

**Trinity Episcopal Church**  
**Minutes of the Vestry Meeting**  
**Monday, June 22, 2015**

**Present:** Rob Baldwin (Rector), Susan Terry (Assistant Rector), Andrew Hoyt (Junior Warden), Nora Clark, Brenda Clary, Lindy Eakin, Steve King, Glenna Kleinkauf, Terry Mandle, Rodney Olson, David Severance, Bill Benso (Treasurer), Maria Thompson (Clerk)

**Absent:** John Bullock (Senior Warden), Mari Russell, Bruce Scoular

**Guest:** Ben McConnell

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Declaration of Quorum**

A count was taken and a quorum declared.

**Approval of the Minutes of the May 2015 Meetings**

Glenna made a motion to approve the Minutes of the May 18<sup>th</sup> Vestry Meeting and May 30<sup>th</sup> Vestry Retreat. Lindy seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Justice Matters**

Ben McConnell, from Justice Matters, discussed the organization, saying that they would like Trinity to become a supporting member. The cost to us would be 0.75% of our yearly income, or around \$3,000 per year. The money would go to fund staff salaries.

Justice Matters has identified three major causes for injustice in Lawrence: 1) childhood trauma; 2) mental health; 3) affordable housing. They have chosen to work on the mental health and housing issues for now, by working with the police on new ways of dealing with mentally ill people and by working with the city to establish a housing trust fund.

The Vestry expressed concerns that this is a political action group, as one of their methods is to pressure politicians until they go along with what Justice Matters requests. While the Vestry agrees that it is OK to speak out on political issues, it is not OK for Trinity to engage in a political process. It was decided that we want to be part of the ongoing conversation, and will encourage parishioners to do so as well. However, we will not become a dues paying member yet, pending further discussion and gathering additional information.

**Volunteer Recognition**

The Vestry recognized Pat Kehde for her work to create and successfully carry out the organ concert.

**Liquor in the Kitchen**

Word has gotten out that we keep wine in the kitchen for the Wednesday evening service and other events. Street people have been coming in the look for it during Sunday morning services, when it's least likely that anyone will be around the kitchen. We will need to keep an eye on the situation while we determine what to do about it. Locking the doors to the church during services is not an option.

**Small Groups**

Basement Renovations

Glenna, David and Nora

We should develop both long- and short-term plans to make the basement space more inviting, including making it brighter, adding more storage, and putting windows in all the doors or installing new doors with windows in them. The group will survey the teachers about what they would like for the space.

A cleaning day will be needed to get rid of all the items that have been sitting unused, including some large electronics.

### Newcomers

Steve, Andrew and Mari (absent)

One of the greatest obstacles in taking care of our newcomers is determining who they are. We currently rely on them to fill out cards in the pews. We should get the ushers and greeters more involved in the process.

Additionally, we need to decide how we will follow up with newcomers once we know who they are.

### Organ Debt Reduction

Lindy and Rodney

We will need to determine exactly how much is left to be paid off. That will include determining how many people have not paid their pledges for the Organ Fund. We will also need to tell the story about the lightning strike again, since many parishioners were not here when it happened and may not know the whole story. We also need to make clear that the debt includes the remainder of the building project that enlarged the parish hall and remodeled the basement, as well as the cost of the lightning suppression system.

Our ultimate goal will be to build a surplus/contingency fund.

### Pledge Drive

Terry, Brenda and John (absent)

We will again use the Harvest Festival theme, but will spread the event over a series of days, including a keynote speaker on at least one of those days. There would be a Friday evening event, then a carnival-type festival on Saturday. There would be events for children and families, so child care won't have to be an issue for any family that would like to participate.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maria Thompson, Clerk