

**Vestry Minutes**  
**May 21, 2014**

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

**Others Present:** Canon Bruce Gray, John Culley

Rev. Jan called the meeting to order with prayer at 7:00 pm.

We began our meeting with the introduction of Canon Bruce Gray to the Vestry and our **Mutual Ministry Review**. Canon Gray explained that this review is a time of spiritual discernment for us as individuals and for St. John's as a community. Looking back at the past year, we talked about the various things happening in our parish that make us most hopeful for the future.

We also discussed the many opportunities that we have as individuals and as a spiritual community to make a difference to those in need. Canon Gray reminded us that we can offer many resources as individuals and as a community our most powerful offering is communicating God's grace and hope. We want all members of our community to know that they are welcome at St. John's.

We had a brief discussion about the various ways we can welcome newcomers and talked about the importance of keeping "doorways" into our St. John's community open.

The meeting continued with the business portion.

**Minutes:** The April minutes were reviewed. A motion to accept was made by Ellen Ball. The second was made by Mark Kussmaul. Minutes were approved.

**Financials:** John Culley said that financially we remain on course. When asked about the \$3,600 deficit for the month, John said that was primarily due to a pension payment and a property insurance payment which are made quarterly. That deficit will self correct. Motion to accept financials was made by Larry Bennett and a second by Debbie Swanson. Financials were approved.

**Whistleblower Policy:** After making changes discussed at the April meeting of the vestry, the Whistleblower Policy was reviewed. A motion to accept was made by Betty Culley and the second made by Meegan Reidy. The policy was approved.

**Records Retention Policy:** Discussion for following the Diocesan recommendations for records retention took place at the April Vestry meeting. After giving members time to review the policy, there were no objections and a motion to accept that policy was made by Mark Kussmaul. The second was made by Harry Siamas and the motion was approved.

**Liaison Reports:** (received via e-mail)

From Debbie Swanson:

Thankfully this has been a quiet month for the **church property committee**, with just routine maintenance items to be dealt with. Betty Culley has planted flowers in the courtyard, if they look thirsty, feel free to provide water. There are flashlights in my mailbox, which should be placed in critical areas in the event of a power outage. If you are aware of a spot which should have one, please place it in that location and leave a note as to the location.

From Betty Culley:

**Altar Guild** members continue their duties each week in preparation for Sunday services.

The **Liturgy and Worship Committee** met on April 27, with Rev. Oller. Members reviewed the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services and the services conducted during Holy Week including Palm Sunday and Easter.

The group discussed upcoming summer services such as the Crawfordsville Strawberry Festival combined service in which St. John's will participate on Sunday, June 15.

From Meegan Reidy:

**St. Martha's and St. Andrew's Guild** has nothing new to report.

From Ellen Ball:

**Children's education** has nothing new to report.  
Thank you.

From Larry Bennett:

**Outreach** work goes on apace. I did not attend Dancing with the Stars, but from accounts it was a big success in raising money for CASA. We are now looking forward to the summer lunch program and the food pantry dates. Thanks to Chas, there will indeed be Treasures and Trivia this summer. Of course people continue to donate to FISH. I'm sure there is more.

From Kim Roberts:

**Parish Life:** Susan Albrecht reports that all of our Dinners for Eight groups should be meeting now. She will be getting together with Barbara White to begin planning our summer outing at the Younts Mill Inn this summer. It is tentatively scheduled for July. We are also still planning on a Travelogue Night and a field trip to an Indy Eleven match. Details to follow!

In addition to the e-mailed reports, Mark Kussmaul reported to the vestry that there will be a meeting in July for **Adult Education** planning.

**Treasures and Trivia:** Rev. Jan reported that Chas has gotten a committee from Mary Angela Cooley, Joyce & Robin Bell and Pam's Promise to assist with this year's Treasures and Trivia. In return for their help, Pam's Promise will receive 50% of the profit.

**Warden's:** No report

**Old Business:**

BHAG meetings: Three meetings were completed with attendance by 30 parishioners (over 40% of our average Sunday attendance). An ad hoc committee will look at the items that were brought up at the meetings and will make suggestions as to what things we can do to accomplish the vision that people have for St. John's. In addition to the ideas that were discussed, Rev. Jan reported that 10 families have added St. John's to their wills as part of the Planned Giving program.

**New Business:**

There will not be a scheduled vestry meeting during the month of June. If an urgent matter arises which requires vestry attention, a special meeting can be called.

The idea of scheduling a Saturday evening service/potluck once a month in lieu of a Sunday service during the summer has been postponed for now. We will revisit the idea in 2015 when we can plan further in advance.

On June 25th, there will be a planning meeting for a community Celebration of Diversity scheduled to take place October 5, 2014. This is part of a community wide anti-bullying campaign.

The parish picnic at Alan & Barbara White's Younts Mill Inn property will be on June 29th.

Vestry was given a calendar of events currently scheduled for June, July and August.

Harry Siamas made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Cindy Turner. Vestry adjourned at 8:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Roberts, Clerk