

Vestry Meeting
December 16, 2015

Members Present: Kitty Haffner, Mark Kussmaul, Carole Meyer, Meegan Reidy, Kim Roberts, Harry Siamas, Peter Swanson, Cindy Turner and Rev. Jan Oller

Members Absent: Ellen Ball

Others Present: John Culley

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

Minutes: The minutes from the November meeting were reviewed. The phrase “and above” was removed from the Alcohol in Church Events discussion. Kitty Haffner moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Peter Swanson was second. Minutes approved as corrected.

Financials: John Culley reported on the financial statements. He said that there is a pre-paid pledge of \$350.00 showing in the 2015 report which should be in 2016. He will correct. John also requested that any bills needing reimbursement should be submitted as soon as possible. After discussion, Mark Kussmaul moved that \$7,000 be moved from net total revenues to the building fund. Peter Swanson seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Planned Giving: Rev. Jan is working on reconciling the Planned Giving policy with that which was previously adopted by the vestry.

Liaison Reports (received via e-mail)

The **Outreach Committee** has so much to thank the parish for this month! The REINdear program, the gifts for Mental Health, the collection for refugees, the food distribution, and the ongoing collection for FISH!! Not only has the parish been very generous with donated goods, but also with many volunteer hours. A big thanks to everyone. Praise the Lord.
Ellen Ball

The **Planned Giving Committee** met on December 13th and discussed goals for 2016. The committee will begin to educate the congregation on planned giving opportunities.
Harry Siamas

Altar Guild (per Betty Culley, Chair): The decorating of the church for Christmas will be this Sunday, after the [10:30](#) service - inviting many hands to help! If you wish to make a donation for Christmas flowers, you may place a check in the collection marked "flowers". Also the new altar guild schedule has been set for January thru [July 1, 2016](#).
Kitty Haffner

The **adult education** group has met and the following is the schedule for next spring.

Mark

Adults

We cover many different topics during the year. This is the upcoming schedule.

[January 3, 2016:](#)

Michael Curry: Introduction to Our Presiding Bishop.

[January 10-February 7, 2016:](#)

Michael Curry's book *Crazy Christians*

[February 14-March 13, 2016:](#)

The PBS series *Enough*.

[April 3-17, 2016:](#)

Our Common Home: 13 Things to Know.

[April 24-May 22, 2016:](#)

Kathleen Norris's DVD series *Embracing a Life of Meaning*.

Building and Grounds update - there is no news at this time. Which also means no progress on the front doors. We do, however, need to check our entrances to make sure that they are winter-ready.

Cindy Turner

Parish Life: Committee has not met, so no report, however the Olanders have announced they are having a parish pot luck/white elephant gift exchange on Boxing Day, Dec. 26th.

Carole Meyer

Wardens: Thanks to Ellen Ball for all of her work with the REINdeer Project.

Thanks to Jerilyn Yerkes and Kim Roberts (and the St. John's children!) for the Advent Pageant.

Old Business:

a)Nominations for Vestry: Char Lingen, Sue Fain, and Chris Short have agreed to be slated for vestry. Rev. Jan will be meeting with Sue. She has already met with Char and Chris to review vestry responsibilities and expectations.

New Business:

a)Budget 2016: John Culley presented the proposed 2016 budget. Budget hearings will take place on Tuesday, January 12, 2016.

b)Montgomery County Health Department issued St. John's a permit for our kitchen. This does not include preparing foods which would be sold to public.

c)Rev. Jan asked for Vestry input on children coming upstairs from the nursery during the 10:30 service for communion. As we welcome more young families into our parish, it is important that both the young and the adults have the opportunity for a spiritually fulfilling experience. Kim Roberts said that this has come up in the past and Rev. Mary Taflinger requested that parents wait until the fraction anthem to retrieve their kids from the nursery. This helped keep disruptions to the Eucharist portion of the service at a minimum and yet allowed our smallest parish members to participate. It was agreed by the vestry that this is still a good general

policy. It is still the responsibility of each family to make the decision as to what works best for them while still respecting the needs of others in the parish.

Rev. Jan reviewed Christmas week services.

After discussion of Chapter 4 of the Vestry Guide, Kitty Haffner moved that the meeting adjourn. Peter Swanson was second and the meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Roberts, Clerk