

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**Vestry meeting, 7 p.m., Wednesday Oct. 19, 2016**

**Members present:** Ellen Ball, Kitty Haffner, Char Lingen, Carole Meyer, the Rev. Jan Oller, Christopher Short (clerk), Harry Siamas, Peter Swanson.

Rev. Jan opened with prayer. Members shared celebrations. Char shared a scripture reading from James 1 pertaining to her palliative care, which she revisits often, as well as a devotional reading. Harry volunteered to share next month.

**September minutes:** Rev. Jan suggested amending the bit about Outreach: "No call for change in approach." Kitty moved to accept as amended, Peter seconded; passed unanimously.

**Financial report:** John (in absentia) reported that we're on our fifth straight month in the red. YTD is still positive, expenses are still below budget for the year, and after all we're operating under a deficit budget. Char moved to accept, Christopher seconded; it passed unanimously.

**Liaison reports**

Children's Education: A good group of kids sang an anthem on Oct. 9. Nothing else to report.

Gratitude: Stewardship campaign theme is Living Generously. Bulletin inserts throughout October, and three speakers on that topic. Vestry members were asked to pledge by In-gathering Sunday, Nov. 6.

Outreach: REINdear will be going on as scheduled. After several meetings, and in absence of strong voice from the survey, the committee hopes to get direction from the vestry. Christopher suggested giving (issue-targeted) grants as a low-labor, high-visibility program. The vestry agreed to help with discernment.

Parish Life: Music at the Mill was a delightful success, likely to be repeated. Potluck in Whitlock Hall, set for Oct. 21. Christmas gift exchange set for the Fains' in January.

**Old business**

Jan suggested an amendment to the June minutes in order to be in compliance with the IRS re: housing allowance resolution. Ellen moved to accept, Kitty seconded; passed unanimously.

**New business**

*Survey redux: What would you like to see more of?*

Parish Life: Many mentioned more potlucks, but the vestry is wary of overdoing that, so we revisited the idea of Dinners for Eight. Kitty suggested reshuffling after every dinner, to avoid getting "stuck" with people with whom you have little in common. Rev. Jan said that presents

scheduling problems. Rees Olander has expressed an interest in doing more hospitality work, so we'll approach her with the idea of heading dinners in first half of 2017.

Adult Education: Answers seemed to revolve around wanting to do more Bible study. Christopher suggested maybe alternating between units of actual Bible study and "special" extra-biblical topics of the sort we've been doing.

*Other business*

Sam Vaught can use prayers for his priesthood induction journey. Rev. Jan suspects he'll do fine, but he can always use support!

Ingathering of pledges: Nov. 6. Need to stress that, because the parish has a bad habit of turning in pledges at annual meeting, after budgets are already set. (see note in liaison report above)

Peter moved to adjourn, Christopher seconded; it passed unanimously.