

Trinity Episcopal Church
Minutes of the Vestry Meeting
Monday, April 16, 2018

Present: Rob Baldwin (Rector), Susan Terry (Assistant Rector), Kim Mandle (Senior Warden), David Severance (Junior Warden), Jennifer Attocknie, Brenda Clary, Heather Eichman, Andrew Hoyt, Allison Marker, Katherine McGillivray, Elizabeth Miller (Treasurer), Charles Olcese, Maria Thompson (Clerk)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Fr. Rob at 6:30 p.m.

Declaration of Quorum

A count was taken and a quorum declared.

Minutes of the March Meeting

Liz made a motion to accept the Minutes of the March 2018 Vestry meeting with amendments. David seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous vote. Maria will make the changes and send out revised minutes.

Rector's Report (see attached)

Treasurer's Report

Debt Reduction

Trinity has raised \$40,699 towards paying off the outstanding loan balance. The \$20,000 "challenge grant" has been matched. We were expecting to have to raise approximately \$6,000 more to completely pay off the loan balance, but a parishioner texted Fr. Rob during this meeting to let him know that she will donate the \$6,000.

Cash Flow Challenges Due to the Structural Budget Deficit

Cash in the Operating checking account is \$5,460.81 as of 4/14/18. The Operating checking account still owes \$10,000 to the Organ MMA account (\$10,000 of the \$40,699 pledged was not transferred to the Organ MMA account yet due to cash flow). In addition, Jenn held back the \$6,375.00 March apportionment check to the Diocese.

Income Shortfall

First quarter income is \$19,556.99 below budget. A large part of this is due to the fact that \$13,455.00 of 2018 prepaid pledges was spent in 2017.

There are no reserves to fund the structural budget deficit for 2018. Possible solutions include:

- a. Increase income through fundraising events
- b. Further reduce expenses
- c. Combination of (a) and (b)

Liz made a motion to form a Fundraising Committee. Kim seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Liz, Kim and Katie will be members of the new committee. Other parishioners will need to be found to help with the work that will need to be done.

Vandalism Claim

Brenda is working on the insurance claim for last fall's vandalism.

Assistant Rector's Report

Children's Education

- Palm Sunday – Walk through Holy Week: the children and Mthr. Susan met downstairs to talk about Holy Week while the congregation was reading the Passion Narrative at the end of the service. The Walk included discussions about Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and a bit of Easter. The children asked excellent questions and offered many good observations.
- Easter Sunday – We had record breaking numbers of children, and the teachers did a great job of telling the Easter story. The children made flowers for the bare cross, which had been discussed on Palm Sunday. While the younger children were downstairs, Mthr. Susan was with the youth group, scattering eggs for the Easter egg hunt and watching over them so they wouldn't be carried away before the children went outside. In spite of the bitter cold, the hunt went well.

- Willow – Mthr. Susan has been in touch with Will Averill, Willow's Director of Community Engagement. They plan to meet to discuss the projects Trinity has done in the past and brainstorm about what we can do in the future.
- Pentecost – We are resurrecting the Instructed Eucharist, which was well received when we did it several years ago. It explains the Eucharist through different voices. Mthr. Susan is organizing the speakers and logistics for the day.
- VBS – Vacation Bible School will be held June 11-15. Rachel Schwaller will coordinate VBS this summer.
- Summer Youth Camp – Mthr. Susan is planning to meet with middle school students this spring to see if they would be interested in a one- or two-week camp at Trinity this summer. If they are, she will brainstorm with them about what kinds of things they would like to do. She will also be brainstorming this idea with the Dream Team.

Junior Warden's Report

David offered thanks to the crew who changed the light bulbs in the sanctuary. The bulbs came in at half the anticipated cost.

Vandals got into one of the air conditioning units sometime between April 8th and 11th and stole the copper tubing, causing \$2,000 in damage. David is looking into better ways to keep those units secure.

Katherine asked that the red double doors be cleaned and painted.

Eagle Scout Project

For his Eagle Scout project, Zach Pitts would like to refurbish the sign on the lawn, move it away from the trees, and install lighting, all at no cost to Trinity. There was some discussion about the costs of hooking the lights to a power source and keeping them working after the project is complete.

Brenda made a motion to invite Zach to present his proposal to the vestry. The motion was seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

Newcomers

There are four new greeters. The entire greeters group will meet to be re-oriented to their work.

DACA Scholarship

The DACA Scholarship Committee met with Lydia Diebolt, Director of Centro Hispano, to discuss the scholarship. She has done some fund raising, and some large gifts are anticipated. The Committee is looking into having a tamale fundraiser at Trinity in late June.

Allison made a motion to approve the DACA Scholarship Committee's request to sell tamales at Trinity in late June 2018 to raise funds for the scholarship. Jennifer seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Next Vestry Meeting

The next meeting of the vestry will be Monday, May 21st, 6:30 p.m.

Fr. Rob plans to begin meeting with the wardens and treasurer prior to vestry meetings. He's pulling together a schedule for the rest of this year.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. Fr. Rob closed with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Thompson, Clerk

Rector's Report

Liturgy

While this year's Holy Week was executed about as well as I have ever seen since becoming rector, the inclement weather took a huge toll on attendance, especially the Easter Vigil. For those interested in numbers from last year:

Palm Sunday April 9, 2017 (8:00 AM/10:30 AM/6:00 PM): 55/199/34

Palm Sunday March 25, 2018: 54/185/13

Maundy Thursday 2017: 70

Maundy Thursday 2018: 57

Good Friday 2017: 70

Good Friday 2018: 35

Easter Vigil 2017: 75

Easter Vigil 2018: 37

Easter Sunday April 16, 2017 (8 AM/10:30 AM): 83/368

Easter Sunday April 1, 2018: 52/331

Lest we get overly concerned, comparing 2018 numbers to 2014, 2015, and 2016 shows the attendance for Palm Sunday and Easter to be at or even higher than those services. The real drop is in mid-week services, and I have asked the staff to work with me on re-envisioning those services in an attempt to generate additional interest.

Pastoral Care

As of the writing of this report, I have not been able to visit Clint Laing at the Douglas County Jail. After repeated attempts to speak to the staff person handling clergy visitations, I visited the jail in person, filled out the paperwork, and was told I would be called when it had been processed. That was last Thursday.

I have spoken to the chancellor of the diocese regarding our situation, and while many parishes in other dioceses have boilerplate language regarding the removal of vestry members, our parish (and most others in the diocese) do not. The chancellor mentioned that perhaps a review was in order, but also said he suspected few would object to having Clint removed. Given that Clint has not been tried but has only been charged with multiple felonies of an egregious nature, I am again suggesting that, failing his own resignation, we merely wait until the May meeting to act. By then he will have had his trial and if convicted, a third absence.

Miscellaneous

I will be getting married to Mandy Bell on August 4, 2018 in a small, private service to be held at Trinity Church. We will be having a reception for the entire parish on Sunday, August 5th, following the 10:30 AM service.