

Vestry Minutes
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Oxford, Ohio
March 14, 2023



Present: Rev. Julie Fisher, priest in charge; Dave Guilfoyle, deacon; John Harper, senior warden; Rosalyn Benson, junior warden; Jim Michael, treasurer; Stacey Peterson, clerk; Vestry members: Jennifer Blair, Jeff Ittle, Kathy Mohylsky, Alex Nyquist, Karen Schilling, Stephanie Southard, Jessica Sparks, Bill Ubbes and Greg Wentzl; Guest: Elaine Brandner

Spiritual reflections led by John

Agenda for 03-14-2023 meeting was unanimously accepted – John moved; Bill seconded.

Minutes for 02-14-2023 meeting were unanimously accepted – John moved; Stephanie seconded.

Blessing the new Vestry 2023-2024 -- Julie

Front door project – Elaine

Holy Trinity has received a \$10,000 energy efficiency grant and a \$10,000 energy efficiency loan at 3% interest; both are from the Diocese. The parish has also received a \$45,629 Diocese Church Foundation five-year loan at 5%. Work is to start in September and take three weeks to complete.

A motion was approved with one abstention to accept the terms of the grant and the two loans, and to authorize John to sign the promissory note – Bill moved; Stephanie seconded.

Other repairs – Elaine

Elaine described a problem with loose tiles in the offices and hallway of the Community Wing. The options for remediating include gluing existing tiles back down (\$6,460) or replacing with carpet tiles (\$7,450). It was determined no action is needed until Elaine has final cost figures.

Elaine said she is putting together a full list of building repairs that are needed, including rebuilding the bell tower and replacing kitchen flooring.

Monthly financial reports – Jim

Jim reviewed the February Financial Report, noting that nothing is out of the ordinary.

A motion to accept the February Financial Report was approved – Stephanie moved; Alex seconded.

Priest-in-charge report – Julie

Julie provided updates on her work, including the following:

- Working with Kip Colegrove on developing a series on prayer for Adult Forum
- Working with Christina Beckett, the parish administrator, to identify the best social media vehicle to reach students. Meantime, Christina has launched an Instagram page for Holy Trinity and is setting up a Facebook page that will work with the current Facebook group.
- Attended webinar on community organizing.
- Worked with Christina to get QR code in the service leaflets and other places.
- Planned Easter liturgy, Tenebrae service and Holy Week services with Dave.

- An adult baptism is planned for the Sunday after Easter
- Participated in Miami Art Museum interfaith panel.
- Presented a program to the joint Oxford Presbyterian and Holy Trinity Youth Ministry on church and animals. Will do another in May on forgiveness.

Deacon's report – Dave

Dave is now officially part of the Diocese of Southern Ohio and is taking some classes.

Old Business – John

John said the official name of the group that will determine what to do with the Frank Jordan bequest is the Gift and Memorial Ministry. He asked Vestry members to let him know if they would like to serve in that ministry.

New Business

John said Items on the agenda designated for April will be discussed at next month's (April) meeting.

Oxford NAACP

Vestry approved the purchase of a \$100 full-page ad in the NAACP's banquet program – Rosalyn moved; Stephanie seconded.

Holy Trinity choral music program

Bill proposed that we resume singing the Psalms. The sense of the Vestry is for Julie and Phillip Roberts, music director, to decide the best approach.

Bill reported that choir members would like to see the Choral Scholars Program resumed. Vestry members discussed ways the program could be funded, including using some of the Frank Jordan bequest.

Easter brunch

Rosalyn explained the champagne brunch tradition, and Vestry members volunteered to take on various lead roles and discussed ways the brunch tradition might be changed.

Roles and responsibilities of Vestry members

Julie described how church ministries should work, including the role of the Vestry leader who acts as a liaison between Vestry and a ministry group. Vestry leaders ensure church ministries have sustainable leadership, get the resources they need and let those contributing to them know they're appreciated.

Holy Trinity has 11 ministries. Vestry members were asked to be part of at least one group. Names in parentheses are Vestry members who are already part of a ministry or who volunteered to join one:

1. Stewardship (Jeff and Rosalyn)
2. Outreach (Dave and Stephanie)
3. Adult Formation (Jennifer)
4. Youth and Student
5. Sunday Worship 1 -- Alter Guild, ushers and lectors (Rosalyn and Kathy)
6. Sunday Worship 2 -- Acolytes, Eucharistic ministers, music
7. Hospitality
8. Facilities (Bill)
9. Gardens and Grounds (Jeff)

10. Pastoral care (Jessica)

11. Gift and Memorial

Comments for the good of the parish

- John said he enjoyed Jane Strippel's funeral and the view it gave him into Oxford's history.
- Julie commended outreach work being done in various community groups.
- John requested Vestry members send in proof of Safe Church Training completed in the last three years and noted that the Dismantling Racism training is mandatory. Links for these in the Thursday announcements.

Closing prayer led by John

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Peterson

Stacey Peterson, Clerk