

Vestry Minutes

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Oxford, Ohio

Sept. 10, 2019



Present: Sara Palmer, Rector; Pete Lindsay, Sr. Warden; Hugo Olaiz, Jr. Warden; Stacey Peterson, Clerk; Vestry members: Martin Ganev, Ken Grabach, John Harper, Lisa Herrmann, Bonnie Mason, Ellen Reister and Margaret Smith

Absent: Jim Michael, Treasurer; Vestry members: Chris Shoker

Spiritual reflections led by Martin

Agenda for 9-10-2019 Meeting: Unanimously approved – Bonnie moved; Lisa seconded.

Approval of 8-13-2019 Vestry meeting minutes: Unanimously approved – Ken moved; Ellen seconded.

Upcoming activities:

- September 15 – Rally Day with committee tables and lunch
- September 22 – Outreach survey forms due
- September 30 – Pledges due for Capital Campaign
- October 8, 7 p.m. – Vestry meeting
- October 16, 7 p.m. – Mutual Ministry Review
- February 23 – Annual Parish Meeting

Blessings and challenges: Members shared their blessings and challenges.

August Financial Report – Pete

- We're ahead of what's been budgeted for on a cash basis. However, we're running deficit of \$1,226 in terms of plate receipts. Attendance was up last Sunday, so that may help.
- Income for operations is \$777 under budget.
- In terms of Net Income, we're running a bit tight (-\$13,245) on Reserve Funds
- A question was raised as to why we have spent nearly all of our water budget for the year (line 5183). Hugo reported that it was from flushing the boiler system.

The August Financial Report was unanimously approved – Pete moved; Hugo seconded.

Rector's Report – Sara

- Sara is having email issues; her only email right now is palmercon3@aol.com
- Holy Trinity was well represented at Miami's Mega Fair. The wardens, Ken and student Ben York manned the table, along with Percy the dog.
- Four students are attending Student Bible Study, which is focusing on the "I Am" Sayings of Jesus in John's Gospel.
- The first student lunch had 15 students in attendance, including two new ones and two choral scholars.

- Sara attended Miami's Rainbow Reception to welcome LGBTQIA students
- Several parishioners attended the recent march against white supremacy rally on campus.
- Sara met with Pastor Beverly Simmons of God's House of Praise and Worship. They will be inviting Holy Trinity parishioners to worship with them in October.
- The Multifaith Movie Festival has started; 27 people attended the first screening. Seven parishioners helped set up for the first film.
- One of our students, Maggie Petroski, is helping with Godly Play. We're looking for other volunteers
- Sara is writing a grant proposal to the Episcopal Church Service Foundation to help with Community Dinners and Holy Trinity's pantry.

Capital Campaign -- Pete

Pledges are due at the end of the month. It's important to get people to fill out cards.

The Haven at College update -- Pete

We've exchanged contracts with The Haven, and they've been issued two keys. They haven't moved in yet, and there's no timeline for that. More information will be available after they start using the space at Holy Trinity. One concern is they haven't started their renovations yet.

A question was raised as to what we'll do with the monthly payments The Haven is making. Pete said it will go into the operating budget.

Outreach survey – Pete

A copy of the survey is in the packet of Vestry meeting material; Vestry members should complete it and turn it in if they haven't already. Pete said the Outreach Commission would report back to Vestry on the survey results.

Mutual Ministry Review questions – Pete

- Sara said the Mutual Ministry Review is a time for Vestry, the wardens, the minister and Diocesan facilitator Marty Lentz to talk about whether we're fulfilling our mission.
- Pete said this should be an annual discussion to assess our progress toward goals. It's not a performance review, but rather a look at how we're doing as a parish. We know some things in terms of goal setting and position descriptions haven't been done and must be addressed.
- We should get a preliminary list of questions Friday, Sept. 13, and the facilitator will provide guidance on what steps are needed.
- Ellen, Lisa and Martin said they can't attend the October 16 meeting. Pete said he will get input from anyone who isn't going to be able to attend.

Vestry needs to appoint a new Vestry person -- Sara

Debbie Williams has resigned from Vestry. Sara has talked with Toni Saldivar, who has suggested one parishioner for the position. Vestry members suggested some other possibilities. It was also suggested that a student be invited or a parent with smaller children.

Other business

Ken noted that families with children have no place to put the children during Adult Forum. Sara said we can look for a solution, such as maybe a coffee group for parents.

Sara said we have a list of people who need to do Safe Church Training. Hugo suggested the content of Safe Church Training be better integrated with what Vestry does; there's too much disconnect between the two.

The meeting was adjourned following a prayer lead by Martin.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Peterson

Stacey Peterson, Clerk