

St. John's Episcopal Church
Vestry meeting, Wednesday, April 20, 2016, 7 p.m.

Members present: Ellen Ball, Sue Fain, Kitty Haffner, Mark Kussmaul, Char Lingen, Carole Meyer,
Rev. Jan Oller, Christopher Short, Harry Siamas, Peter Swanson
Others present: Treasurer John Culley, The Right Rev. Catherine Waynick

Bp. Cate opened with prayer. Members shared celebrations since last month. Christopher shared Titus 2:7-8, regarding soundness of speech, and spoke about cultural changes reflected in the comedic tone of his recent years' work. Kitty volunteered to bring the scripture for next month's meeting.

Bp. Cate opened discussion by asking about good things happening in the parish.

Sue: Lively discussion in adult education, and the ability of choristers to take part. Ellen mentioned that adult education wasn't offered at all when she first attended.

Kitty: A good range of ages in children's education as well.

Mark: Feels good to have stable finances, so much that the parish could return its diocesan grant.

Kitty: Jan's leadership much appreciated, and she's willing to push to have needed discussions.

Rev. Jan: Hospitality of parishioners, especially with recent standing-room-only funerals.

Christopher: Congregation willing to try new things. Prompted to talk about Mardi Gras.

Harry: Momentum in planned giving, thanks to input from other parishioners.

Rev. Jan: Outreach – Food ministries, and successful bulletin-board project, in which dozens of organizations were represented in work congregants are already doing.

Mark: Dedicated group of people who visit the homebound on Sundays.

Ellen: Supporting each other – specifically Abby's orphanage teaching gig.

Bp. Cate continued discussion by asking about our dreams for the future.

Carole and Christopher: Attracting younger congregants, growing the youth group

Carole: Greater parking accessibility

Sue: Grow the choir

Kitty: Find new ways to take care of elders

Bp. Cate: Possible adult ed subject – the spirituality of aging. What if St. John's were the place to be for elderly worshippers? How do we honor the faith journeys of our elders, their spiritual wisdom? How did their faith help them in their lives as spouses, workers, parents?

Bp. Cate: Does anything feel hard?

Ellen: Uncomfortable with attendance, having been here in healthier times.

Members thanked Bp. Cate for coming, and for all she's given the parish over the decades.
The meeting was adjourned.