

Vestry Minutes

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Oxford, Ohio

August 9, 2022



Present: Rev. Julie Fisher, Priest In Charge; Dave Guilfoyle, Deacon; John Harper, Sr. Warden; Rosalyn Benson, Jr. Warden; Jim Michael, Treasurer; Stacey Peterson, Clerk; Vestry members: Jennifer Blair, Glenn Julian, Kathy Mohylsky, Alex Nyquist, Jessica Sparks and Bill Ubbes

Absent: Karen Schilling, Margaret Smith and Stephanie Southard

Spiritual reflections led by Jennifer

Agenda for 08-09-2022 meeting was approved with one addition – Rosalyn moved; Bill seconded.

July Financial Report – Jim

The July Financial Report was distributed in advance of the meeting. Jim said this month's highlights were similar to last month's. Comments included that Julie has provided paperwork related to her move and Frank Jordan left Holy Trinity \$5,000.

Vestry members accepted the July Financial Report – Bill moved; Jennifer seconded.

Priest-In-Charge housing allowance – Jim

Jim presented and Vestry members approved the following resolution – Bill moved; Jessica seconded.

Resolution establishing Rector's housing allowance for 2022

The Vestry, on the 9th day of August 2022, after discussing the amount to be paid to the Rev. Julie Blake Fisher as a Housing Allowance, on motion duly made and seconded, adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS the Rev. Julie Blake Fisher is employed as a minister of the Gospel of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Oxford, Ohio, which does not provide a residence for her.

NOW THEREFORE, THE VESTRY RESOLVES that, of the total compensation of \$34,986.25 to be paid to the Rev. Julie Blake Fisher from August 1 through December 31, 2022 [based upon annual compensation of \$83,967.00], \$10, 495.88 be designated as Housing Allowance within the meaning of the term as used in Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. This Resolution shall remain in effect until a new one is adopted.

Priest-in-Charge remarks – Julie

Julie reviewed her first week at Holy Trinity, noting the following:

- Talked with the office volunteers and is getting familiar with the office systems.
- Plans to work with Karen on a job description for the administrative assistant position and Karen and others on an orientation plan for the new assistant.
- Getting info on Holy Trinity funeral protocol to prepare for the August 20 Frank Jordan service.
- Gathering information on church members so can start connecting with people.
- Got briefed on the children's program and what decisions are needed for it.

Vestry members said they appreciated this sort of report, and Julie's approach so far. Rosalyn presented Julie with a Rector Survival Kit.

Report and planning for August 28 – Rosalyn

Rosalyn, John and Jennifer described steps so far to prepare for the August 28 welcome picnic. Jennifer has put together a spreadsheet of the church ministries and the people involved in each. Rosalyn plans to send an email explaining the event to parishioners; she will share it with Vestry members prior to sending it out.

Old Business

- **Annual audit.** This effort is nearly complete. John is reviewing the Discretionary Fund part of the audit that he must sign before Vestry considers the audit.
- **Front door project.** The consulting work that Vestry approved in July is in progress.
- **Media tech upgrade.** John will review progress on this with Julie tomorrow.
- **Active shooter plan.** John will also update Julie on this tomorrow.
- **New office assistant.** Julie and Karen will discuss.
- **Office coverage.** Continues with Dave, Rosalyn and John providing coverage
- **New parish yearbook.** John is working with Universal Church Directories to schedule this. Rosalyn will share the existing directory. Vestry members discussed making this year's version digital, and how parishioners could opt out of sharing their contact info.
- **Peter Dahoda tree.** The Dahoda family has decided not to go forward with this proposal.

New Business

College Ministry planning. As part of the August 28 planning discussion earlier in the meeting, Vestry discussed the need to re-establish the College Ministry. Julie said we must look at unmet needs, make sure the College Ministry is looped into the congregation as a whole and not rush into changes. Meantime, she will work with students who are active to meet their needs. This is an ongoing discussion.

New landscaping contract. The existing letter of agreement with Edmonds Lawn Service and the estimate for a contract renewal was sent to Vestry members prior to the meeting. Vestry members discussed the \$2,460 (\$205 per month) estimate, which covers lawn care and snow removal services from August 1, 2022, through August 1, 2023.

Vestry approved authorizing John to negotiate a new agreement with Edmonds Lawn Service – Alex moved; Kathy seconded.

Discussion, not requiring action

- John noted he heard good comments related to the goodbye party for Rev. Leiserson and the funeral for David Ferguson.
- Vestry member discussed the upcoming funeral for Frank Jordan
- Vestry members approved the purchase (already made) of a canopy to be used to cover columbarium grave sites during services. Rosalyn moved.
- Rosalyn suggested that Vestry meetings include time to discuss topics not on the immediate agenda that might be of interest to the parish.

Closing prayer led by Jennifer

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Peterson

Stacey Peterson, Clerk