

Vestry Minutes

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Oxford, Ohio

Feb. 12, 2019



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

Absent: Lisa Herrmann

Spiritual reflections were presented by Hugo

Agenda for 2-12-2019 meeting: Unanimously approved – Bob moved and Elaine seconded.

Approval of 1-8-2018 Vestry meeting minutes: Approved with specified corrections – Diana moved and Mila seconded. Final version will be distributed by email.

Rector's Report – Sara

Growing in numbers

- Sara met with Michelle Boone, whose family has joined the church. A few other new people are attending regularly.
- Michael Reardon has joined the choir.
- One new student has attended Sundays, and another has returned.
- Sara asked that everyone who uses Facebook, join Holy Trinity's two Facebook pages and "like" and "share" them.
- She also suggested everyone check out the updated website at holytoxford.com.

Growing in spiritual depth

- **Diocesan Big Read:** 20 people ordered the latest book being read – *A Journey Through Acts*.
- **Episcopal visitation:** Bishop Nedi Rivera preached and presided February 10. She also taught the Adult Forum on healing and met with the Vestry.
- **Student Ministry:** Weekly bible study began on February 6. Pete Lindsey, chair of the Student Ministry Committee, will teach February 13 and 20, while Sara is away. The group of eight students is studying the *Book of Ruth*.
- **Pastoral care:** Sara visited several homebound parishioners and met with three other parishioners.
- **Talawanda Oxford Pantry and Social Services (TOPSS):** Sara met with Lara Osborne to learn about TOPSS. The group's planning committee has been meeting at Holy Trinity. Lara will be speaking at the Religious Communities Association this month.
- **Family Ministry:** A group of Holy Trinity children and adults went to the Oxford Choice Pantry recently. They delivered food to the Pantry, talked with the Pantry director, sorted food and cleaned.

- **Women's lunch:** 10 women were at the most recent gathering, the first Tuesday of the month at 12:30 p.m., at the Knolls.
- **Administration:** Sara has completed one job performance review. She also has worked with Kathy on filing.
- **Liturgical planning and presiding:** The Worship Committee met to plan services from Epiphany to Trinity Sunday. Mid-week services have started.
- **Vestry retreat:** Sara has met with Canon Jane Gerdson to plan the Vestry retreat. The theme will be "building," with an emphasis on building relationships among ourselves.
- **Staff:** Jenna Breuer and Hannah Spector have started nursery duty on alternating Sundays.
- **Community:** Sara attended the Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration at Miami.
- **Professional development:** Sara attended the Zoom meeting for the Healthy Congregations class.
- **Vacation days:** Sara will be away February 13-22. The Rev. Terri Thornton will preach and preside on February 17, and the Rev. Tom Fehr will handle pastoral on-call duties.

Slate of candidates for the Annual Parish Meeting – Sara

The slate of nominees was presented to the Vestry. They included:

- Senior warden (1-year term) – Pete Lindsay
- Junior Warden (1-year term) – Hugo Olaiz
- Vestry (1-year balance of 3-year term, Class of 2020) – Margaret Smith (replacing Hugo Olaiz)
- Vestry 3-year term, Class of 2022 – Ken Grabach, Bonnie Mason and Ellen Reister
- Delegates to the Diocesan Convention – Rosalyn Benson, Elaine Brandner, Kathleen Carels and Valerie Ubbes

Third trustee for Endowment Committee by laws – Bob

Jack Heitsman has retired as an Endowment Trustee. Sara, Jim, Bob and Elaine proposed Diana Uhlman as the new third Endowment Trustee.

Hugo moved that Vestry accept that proposal by acclamation. No objections were raised.

Annual Parochial Report – Jim and Sara

The Parochial Report must be approved annually and submitted to the national church and to our diocese. Pages 2 and 3 were examined, with some questions raised. Vestry unanimously approved a motion to accept the report – Hugo moved and Bob seconded.

Various Financial Reports and the 2019 Budget – Jim

Report #1: Income & Expense – Operations Only, January through December 2018

This report shows the final income and expense numbers for 2018.

- Page 5 – Going forward, Jim noted, we won't see the Organ Fund and the Capital Project columns, because there won't be any more financial transaction in those funds.
- Page 8, line 2820 – This line shows that the bank loan balance continued to decline. But, Jim said, this is the last year we will have an opportunity to take a big chunk out of the loan unless we have a capital campaign.

Report #2: Expense Detail, January through December 2018

This report shows how the church actually spent its money in 2018.

Report #3: 2019 Budget - FINAL

This report was tentatively approved in December. Jim reviewed what has changed since then: We're paying one-tenth of the Rector's compensation and benefits out of the College Grant Program and that has allowed the 2019 budget to come out to zero. 2019 is the last year we will have a chance to do that strategy, because we won't have access to that money next year.

Vestry unanimously approved the final 2019 Budget – Elaine moved and Bob seconded.

Report #4: January 2019 Income & Expense

Jim made note of the following points:

Page 5 – The Organ Fund and Capital Project columns have gone away.

Page 8 – There is only \$16K in unrestricted cash in the bank.

Page 8, line 4710 – This is the College Grant Program that will be paying for one-tenth of the Rector's compensation and benefits.

Vestry unanimously approved the January 2019 Financial Report – Mila moved and Martin seconded.

Other business – Sara

Bob and Elaine acknowledge that this is the end of their current tenures on Vestry. They both thanked the group for hard work and the many accomplishments over the last three years. Several Vestry members thanked Bob and Elaine, as well as Mila and Diana, who are also ending their tenures on Vestry.

Vestry members suggested buying an Evening Prayer Book.

The meeting was adjourned following a prayer led by Sara.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Peterson

Stacey Peterson, Clerk

Attachments:

2018 Report of Episcopal Congregations and Missions