

Trinity Episcopal Church
Minutes of the Vestry Meeting
Monday, May 21, 2018

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

Call to Order

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

Declaration of Quorum

A count was taken and a quorum declared.

Minutes of the April Meeting

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

Rector's Report (see attached)

The Vestry went into executive session to discuss clergy considerations.

Treasurer's Report

Liz presented the April 30 financial reports.

- Expenses continue to exceed income.
- Summer is going to be tight. We will try to keep expenses as low as we can, as well as ask people to pay their pledges as soon as possible.
- Cash flow problems need to be kept in front of the congregation.

Debt Reduction

\$40,699 was raised to date. A new pledge of \$6,000 has subsequently been reduced to \$3,000, and has not yet been received. One remaining pledge is outstanding, amount unknown, pending Father Rob's conversation with the donor. (Approximately \$6,000 additional pledges are needed to completely pay off the loan.)

Cash Flow Challenges Due to the Structural Budget Deficit

These challenges continue, and are expected to worsen during the summer months, as attendance declines due to summer travel, etc. Coping strategies include: deferring all apportionment payments during the summer months; and selling existing stock of GIFT cards during the summer months, with no additional purchases of GIFT cards until cash flow improves.

YTD Experience

Giving income (pledges and plate) are running approximately 21% behind budget, or \$31,333.90 YTD through April 30th. Total expenses are in line with budget, due to deferment of April apportionment payment of \$6,375.00. The Operating checking account owes \$10,000 to the debt repayment MMA/C, and \$4,630.18 for the May loan payment was transferred to the Operating checking account on May 3rd, even though the payment is not due until May 20th, to cover other obligations.

Pledge Enhancement Drive

We need to raise an additional \$40- to \$50,000 to meet our expenses this year.

- Rob will talk to the parish about it.
- A letter from the Vestry will be sent, outlining the situation.

Ultimately, we will need to increase church membership and pledges.

Assistant Rector's Report (see attached)

Junior Warden's Report

Brenda is continuing to work on the insurance claims for the vandalism last fall and the more recent damage to the air conditioning unit. David will contact a professional carpet cleaner to assess whether cleaning the carpet damage from last fall's incident will destroy the glue and loosen the carpet squares.

Vestry Membership

Clint Laing has missed three Vestry meetings, which qualifies the Vestry to remove him and appoint a replacement.

Brenda made a motion to remove Clint Laing from the Vestry. David seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Vestry discussed names of parishioners who might be available to replace Clint.

David made a motion to postpone the appointment of a new Vestry member by two weeks, after which time a name will be sent out to the Vestry by email, and the approval vote will be conducted by email. Jennifer seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Greeters

The Greeters met to orient new greeters and reorient those who have been doing it a while.

Newcomers Brochure

The brochure for newcomers is still in progress.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Maria Thompson, Clerk

Rector's Report

Trinity events in April/May

- TEST Earth Day event (Apr 21)
- Tom McCoy funeral (Apr 28)
- Greeter reorientation meeting (Apr 29)
- Rob taught Anglican Identity at BKSM (May 12-13)
- Charlotte Bishop wedding (May 18)
- Grasslands plant sale (May 18)
- Pentecost with Instructional Eucharist, Sunday School teacher recognition, and Graduating seniors recognition (May 20)

Upcoming Events

- Ryan/Cinelli wedding (May 26)
- Trinity Sunday with picnic (May 27)
- Office closed for Memorial Day (May 28)

Torey Lightcap and Monte Giddings have been in contact with me regarding their deploying two clergy at Trinity Church. The first is Bianca Elliott, who would be serving here as "Priest Associate," which is a non-stipendiary position. The second is Deb Burns, who would be here as a deacon (also a non-stipendiary position). Deb's deployment is still more tenuous than Bianca's, because her situation is still being discussed by the Council of Trustees. Both individuals would need letters of agreement before starting; those are usually written in conjunction with the diocesan offices.

May 13 saw the end of the evening service for the season. Presently there is no start date for future evening services, pending a great deal of discussion and planning regarding that worship time. By the end of the school year the attendance had declined to the point of having single-digit attendance. One possibility that deserves some consideration is that now that Trinity has both a bi-lingual priest and a bi-lingual deacon, that we have a Spanish-language service. Trinity could attempt to build upon our relationship with DACA students and Centro Hispano, and look for inroads into the Hispanic community of Lawrence. I am suggesting we do a feasibility study prior to committing to this service.

During the summer months we have several special programs. For children there will be a Vacation Bible School and Susan Hires is planning a children's music camp program. We are continuing to hold the Adult Forum, currently using the Pilgrim curriculum "Christ and the Kingdom." Later this summer we will be having a program focused on inclusivity and boundaries in the Church. Deb Beckley will be hosting monthly special activities for our youth.

I have also begun a private Facebook group for the clergy of our parish to allow us to be able to communicate pastoral care requests such as home communion and hospital visitations more easily. So far the response has been excellent.

Assistant Rector's Report

Summer Activities for Trinity's Children:

1. Vacation Bible School, June 11-June 15: Rachel Schwaller is in charge of VBS this year. Looks like pirates will be landing in the garden looking for treasure. VBS is for children 4 years-5th grade. Older children can talk to Rachel about possible volunteer positions. There is a sign up sheet on the Children's Ministry Bulletin board for adults who would like to help with set-up, during the week or with clean-up. VBS is a big undertaking and we really depend on our volunteers. Please sign up on the sheet or call Rachel if you would like to help.
2. July 23-27: Trinity's first annual (?) Music Camp. Susan Hires and I are working on a week long camp for children 5 years-8th grade (again, older kids and youth are encouraged to volunteer to help). Susan has conducted these camps in other places and is excited about bringing it to Trinity. During the days, the children will design sets, help create costumes and practice the music. The camp will end with a final performance.
3. Summer Sunday School from the Sunday of Memorial day through the Sunday of Labor Day. The summer will be divided into 3 themes: Month 1—Songs, Stories, Skits and Snacks; Month 2—Leggo Bible stories; Month 3—Movie Time! I will be teaching and am looking for volunteers to help. According to church guidelines, we must have 2 adults working with children at all times. I have put up a sign up sheet and would be very happy to have members of the Vestry help out. You can sign up for one or more Sundays. I will have the lesson plan and lead, unless that is something you would like to do.

I am hoping the instructed Eucharist was a good experience for people at both services. Many thanks to those who volunteered to be readers.

And a big thank you to all our Fall-Spring Sunday School teachers. Their ministry is vitally important to Trinity and they have earned our thanks: Bea Bonano, Raven Harper, Annelise Lawrence, Sofia Bea, Lynn Segebrecht, Melanie and Micah Seybold, Kathy Marker, Anne Patterson, Bill Perkins, Natalia and Matt Fairchild, Barbara Cook, Katie Becker, David Paden, Brad Eldridge.