

Trinity Episcopal Church
Minutes of the Vestry Meeting
Monday, March 20, 2017

Present: Rob Baldwin (Rector), Susan Terry (Assistant Rector), Steve King (Senior Warden), Andrew Hoyt, Jennifer Attocknie, Katie Bieker, Nora Clark, Brenda Clary, Kim Mandle, Allison Marker, Dusty McCoy, Katherine McGillivray, Chuck Olcese, Bill Benso (Treasurer), Maria Thompson (Clerk)

Absent: David Severance (Junior Warden)

Guest: David Marker

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Fr. Rob at 6:35 p.m.

Declaration of Quorum

A count was taken and a quorum declared.

Approval of the Minutes of the February 2017 Meeting

A motion was made to approve the Minutes of the February meeting. The motion was seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

Ordination Process

David Marker met with the Vestry to discuss his studies at the Bishop Kemper School of Ministry. He has completed two of the three required years, but at Bishop Wolfe's suggestion, he took a year off. He has met with all the necessary people at the Diocese and has Bishop Wolfe's support to continue toward ordination to the priesthood. Now he needs support from this vestry.

Executive Session

The Vestry went into executive session, then signed the letter of support for David Marker.

Rector's Report

See Rob's written report (attached).

Assistant Rector's Report

Numbers for children's Sunday School dropped when we changed the time to 9:30. We've changed it back to 10:30, and numbers are slowly rising, but we don't expect to have full attendance restored until the fall. We don't currently have a 6/7-grade class.

During Lent the children will be making cards for refugees. The cards will be sent to Episcopal Migrant Ministries in Wichita, to be given to refugees when they are settled into new homes.

The Dream Team is working to develop new ideas for Sunday School.

We are going to begin having the congregation stand when the children process behind the cross to go to Sunday School.

Senior Warden's Report

Steve created a list of committees that need to be formed and led by Vestry members. All Vestry members will be asked to take on a project and report on it at each Vestry meeting. The committees/projects are:

- 1) Progressive Dinner
- 2) Friendship Day
- 3) Endowment Loan
- 4) Harvest Festival
- 5) Annual Budget
- 6) Bylaw Changes
- 7) Pledges/Capital Campaign
- 8) Structural needs of the church building

Junior Warden

See David's written report (attached).

Treasurer's Report

Bill presented the financial report for February:

- Pledge income through February was 79% of the linearized year-to-date (YTD) projection, or 13% of the full-year budget.
- Non-designated contributions through February were 56% of the YTD projection, or 9.3% of the full-year budget.
- Controllable expenses were 108% of the linearized YTD budget. This overage is largely attributable to timing of incurred expense items.

All financial obligations are current. A better assessment of expense control and income will be possible when we look at financial actuals at the end of the first quarter.

Christian Education Salaries

In 2016 we spent \$4,273 on Christian Education salaries. The standing policy has been to cover those salaries through a withdrawal from the Education Endowment Fund at Central Bank of the Midwest. That fund currently has a balance of \$5,353. The withdrawal of \$4,273 will leave a balance of \$1,080. In addition to other fundraising activities, it is requested that attention be given to replenishing the Education Endowment Fund.

A motion was made to reimburse the Education Endowment Fund for the \$4,273 that was used to pay salaries in 2016. The motion was seconded, and passed with 9 in favor, 2 opposed.

Debt Service

The March loan payment has been made, but this basically exhausts the reserve account for making these payments. The remaining balance on this loan is \$98,379.74. The next payment of \$4,630.18 will be due April 20th, 2017. If the strategy is to borrow approximately six months of loan payments from the General Endowment Fund, the documents need to be executed as soon as possible.

There are some in the congregation who are opposed to borrowing from the General Endowment Fund. We need to be open and transparent about this plan, and make sure the entire congregation knows that if we don't do this, and no new money comes in, then the payments will have to start coming out of our general operating funds. This means cuts will have to be made in other areas.

Lawrence Interfaith Refugee and Immigrant Ministry

Lawrence Interfaith Refugee and Immigrant Ministry met on March 15th. Lydia Diebolt, the Director of Centro Hispano, as well as three recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), talked about the effect of the current political climate on their lives. Going to school has become a challenge because of their families' limited abilities to provide support, even though they qualify for in-state rates because they've been here for three years or more.

There are people who are willing to give money for scholarships, but Centro Hispano is unable to take on any more programs. They asked if the scholarship money could be held by Trinity. Vestry members asked why the funds couldn't be held by St. John's Catholic Church, with which Centro Hispano has close ties. In addition, the Vestry needs to know what would be required of us if we agreed to take this on. Chuck will get answers to these questions and report back. It's also possible that we will need approval from the Diocese if we choose to move forward with this.

Canterbury House

Next year will be for rebuilding, so there won't be any students living in the house.

United Thank Offering

Elaine Penny is going to handle UTO. Jennifer agreed to help.

April Meeting

The next meeting will be on April 24th, instead of the 17th, which is the day after Easter.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Thompson, Clerk

Rector's Report: March 2017

The past month has been a busy one, more for personal than professional reasons.

We have had one wedding in the last month, Jamie Deines and Haley Skeen, on February 25th.

Several parishioners have been in the hospital, including Vestry member Kim Mandle and Vashti Winterburg, the wife of Vestry member David Severance. Thankfully both are doing very well. Carol Howe, not a member per se but an Episcopalian who recently moved to the Lawrence area, suffered a cerebral hemorrhage and is currently in hospice care.

Planning for Holy Week is largely complete. The schedule follows Trinity's typical pattern of regular services on Palm Sunday, a service on the evening of Maundy Thursday, Stations of the Cross and a service on Good Friday, an Easter Vigil on Saturday, and services at 8:00 and 10:30 on Easter Sunday. The biggest change will be at Palm Sunday, when the Passion narrative will be moved to the end of the service.

Trinity was open for the nationwide day of prayer for refugees, a decision that was lauded by many congregation members however attendance was slim.

Attendance was also slim at the workshop on estate planning hosted by members of St. Francis House, and bears some consideration about how we might attract more attention to this issue in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

The Very Rev. Rob Baldwin

Jr Warden Report

jrwarden@trinitylawrence.org

20 March 17

I am out of town and can't be here for the meeting 20 March.

Busy first month – Dishwasher in kitchen needed a service call, clogged water filter. Called in Hobart - Expensive – will plan to pick up filters in the future and change out ourselves.

Stink in the sanctuary, which we thought was from animals in the undercroft turned out to be a backed up floor drain/pit in the undercroft. Called in Servpro to clean out and sanitize. Then a plumber to unclog the drain. Thought the smell might be related to Christmas greenery stored down there. (Stinky but not the source) Plan to spray clean and air out in the spring.

Fixed non-functioning door lock in bathroom opposite kitchen. Two days later was informed flapper was broken. Repaired. Tighten down all of the toilet seats (7) in all of the bathrooms.

Changed fluorescent lights in parish hall – still one unit that needs to have a ballast replaced. Still need to complete the flood light replacement.

Thermostat in parish hall was not working – called Scott – traced to a bad safety switch in the furnace. Now working.

I was contacted by Sally Hare-Schriner about the Hare Garden needing some work. Contacted Steve Keys and will set up a time to discuss procedures.

Have heard a few comments about the facility needing a cleaning day before Easter. I propose 8 April as the date – open to discussion/ideas.