

Vestry Minutes

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Oxford, Ohio

June 12, 2018



Present: Sara Palmer, Rector; Bob Benson, Sr. Warden; Elaine Brandner, Jr. Warden; Jim Michael, Treasurer; Stacey Peterson, Clerk; Vestry Members: Peter Lindsay, Hugo Olaiz, Diana Uhlman and Debbie Williams

Absent: Martin Ganev, Mila Ganeva, John Harper, Chris Shoker,

Spiritual reflections were presented by Hugo.

Agenda for 6-12-2018 Meeting: Unanimously approved – Bob moved and Elaine seconded.

Approval of 5-8-2018 Vestry Meeting Minutes: Unanimously approved – Hugo moved and Bob seconded.

Rector's Report – Sara

- **Pastoral visits.** Sara visited Peter Dahoda, Frank Jordan, Lila Mason, Barbara McKinstry, Jane Strippel and Eleanor Vail. She met with Anne Lodge to prepare Dick's funeral and attended Nina Stahr's high school graduation celebration. She also went to UC Medical Center to see James Stokes (a former acolyte) and suggests that Vestry pray regularly for James and his family. Send cards to James c/o Kelly Stokes, 8180 West Mill St., Apt. 221, Cleves, OH 45002. Judy and Glenn Rymer's new address is 5508 Evergreen Ridge Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45215.
- **Student ministry.** Pete has agreed to chair the Student Ministry Committee, and Ken Grabach will serve on it. And Sara has invited Martin Ganev, Keira Hassel, Taylor Maddox and Maggie Petroskie to join. Lara Osborne is writing this year's grant application. Sara attended two new student orientation sessions at Miami and had a few good conversations with parents. They were interested in the Bible study program. Sara continues to contact rectors of large parishes to see if they can send students our way.
- **Bible study.** Sara will offer Bible study in the fall and plans to advertise it in July. Meeting time is still TBD.
- **Liturgical planning and presiding.** The next liturgical season has been planned from July 1 to Labor Day. Dick Lodge's funeral went well, with an elegant reception. Hanna Kempf and Harry Hensel will begin marriage preparation in July. The Harper's sons will be baptized on July 1. The Harper family will be confirmed after taking confirmation classes on a date and at a place yet to be determined.
- **New Vestry member.** John Harper's orientation meeting is planned for June 18.
- **Adult Forum.** Peter Williams will chair the Adult Forum Committee. There will be a meeting in July to plan the fall sessions. Peter plans to follow the approach taken this year that included parishioner faith stories, a Bible topic, a book study, a spiritual practice and a social justice theme.

- **Family ministry.** Sara is meeting with Lawrence Bartel, pastor of the Oxford Presbyterian Church, to discuss participating in their middle and high school youth group.
- **Diocese.** Sara, along with several parishioners, attended the ordination of Devin Rogers at Christ Church Cathedral in Cincinnati. Devin, who helped with Holy Trinity's student ministry, is now at St Gregory of Nyssa in San Francisco. The Bishop has sent a letter urging parishes to have an active shooter action plan by Sept. 9. Dan Pratt will chair a task force and is meeting with a few people suggested for the group. Sara continues to attend the HP2 sessions with all clergy new to the diocese.
- **Upcoming activities.**
 - June 21 – Butler Philharmonic free concert
 - June 30 – Old Stone Riding Stables
 - July 22 – Reds game
 - Sept. 8 – Santana tribute band

CarolineGrace Williams' resignation from Vestry – Sara

The Parish Leadership and Nominating Committee is working on finding a replacement.

Nominating Committee: New Outreach Committee chair – Bob

Kathleen Carels has agreed to chair the Outreach Committee. She plans to revamp it with a focus on transforming the parish's concept of outreach. It will include strong communication with the other committees, which are also doing outreach. Several people have been approached to join the Outreach Committee.

Kathleen's appointment as Outreach Committee chair was unanimously approved – Diana moved and Bob seconded.

"The Art of Transformation" by Paul Fromberg as it regards Outreach – Bob and Sara

- Bob recommended that everyone on Vestry read this book. Sara suggested that whoever does Vestry meditation reads a chapter and does a summary. She also suggested including the whole parish in reading the book and having an evening discussion at someone's home. Jim will buy five copies and put them in the church library.
- Hugo suggested putting on a film series that would include three documentaries on immigration. It was suggested that we do this in the undercroft in the fall (possibly three Sunday evenings in Sept., Oct. and Nov.) and reach out to other churches.
- Bob recommended another book, "Sacred Resistance" by Ginger Gaines-Cirelli. It's about changing a church in terms of social justice issues.

Family Ministry and summer parish activities – Sara

- July 6-8 – Community Vacation Bible School
- July 22 – Reds Game
- Date TBD – King's Island trip for Godly Play children and acolytes. Dick Nault is organizing this trip with Pete and Dan Pratt.

Holy Trinity Banner for public events – Elaine

- Elaine reported that we can get a banner for \$112. Such a banner would be nice to have but isn't necessary, according to Elaine and Sara.
- Bob suggested that the banner could say "You are one of us."
- Sara suggested putting it in next year's budget; Jim noted we would need a concrete proposal to vote on.

Meeting with church insurer – Elaine

The fellow from insurance company made the following suggestions:

- Do same day deposits on Sundays – Jim is handling this.
- Have smoke detectors, fire extinguishers and exit signs in the Nave. Elaine noted that there are fire extinguishers in the narthex and bishop's foyer, but we might need better signage.
- When outside groups use the kitchen, they should have insurance with Holy Trinity as the beneficiary. Elaine noted we're not going to ask this of most people who use the kitchen.

Report from the Stewardship and Development Committee – Debbie

- Debbie passed out two examples of possible focuses for funds raised through the Scrip program. The focus can be changed, but it's good to have something in writing.
- Marilyn Kinzler is taking over the Scrip program work. She will make an announcement in church about it and be at coffee hour to get people registered. Chris W. will be her backup.
- The egiving app has been successfully tested, and a link will be available shortly on the church website. As soon as that link is available, Diana and Jim will let the congregation know and be available during coffee hour to answer questions.
- Amazon Smile is another program the committee will be encouraging. There will be an info sheet available, and the program will be explained in Sunday bulletins and on the website.

2018 May financial report – Jim

- Income and expenses, line 5799, is \$1281.82 in "other educational and program expenses" for which we don't have an item line. It includes funds used for expenses such as prison outreach, Earth Day T-shirts and the prepurchase of Reds tickets for the July outing. It was noted that the prison funds came from the Outreach Committee, funds for the T-shirts came from the Endowment Fund and individual parishioners are paying for the Reds tickets.
- The May Financial Report wasn't available and will be accepted at the July meeting.

The meeting was adjourned following a prayer led by Hugo.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Peterson

Stacey Peterson, Clerk