

St. John's Episcopal Church
Vestry meeting, 7 p.m., Wednesday Sept. 21, 2016

Members present: Sue Fain, Kitty Haffner, Mark Kussmaul, Char Lingen, Carole Meyer, the Rev. Jan Oller, Christopher Short (clerk), Harry Siamas.

Rev. Jan opened with prayer. Members shared celebrations.

June minutes: Harry moved to accept, Sue seconded; it passed unanimously.

Financial report: At the eight-month mark, 73% of revenues are in, and just 63% of expenses out. But for four months in a row, we're in the red. There are no especial line items the treasurer is concerned about. Christopher moved to accept, Char seconded; it passed unanimously.

Liaison reports

Adult education liaison Mark Kussmaul announced the remaining slate of topics, which are posted to the website: The big questions of our faith, Islam, Episcopal music, and Embracing a Life of Meaning.

Children's education chair Kim Roberts announced a fall curriculum of Old Testament stories, designed for a one-room class (ages 3-12). Kids to sing at a 10:30 service in October.

Columbarium liaison Char Lingen reported three applications for niches, approved by the vestry over e-mail: One submitted by Jim Suren, and two by Angela Cooley for Janet and Bob Cooley.

Gratitude chair Harry Siamas said this year's theme is "Living Generously." We will have speakers and bulletin inserts in October, with ingathering the first Sunday in November.

Outreach committee met just a couple hours before the vestry; due to unforeseen circumstances, a full report didn't make it to us in time.

Parish Life chair Carole Meyers spoke about Music at the Mill, scheduled for Sept. 21, and a tentatively scheduled potluck dinner for October in Whitlock Hall. Another Christmas potluck and gift exchange is set for Jan. 6 at the Fains' house. Anyone can host a potluck, just ask!

St. Martha's Guild chair Meegan Reidy recapped 2016 receptions: Lenten Breakfast and Marie Power's funeral reception in February; the bishop's visit in April; Jim Smith's memorial and Sam Vaught's sending-off in August; Alex Lebedeff's memorial in September.

Old business

Closing the book on 2014 BHAGs:

- The building next door was sold to a doctor in California, no idea what will happen with it.

- College ministry: Jan still goes to the college on Tuesdays, and a couple of parishioners sponsor international students. Raymond Williams is coming for adult forum in October. Morning prayer has ended with Sam's graduation.
- Outreach: No call for change in approach. Jan's women's prison ministry in Indy has been hit-or-miss.

New business

Jan would like to revisit the issue of office assistance; hoping the budget will have room. 4 to 6 hours/week, \$12-15/hr. Cindy Smith might step down as pledge secretary, in which case the new person might be called on to do that input too.

Bishop walkabout in Greencastle, Saturday Oct. 15. Sam Vaught is doing well, working with refugees, and set to come for his postulancy interview in October.

Survey Monkey: 46 responses. The vestry primarily discussed the first four questions. In general, we were surprised that so many people like singing the creeds and having prayers printed in the bulletin. We're dismayed about the lack of interest in Outreach. More discussion to follow in October.

Kitty moved to adjourn, Mark seconded; it passed unanimously.