

Vestry Meeting
January 21, 2015

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

Rev. Jan called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. with prayer.

We reflected on "Why have we been successful and what can we do to build on it in 2015?".

Debbie Swanson moved to accept the December minutes and Cindy was second.

Financials: John pointed out that our Year to Date Net Total dollars were a positive \$24,917.06. Meegan made a motion to accept the financial report and Mark was the second.

The budget for 2015 was also discussed. Pledges were higher than we had expected for 2015 and we also received the \$10,000 Diocesan Grant for 2015. Meegan moved that we accept the grant money and Betty was a second with the understanding that the vestry shall revisit our financial position in June and September. If our financials are in good shape, we will consider refunding all or part of the money.

The Parochial Report was reviewed. Our membership is 137. Average Sunday attendance is down just a bit.

Larry Bennett reported that Outreach would like to increase their 2015 budget by \$1,250. Since the vestry had just passed the 2015 budget, there was a brief discussion about changing it. Betty Culley made a motion to amend the budget to reflect the increase to Outreach. Larry Bennett was second. Motion passed.

Liaison Reports (via e-mail)

Children's Education

Much thanks, both to retiring Abby Twarek and to welcome the new childrens ed leader, Kim Roberts. Kim plans to continue with the present curriculum, and to offer a segment on the stations of the cross for Lent. Attendance continues to increase.

Thanks
Ellen

Outreach is currently working with the Nourish program and with Fish. The committee will meet tomorrow evening (January 20) at 7:00 in Whitlock Hall, and all are welcome. 2014 was a full year for Outreach. Kudos to Jane Gallagher

for the wonderful display on the bulletin board just inside Whitlock Hall, showing all the Outreach activities of 2014. Larry Bennett
Gratitude

The gratitude team is happy to report that all members of the 2014 Gratitude Team will be continuing for 2015. Helen Hudson will remain as "point person." They were gratified at how the parish received the 'year round' gratitude motif from 2014 and will be planning to follow that model again this year. Please keep your eye on our Monthly Newsletter for reflections and stories. They will be contacting our young adult members, once St. Johners but now out in the world, to let them know what is happening at St. J's and to invite them to make a "one-time" gift to the church of their youth. The team will continue the logo "Search Your Heart" through 2015. The Annual Meeting Report--the Pledge Secretary's portion--reports on the actual data from the Gratitude Campaign.
Cindy Turner

Altar Guild Report

Thanks to all the parishioners who helped decorate the sanctuary for Christmas services on Sunday, December 21. Thanks, too, to all of you who stayed after the second service on January 4 to take down the decorations and pack them neatly away for storage above the sacristy for another year. All the poinsettias found homes, too, which was wonderful since they were especially vibrant this year.
Betty Culley, Altar Guild Chairperson

Building & Grounds

Sam Hildebrand has been diligently working with Bruce of Vast Electronics and the link between the sanctuary and Whitlock is now restored! A new camera was purchased to provide video feed from the church to Whitlock and the over the ear mic for the celebrant has been ordered.
Debbie

Adult education has set its spring schedule:

February 1-15, 2015:

Rev. Jan will lead a discussion of the creeds.

February 22, 2015:

Josh Thomas from the Daily Office will return.

March 1-22, 2015:

More Lives of Great Christians.

April 12-May 10, 2015:

Jeremy Hartnett and Jill Lamberton will lead a viewing and discussion of the Walking the Bible PBS documentary.

May 17, 2015:

Kelly O'Dell Stanley will visit to discuss her book Praying Upside Down.

Will Turner has this information on our web site.
Mark

On Saturday, January 3rd, St. Martha's Guild provided a reception following the funeral of our friend, David Yerkes, as well as a reception following the visit of Bishop Waynick on Sunday, January 4th. A heartfelt thank you to all who helped with either/both of those receptions.
Meegan Reidy

Wardens: no report

Old Business

Planned Giving: Harry Siamas reported that the Planned Giving committee met with Jane Marten at Trinity Bloomington. She shared ideas and told about their program. Planned giving is meant to establish an endowment. It is a long term effort. The committee will keep the vestry updated.

The Annual Meeting will be Sunday, Jan. 25. There will be one service.

Center for Congregations: Betty Culley will talk with Rev Jan about spearheading Grant efforts.

Mystery Visitor Update: Feedback included the following suggestions:

- *Revise phone message to include information that office hours are by appointment.
- *Bulletin will be reviewed for de-clutter.
- *Parking instructions included on Web site.

After the Annual Meeting there will be a brief Vestry meeting.

Ellen Ball moved to adjourn. Betty Culley was second. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.