

Vestry Minutes

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Oxford, Ohio

April 13, 2021



Present: Terri Thornton, Interim Rector; Dave Guilfoyle, Deacon; Pete Lindsay, Sr. Warden; John Harper, Jr. Warden; Jim Michael, Treasurer; Stacey Peterson, Clerk; Vestry members: Rosalyn Benson, Ken Grabach, Glenn Julian, Kathy Mohylsky, Karen Schilling, Margaret Smith and Jessica Sparks

Absent: Bonnie Mason (internet connection issues)

Spiritual reflections led by Terri

Agenda for 4-13-2021 meeting was unanimously approved.

Approval of minutes for 3-9-2021 meeting: Unanimously approve – Rosalyn moved; Margaret seconded.

New Vestry members -- Terri

Terri welcomed new members Kathy Mohylsky, Karen Schilling and Jessica Sparks and provided background on the Anglican heritage of a Vestry.

March Financial Report – Jim

Jim sent out in advance the March Financial Report. He reviewed it, noting the following:

- The March financials are on track – ahead of budget on net income -- but there are issues with the underlying foundation of the 2021 budget.
- Page 1, line 4720. This shows the \$64.8K received from two Paycheck Protection Program loans, which we won't have next year.
- Page 4, line 5810. We overpaid our Mission Share in 2020 and will get \$4,297.49 back.

A motion to accept the March Financial Report was unanimously passed – Margaret moved and Jessica seconded.

Rector's Report -- Terri

Holy Week review and evaluation

Terri thanked the Vestry for its support through the challenge of having Lent, Holy Week and the Annual Parish Meeting all within a two-week period. She noted the following:

- Palm Sunday was a test of in-person worship with an accompanying online service.
- Maunday Thursday was a live service that was broadcast on Facebook.
- Good Friday included a recorded Stations of the Cross self-guided tour in the church with reservations and an online Stations of the Cross service. There was also a recorded Good Friday service.
- Easter Sunday included both an in-person service with reservations and a recorded service.

- As many as 20 people who had not been in the church previously during the pandemic participated in in-person services during Holy Week. Terri said there isn't overwhelming demand for in-person worship, and the demand it for isn't exceeding the supply. Vestry members commented that it's not clear how great the demand is since some people are holding off on opting for in-person worship to let others have time in the church and the registration app has been difficult to use.
- Making both in-person and recorded services sustainable is the next challenge.
- Holy Trinity will apply to the Diocese to have a consultant evaluate the church's requirements for in-person and livestreamed or recorded services. Vestry members discussed various options.

Other news from Terri

- Prayer shawls are ready to be blessed.
- Diocese confirmation classes are underway; Terri will have a complimentary Explorer class.
- Thanks to Sally Southard for providing Easter baskets to Holy Trinity families and children.

Outreach – Margaret Smith

Margaret commented on the following:

- The Easter offering will go to the Family Resource Center (FRC) for temporary housing.
- The March Community Dinner provided 40 dinners from LaRosa's. Twenty-eight were handed out in back of the church, and the FRC distributed 12. The food was gone by 5:15; we could have given out five or six more meals.
- The April Community Dinner will come from Bob Evans with parish members providing fruit and cookies.
- The Prayer Shawl Ministry is giving away prayer shawls. The group meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday evenings of the month. It may start meeting in person on the afternoons of the 2nd Tuesday of the month instead of Thursday.
- In May, four or five parishioners will volunteer at the Talawanda Oxford Pantry and Social Services (TOPSS) to fill client orders.
- The Outreach Committee proposed giving \$900 donations of restricted funds each to TOPSS, Planned Parenthood of Southwestern Ohio and Dove House.

Vestry unanimously supported the restricted funds request – Karen moved and Rosalyn seconded.

Prior Business – Terri

- **Work session.** A poll will be sent out to select a date for an upcoming Vestry work session.
- **New Vestry orientation.** Terri will contact those involved to work out a time.
- **Vestry retreat.** Canon Jack Koekpe will lead this year's retreat on a Saturday in May or June, probably in the undercroft.

New Business – Pete

- Safe Church Training needs to be done online every three years.

- Diocese anti-racism training will be held April 24 and again later in the year.
- The Choral Scholars will complete their tenure May 1. It's unlikely the church can support both a choir director and choral scholars next year. (Rex Mann will not be continuing as Holy Trinity's choir director.) Letters of thanks will be sent to Rex and the Choral Scholars.
- Rosalyn and Glenn will form a committee to celebrate and thank Bill Basauno for his many years as choir director.
- Terri noted that the church office and some parishioners have received calls from people asking for emergency help or pastoral care. It is thought these are not genuine calls but possibly Facebook-related threat actors.

Comments for the Good of the Parish

- All the hard work in support of Lent, Holy Week and Easter went off quite well.
- Short discussion focused on the need to fill the last open Vestry position and how quickly that should happen.
- The first of the Red Door Concerts will be this Friday, April 16, at noon.

Closing prayer was led by Terri.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Peterson

Stacey Peterson, Clerk