -- to be Eucharistic Lay Visitors. They are licensed by the Diocese to distribute consecrated bread and wine.

Following Mass, they receive the elements from Ernie and deliver them to members who are hospitalized or convalescing at home, or who probably will never be able to return to active worship again at our church. There's a short service that is used by ELV, and they make the visits on Sundays. It's also a time to briefly chat with the sick or shut-in parishioners, who are typically quite grateful for the contact with members of their faith community. Sandy, Aaron and Janine said George trained them well and expressed confidence that they can successfully continue this mission in his absence.

Faith Formation (Matt Stiles)

Minutes from July 10, 2014 meeting:

Sue Mortinson, Deb Makousky, Teresa Shaw, Charlene Peterson and Dana Strande attended.

- There was a recap of VBS. It went well and Summer Stretch is going well.
- Budget is fine.
- Dana may share some of what has gone well during the summer in her upcoming sermon(s).
- We plan to look into next year's Lenten Mission with Haiti.

Building and Grounds (Laura Niederhofler)

- Railing installed on stairway.
- On-going weekly mowing by teams
- Asphalt work completed on lower parking lot and at the top of the stairway.
- Watering of hydro-seeded areas ongoing [Blane & Sandy Huppert]
- New windows installed in Fellowship Hall, hallway outside of Fellowship Hall and in the nursery [large window array and an egress window per fire code].

- Quote received for parking lot crack filling, seal coating and striping [\$7,204 same as quote 5 years ago!]. MTC will reimburse us for at least 50% - Attempting to get them to pay 75%.
- Received quotes for new office windows [\$1,185 each] and to replace the lower level west entry doors with windows [\$2,585].

Note: There is a broken lower hinge on the northern most west entry door. It can be replaced and the doors realigned for \$700 to \$800 as an option to replacing them.

(From Pierre); Note that the Vestry wants to replace the West lower entry doors, which will cost \$2,585. An option, that Rodger and Pierre repair the doors and reinstall them at a cost of \$700 – \$800, which will still allow the doors to be used if need be. Also, we have about \$2000 left in the “Window Fund” which is not enough to pay for the replacement of the main office windows (2) at this time.

Small Group Ministries (Sue Vold)

Communications (Greg Guffey)

Communications is working with Clerk to update vestry minutes posted on website.

Welcoming Committee (David Waletzko)

In June two orientations for newcomers were held, and seven people attended. They, along with a few others who have attended orientation but haven't been received, will be invited to be received on July 27 or August 10.

To all vestry members: Please remember to be aware of members who are not in church for several Sundays. Please call them to see if they are sick or need help in any way and to let them know that they have been missed. Also, please be aware of visitors and let them know how glad we are that they visited.

Stewardship Committee (Randy Pastorius)

--

Outreach Committee (Catherine Harrington)

Alida will be setting up a table for backpack donations soon.