

## **Vestry Minutes**

### **July 16, 2014**

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

**Others Present:** John Culley

**Members Absent:** Betty Culley

The Rev. Jan called the meeting to order at 6:58 pm with prayer.

The Vestry had a discussion about two articles that Rev. Jan gave us for our consideration. The first article was from the Alban Institute and was titled "What Should A Minister Be Good At?". The second article was titled "Are You A Zombie Parish?". After a brief discussion, we also talked about our June break. Everyone agreed that the break from meeting in June was not a problem.

#### **Minutes**

Kim Roberts presented the May Vestry meeting minutes for approval. There were no amendments or corrections. Ellen Ball made a motion to approve the May minutes. Larry Bennett seconded the motion. The May Vestry minutes were approved.

#### **Financials**

John Culley presented the financial reports for May and June. Meegan Reidy made a motion to accept the financials. There was a second from Ellen Ball. The May and June financial reports were accepted.

#### **Liaison Reports** (via e-mail)

#### **Outreach:**

Summer is always a busy time for outreach. The committee met in June 18 (Sheila Evans, Chris Short, Ellen Ball, Cindy Smith, Jane, Gallagher, Carol Meyer, Helen Hudson, Larry Bennett). An easy way to keep up-to-date with all of the outreach projects is to read the monthly newsletter; another way is to check the helpful bulletin board just inside Whitlock hall, where there is a calendar of events for each month.

- Nine people from St. John's worked for the Sunday morning service at the Strawberry Festival.
- There was a St. John's booth for the Festival. Ellen Ball has given a final report. Seems to have been useful.
- St. John's is not yet involved in the Nourish program.
- As usual, St. John's participated in the summer lunch program ((July 9, 10, 11)
- St. John's is getting ready for Treasures and Trivia on July 20-26. One half of the profit is designated for Pam's Promise, the rest for the Free Clinic.
- Many folks continue to contribute to FISH.
- The Food Finders Mobile Pantry will take place at the Kenneth Bane Park in Wingate at 4:00 p,m on Tuesday, July 29.

The August project is Undies and Outies. Contact Ellen Ball. The Wabash Welcome Community Fair is coming up in early September.

The committee was dubious about replacing the round tables in Whitlock Hall and asked that the Vestry discuss this further. The committee was less than enthusiastic about sponsoring a luncheon for the National Guard, but seemed more interested in sponsoring a lunch for other community workers, such as sanitation workers, postal workers, or snow plowers. Perhaps the Vestry should discuss this also. One member raised the question of whether we should have a major fundraiser to help support the church in a long-range manner because of the ageing congregation. Helen Hudson and I explained that a number of people are beginning to include the church in their wills. I also explained that as of June, the financial reports were positive.

Larry Bennett

(Kim Roberts asked Larry why the Outreach committee would be buying chairs for Whitlock. It was explained that many events which are considered outreach opportunities are scheduled in Whitlock Hall and they have the money available.)

### **Property**

The final check has been received from Church Insurance and all bills related to the March water damage remediation have been paid. We were blessed with the time and talent of several parishioners which minimized expenses from the church budget. In June we received notification from Homeland Security that our elevator was in violation with the state. This occurred as we did not have our safety inspection done on time and the state inspector was unable to gain access to the building when arriving unannounced. The state inspector was onsite on 7-15 and the elevator company will do their portion of the inspection on 7-16. The state inspector requested that blueprints stored in the elevator mechanical room which did not pertain to the elevator be removed and those blueprints are now in the cabinet across from the elevator. On Sunday, 7-13, there was difficulty with locking the front door of the church. It was determined that if the front door is unlocked using a key, it is not possible to lock the door with the hex key.

Debbie Swanson

**Altar Guild** members continue conscientiously with their weekly duties.

Betty Culley

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

Meegan Reidy

**Children's education:** No report

Thank you

Ellen Ball

### **Gratitude**

From Helen Hudson:

We'll be gathering a gratitude Committee late in August and that we will have a meditative series of some sort--likely via bulletin insert--throughout the fall. We will send out a letter and/or brochure of some of our activities, or some such. Everyone on the vestry will have gotten (or I surely hope so) my June individual gratitude notes. That wasn't part of any formal program, just something I personally wanted to do. It's good and honest, I feel, to say thank you. And, as Gratitude Chair, I sort of had the permission to do so. So I wrote the little "green" essay and sent a note to each parishioner/household.  
Cindy Turner

An additional report was given by Mark Kussmaul regarding **Adult Formation**. Mark reported that the committee met and began planning Adult Education for the upcoming year. He mentioned that they are hoping to have guest speakers, Bill Cook and Kelly O'Dell Stanley (author of Praying Upside Down). He reported that the committee would like to theme our adult formation in conjunction with the church calendar.

#### **Wardens**

No report

#### **Old Business**

Larry asked about the quilt to be hung in Whitlock Hall. He was told that it was being prepped by Carole Meyer and is now waiting to be hung.

#### **New Business**

Rev. Jan gave each vestry member a copy of Synopsis on Title IV. This is a policy for the national church for the discipline of the clergy. It is similar to Canon 23 of the Diocese of Indianapolis.

Our next meeting will be August 20, at 7:00 pm.

A motion to dismiss was made by Meegan Reidy and seconded by Mark Kussmaul.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Roberts  
Clerk of the Vestry