

Vestry Meeting
March 19, 2014
7:30 pm

Members Present: Ellen Ball, Larry Bennett, Betty Culley, Mark Kusmaul, Kim Roberts, Meegan Reidy, Harry Siamas, Debbie Swanson, Cindy Turner, & Rev. Jan Oller

Others Present: John Culley

The Rev. Jan Oller opened the meeting at 7:30 pm with prayer.

Minutes

The minutes from the February meeting were reviewed. Harry Siamas moved to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Larry Bennett. Minutes were approved as presented.

Financials

John Culley provided the vestry with the current financial report. While early in year, John thought things were going well so far. Debbie Swanson moved to accept the financial report. Cindy Turner seconded the motion. Financial report was accepted.

Liaison Reports (copied from e mails)

Parish Life: Susan has organized the small dinner groups for 2014 and sent out the lists. There are four groups this time around with 30 people participating!
Kim Roberts

St. Martha's Guild: A HUGE thank you to Jo Tussey and Jim Suren who gave our stove a super duper cleaning following the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Also, I've overheard kind, happy, grateful remarks about our garbage disposal and our dish washer from those folks who clean up after events. It sure has made the work easier.
Meegan Reidy

Altar Guild: Hello, Vestry Members,
Here is the Altar Guild Report.
Individual palm strips and vase palm arrangements have been ordered for services on Palm Sunday.
For Easter, there will be pansy plants (3 inch pots) in the windows of the sanctuary for children after the second service. The vase flower arrangements will be Calla lilies.
Betty Culley

Property Report: Much has occurred this last month. The painting of the ceiling in Whitlock hall was completed with the special acoustic paint. The Kirby and Simplicity vacuum cleaners were repaired/tuned up. Ballasts were replaced in two fluorescent light fixtures. A leak occurred in the attic space to the north side of the sanctuary. This necessitated retrofitting a drainage pipe, replacing a portion of the attic floor and painting of that hallway space ceiling. The drainage line for the air conditioning unit in the south attic was moved. Both attic spaces have been dry-walled as per a request from the fire marshal. B&R has installed smoke detectors in

those areas and connected them to the alarm system. On Sunday, March 9th, St. John's experienced a backup of sewage discharge from the toilets in Whitlock hall. Sam Hildebrand has taken the reins to repair and remedy this. To date, ceiling drywall was removed from the library and choir rooms. Both areas have been treated with chemicals to prevent mold, e-coil and fungal type growth. Discharge plumbing for those toilets has been replaced as the original line seems to have "sunk" under the weight of the courtyard and it also had a number of 90 degree turns which could lead to future issues. The new line will be more 'repair friendly'. It does run below the current ceiling in the family restroom and will be covered with a drywall soffit. Over the next few days, drywall will be replaced and all areas will be painted during the week of the 24th. Carpet replacement for the library and tile stripping/resealing in the choir room can then be completed. The carpet in the Rector's office will also be replaced. It is anticipated that all work will be completed by April 4th.
Debbie Swanson

Debbie also added during the Vestry meeting that we have submitted this to our insurance. We carry a \$5,000 deductible which will be paid from the building fund. The Oriental Rug from the choir room will be cleaned and repaired. It is estimated that we had \$20,000 - \$30,000 in damage.

Outreach: Jan and Vestry members,
It has been a busy time for Outreach: the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper, meals on wheels, the Pathway Lunch for the Sheriff's Department, Solehope, requests for items for the FISH pantry, and treats from children for the animals at the Animal Shelter. You can savor all of the details by accessing the March newsletter--lots of detailed information.
Larry Bennett

Children's Education: Children's education is focusing on stories from the Old Testament. They have completed Genesis. The usual Sunday includes the story, a game, a project, snack, and singing. Teachers include Abby Twarek, Jane Gallagher, and Susie Siamas. The classes average 1 - 7 children.
Ellen Ball

Wardens concerns: none

Old Business: The Long Range/Planned Giving Meetings have been rescheduled for May after a request to please conduct them after Easter. April is very busy for most people with Spring Break and holiday. Rev. Jan

New Business: Rev. Jan reported that we will be reviewing a Whistle Blower policy and a Records Retention policy next month. While we do not anticipate a problem with these issues, it is important to have written policies in place.

Rev. Jan reported on our Pathways to Vitality project. Our "Thank You" Luncheons for First Responders are complete and a report will be sent to the Diocese in May. We gained a deeper understanding of the cultures within our first responder departments. If we decide to continue with these luncheons in the future, it will be better to take the food to the Sheriff's Department and to the Police Department. Firefighters are more used to eating their meals together and they seemed more

willing to come to our church to dine as a group. All groups were appreciative of our efforts.

Check Approval Process: The vestry agreed that in the absence of one of the Wardens, they could sign for each other, and if both gone, Rev. Jan could ask another vestry member to sign.

Hiring of Parish Members: The vestry discussed the procedure for hiring parish members to do work for the church. It was agreed that being a member of our parish should not disallow a person from getting the job, however, that person(s) should submit a bid and the vestry would review the bids for work before a selection is made. This policy does not apply to any paid position where confidentiality must be maintained.

"Disabled" Sign Posts for Alley parking: Rev. Jan reported that a request had been made for temporary signs, such as what is placed in front of the church on Sundays, to be placed in the alley parking spots just outside of Whitlock Hall. She spoke to Rev. Lewis from First United Methodist church and he declined that request. He felt that it set a poor precedent and could lead to further parking disputes in the future if his church needed those spots. Currently, those spots are on Methodist church property.

Fire Department Inspection: The Inspector from CFD, was at the church March 18th. He will be meeting with the Building & Grounds committee to discuss his recommendations.

Dancing with the Stars: We have received a Thank You note for our contribution. As sponsors, we are invited to add something to the goody bag that will be on the tables for each attendee. Cindy Turner will check her computer for the flyer that was designed by the Search Committee. Pens and coasters were also suggested.

Wabash Pastoral Program: Rev. Jan told us that she has been encouraged to apply for the Wabash Pastoral Program. This is a two year leadership program for ministers who are within ten years of ordination. The program would run from January 2015 to December 2016. It is an ecumenical program and received high reviews from John Culley. The program will provide money to St. John's for supply priests for those Sundays that she would be away outside of her current contract. The vestry concurred with her decision to apply and supports her in that decision.

Due to our later start time, it was decided to postpone our continuing conversation about our dreams and goals for St. John's until next month.

Our next meeting will be April 23rd at 7:00 pm.

Meegan Reidy moved that we be dismissed with a second from Larry Bennett. We adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Roberts, Clerk of the Vestry

