

**Vestry Meeting
November 19, 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

Members Absent: none

Others Present: John Culley

The Rev. Jan called the meeting to order with prayer at 7:01 pm.

The Vestry meeting began with a discussion and reflection on "What is our mission?".

The **October minutes** were reviewed. Harry Siamas made a motion to accept and Betty Culley was second. Minutes were accepted.

John Culley presented the **October financial report**. Betty Culley moved that we accept the financial report. Larry Bennett was the second. Financials were accepted.

Rev. Jan reported that Cindy Smith, Pledge Secretary, told her that the pledges for 2015 will be at the same dollar level as 2014. If we do not have the \$10,000 from the Mission Strategy Grant in 2015, our budget will be short.

Liaison Reports (via e-mail)

The **Outreach Committee** met on October 26th. The main business of the meeting was to decide on a request for the next budget cycle. We have decided to focus on Foodfinders, Fish, the Free Clinic, Nourish, and the Family Crisis Shelter, though of course other projects remain important.

We looked back at the success of the Undies and Outies project as well as the Crop Walk.

We look forward to upcoming projects: volunteers for the Mental Health Drive, the REINdear project (we have signed up for 60 children, and the lists and bags will be available early in the week of Thanksgiving--thanks to you, Ellen Ball), the community Thanksgiving Dinner at First Methodist, and Foodfinders on December 15 at 11:00 a.m. (volunteers welcomed).

Larry Bennett

Altar Guild is planning for the Advent and Christmas seasons. A new Altar Flower Chart will be posted outside Whitlock Hall at the end of this month. Parishioners are welcome to fill in their names on a Sunday when they would like to provide altar flowers in 2015.

Betty Culley, Altar Guild Chairperson

Thank you to all who helped with both food for the reception and clean-up afterwards the Sunday the Wabash College Glee Club came to sing at our worship service. Thanks, also, to all who work to keep out kitchen and Parish Hall areas clean and tidy.

Meegan Reidy for **St. Martha's Guild**

Building & Grounds: Members of the Committee met this last month to discuss budget needs and those immediate upgrades as well as future repairs. The transmitter for the sound system had quit working and has since been repaired. Vast Electronics has evaluated the system as there have been some complaints concerning the ability of persons to hear portions of the service. Our current sanctuary is under amplified and it is recommended that two much larger speakers be installed at the front of the sanctuary. It was also suggested that the Rector be outfitted with an over the ear mic which would ensure amplification of all spoken word. It should be noted that FM units are available for any person to use during services and that no one is currently taking advantage of this option. Further discussion of sound system modification will take place in the near future. The major project which should be undertaken in 2015 is the replacement of the front doors into the church. Now that all the leaves are off trees, vestry members are reminded that they need to check their respective entrance areas and remove any debris.

Debbie Swanson, Property Chair

*In addition to her e-mailed report, Debbie gave the vestry further details regarding costs and placement of proposed speakers. While the committee continues to research these recommendations, we will remind people that hearing assist devices are available upon request.

The **Parish Life** committee will be sponsoring their final event of 2014 on Friday, Dec. 5th. The St. John's White Elephant party will be hosted by Don and Char Hester at their home (backup location is Whitlock Hall in the event of inclement weather). Appetizers will begin at 6:00 with dinner at 7:00pm. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside Whitlock.

Kim Roberts

Mark Kussmaul reported that there will be an **Adult Education** planning meeting next Tuesday to discuss and finalize plans for next year.

John Culley presented the **Housing Resolution for 2015**. The resolution reads as follows:

Housing Resolution text per auditor/IRS:

Whereas, the Rev. Janet Oller is compensated by St. John's Episcopal Church, Crawfordsville IN exclusively for services as a minister of the gospel; and

Whereas, St. John's Episcopal Church, Crawfordsville IN does not provide Rev. Oller with a rectory; therefore, it is hereby RESOLVED that of the total compensation paid to Rev. Oller for 2015, the amount of \$14,016 is hereby designated as a housing allowance pursuant to Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code; and it is further RESOLVED that the designation of \$14,016 as a housing allowance shall apply to calendar year 2015 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

Motion to approve the Housing Resolution was made by Ellen Ball and the second was made by Cindy Turner. The resolution was approved.

Wardens Reports: none

Old Business:

It was requested that the vestry look at more examples of policies relating to grant requests.

The Nominating Committee is in the process of contacting people about their willingness to serve as vestry members.

Committee reports for the Annual Meeting need to be distributed 2 weeks prior to the meeting for parishioners review. It is important that they be submitted on time.

New Business:

The Priest-in-charge report was reviewed.

Rev. Jan spoke to us about a Diocesan Grant Opportunity tied to the Center for Congregations. The Center for Congregations is a Lilly funded ecumenical organization that helps Indiana congregations.

Our next meeting will be December 17 at 7:00 pm.

Motion to adjourn was made by Meegan Reidy. Second was made by Ellen Ball. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.