

Vestry Minutes

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Oxford, Ohio

May 8, 2018



Present: Sara Palmer, Rector; Bob Benson, Sr. Warden; Elaine Brandner, Jr. Warden; Jim Michael, Treasurer; Stacey Peterson, Clerk; Vestry Members: Martin Ganev, Mila Ganeva, Peter Lindsay, Hugo Olaiz, Glenn Rymer, Chris Shoker, Debbie Williams
Guest: John Harper

Absent: Diana Uhlman and CarolineGrace Williams

Spiritual reflections were presented by Bob.

Agenda for 5-8-2018 Meeting: Unanimously approved – Debbie moved and Mila seconded

Approval of 4-10-2018 Vestry Meeting Minutes: Unanimously approved – Elaine moved and Chris seconded

Announcements and Reminders

Bob noted that the Annual Meeting minutes have been shared with Vestry members and that they will be distributed to the parish for comment. He also directed attention to the reminders in the Vestry Meeting Agenda.

Rector's Report – Sara Palmer

- **Pastoral visits:** Sara visited the Smiths, and Chris, who was in the hospital, among others.
- **Student ministry:** Final Bible study was April 18, followed by a dinner out on April 25. Patsy Grabach is preparing 15 exam care packages. A Student Ministry Committee is being formed. Sara suggested Pete Lindsay and Ken Grabach as members, along with several students. Sara may not participate in Miami's orientation; there was little interest last year.
- **Tuesday Bible study:** Last meeting of the year was two weeks ago. There will be only one semester next year.
- **Liturgical planning and presiding:** Outdoor blessing and dismissal for Earth Day neighborhood cleanup was April 22. Sara will begin marriage preparation with Hannah Kempf and Harry Hensel. Worship Committee has planned six weeks of Pentecost; we will be using music from the Martin Luther King service. The blessing of Hugo and John-Charles' basement on April 28 was well attended.
- **Community:** Neighborhood cleanup went well.
- **Adult Forum:** 18 parishioners attended a session with Josiah Collins from Black Action Movement 2.0. Jonathan Schneider spoke on the opioid crisis. There are plans to have another speaker on the Hamilton opioid crisis in May. Pete gave his faith story on May 6.
- **Diocese:** Five parishioners and Sara attended area confirmation at Church of the Redeemer in Cincinnati. Margaret Smith and Jacob Bryant were confirmed.

- **Continuing education:** Sara and Hugo went to National Missional Voices Gathering in Indianapolis.
- **Vacation:** Sara will be away May 2-8 and 11-19, though back Sundays of May 13 and 20.
- **Upcoming event:** May 20 is Pentecost Sunday; we will bless our new Gospel book.

Report of the Stewardship and Development Committee – Debbie Williams

- Marilyn has the Scrip program ready to go. Debbie explained the gift card purchasing program. Vestry members were asked to consider what designated mission the money raised should go to.
- Jim noted Finance Committee wants the Vestry to be aware that \$8K must be raised to balance the 2018 budget.
- Debbie said committee is also planning on Amazon Smile program. Pledge drive work will happen in August. Capital campaign to pay off the mortgage won't happen until 2019.

Policy governing expenditures from the Altar Guild Fund (Endowment) – Bob

- Endowment trustees submitted a proposal for handling Altar Guild expenditures from the Altar Guild Fund.
- Jim noted that the proposal refers to an unspecified “percent” in the third paragraph. It's not clear how this would work, he said, because if the goal is to preserve principal, there's no reason not to use all the interest.
- Decision was made to ask the Endowment Trustees to clarify that part of the policy.

Approval of \$300 Expenditure from the Altar Guild Fund – Bob for Ellen Reister

Vestry unanimously approved \$300 spent to repair the Gospel book – Glenn moved and Hugo seconded.

Report on the sound system in the church – Elaine

- Elaine has talked to Mike McVey about problems with the parish sound system. Dan Pratt has spent time unsuccessfully trying to duplicate the recent bad sound. The speakers located where the choir sits have been turned off in an attempt to figure out which amplifier is the problem. They will wait one more Sunday and then replace or repair the system.
- Jim noted that anytime there's a service, we should have a working sound system. We have Martin and Dan running the system and need another couple more people to help.

Report of the Nominating and Parish Leadership Committee – Bob for Toni Saldivar

- Bonnie Mason will chair the Memorials Committee.
- John Harper will step into Glenn Rymer's unexpired Vestry term.
- Mila and Venelin Ganey will replace the Rymers as Diocesan Convention delegates.

Vestry unanimously approved these appointments – Elaine moved and Hugo seconded.

Family Ministry and Summer Parish activities – Bob

- We are exploring the possibility of having a youth program with Oxford Presbyterian Church. Sara is working on this with the pastor of the Presbyterian church.
- Butler Philharmonic Orchestra's Oxford performance is June 21.
- Old Stone Stables horseback riding event may be June 30 (first choice) or June 23. The suggestion was made that this be expanded into a bigger parish event with a campfire, smores and singing.
- Community Vacation Bible School at the Presbyterian church will be July 6-8.
- Sunday, July 22, was proposed to go to a Reds game; the suggestion was made to get a bus.
- The Kings Island trip for acolytes and youth is planned for August.
- Pianist Bruce Murray is organizing a concert series of professional musicians from around the region on Friday evenings at OCAC and on Wednesdays at Holy Trinity at 12:15 p.m. on June 24, July 11, 18 and 25.

2018 April Financial Report – Jim Michael

- Page 1, line 4210 – \$23K must be raised to balance the 2018 budget. Of that, almost \$15K has already been raised, leaving an \$8K gap.
- The suggestion was made that we make the designated mission for the Scrip program be our outreach expense (page 3, line 5730).
- Our mission share (page 4, line 5810) is right on budget. However, we the diocese sent a letter with a reconciliation amount of just under \$3K that it says we underpaid in 2016.
- Page 5 – Capital project column \$1,114.92 is last of the Gary Martin gift.
- Page 6, line 1160 shows the new Bath State Bank account for the Scrip program.
- Suggestion was made that the Stewardship Committee should have a marketing vehicle, such as its own bulletin board.
- Jim noted that the \$607 for the Earth Day t-shirts is on page 4, line 5799.

The April Financial Report was unanimously approved – Bob moved and Chris seconded.

Other business

Glenn noted this is his last Vestry meeting and the church has been special to him and Judy.

The meeting was adjourned following a prayer led by Bob and a final prayer for Glenn.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Peterson

Stacey Peterson, Clerk