

St. John's Episcopal Church
Regular vestry meeting and annual retreat
12 p.m., Sunday, April 23, 2017

Members present: Nancy Bennett, Kitty Haffner, Marc Hudson, Char Lingen, Carole Meyer, Rev. Jan Oller, Christopher Short (clerk), Peter Swanson, Alan White

Members shared celebrations since the last meeting.

March minutes: Kitty moved to accept, Peter seconded; they passed unanimously.

Treasurer's report: In the red for the month, but still ahead for the year. John indicated no challenges thus far. After revisiting some 2016 minutes, Kitty pointed out that we have far more assets now. Kitty moved to accept, Christopher seconded; it passed unanimously.

Liaison reports

- Adult Education (Marc): The Lenten essay anthology prompted lively discussions with good attendance. The final unit of the year is Hazardous Saints: Hildegard of Bingen (Judy Wynne), Mary Magdalene (Shirley Burd), Sojourner Truth (Cindy Turner), and Dorothy Day (Sue Fain).
- Altar Guild (Alan): Met for lunch on Maundy Thursday; Easter weekend prep went well.
- Children's Education (Kitty): Hopefully, the kids will be singing one more time before the summer break! More teachers will be needed for the fall, as kids separate into at least two classes (e.g. there are now four middle-schoolers).
- Outreach (Carole): Agreed to rework Mardi Gras as a matching-type fundraiser for a specific ministry, with more marketing. Shirley Burd outlined Kairos needs, including a May cookie drive. Following the vestry's recommendations, members will investigate ministries to support, such as Financial Peace University, halfway homes, Bridges over Poverty, and Trinity Mission. Food Finders and Reindeer Project continuing for 2017 as usual.
- Parish Life (Carole): Dinners for Eight returning soon, with a new name and a little tweaking. Breakfast at the Shore at the Olander's on June 11, with service in their back yard instead of the actual shore.
- St. Martha's Guild (Nancy): Did the traditional Easter brunch, with champagne provided by Claude Johnson.

Rector's updates:

First UMC has invited us to share in a community-wide service project on Sunday, April 30. At 11 a.m. we'll go to Pam's Promise and some elders' homes who need help with yard work. We also will write cards, make cookies, etc., for those in halfway houses and shelters.

The new bishop will be consecrated at Clowes Hall on April 29.

Jan will be gone, but available by phone, May 15-19. She requests that no one die.

May 21 ends Sunday school and choir for the year, and is also the next vestry meeting.

Carol Titus has moved from the hospital to Ben-Hur Nursing Home, but continues to be unaware of her surroundings.

The vestry discussed an article about a non-denominational congregation being invited to share, and eventually take over, an older Methodist church building. Most lamented what they saw as an irrevocable loss of Christian culture and tradition. Jan said the reason she shared the article was to remind us that we need to keep making incremental change, in order to avoid such a sudden painful change. We're doing well at the moment, but that doesn't mean we should drop our guard.

Adjournment: Peter moved, Carole seconded; it passed unanimously.