

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting
St. James Episcopal Church
April 2, 2017

Vestry Members present: Ed Wilcox, Sandra Dratler, Meg Bloomfield, Colin Cooper, Roger Wickstrom, Tracey Thomas, Brad Drda, , Carol Overman, The Rev. John Kirkley
Also present: Allen LeBlanc (Treasurer)

Opening Reflection/Lunch

Discussion around John's sermon..."life serving death, or death serving life...?"

- * Not a personal mortality, but Life continuing, communal life, which shapes our ethics.
- * That is the source of our gratitude. This is a shift that our times calls for, and has, for a long time.

"The emergent process of the universe is neither random nor determined, but creative." - Thomas Berry

Minutes were approved.

- The Vestry approved the Minutes of the March 2017 Vestry Meeting.

Financial Report - Allen LeBlanc

- * 2 months in, not a lot going on, but he took a look at last year. Past due pledge accounts have shrunk. Last year's was \$32k, and this year's is \$27k.
- * Income is down slightly, but he is not concerned.
- * To date, we have received \$36k through end of February, on pledges of \$180k.
- * Cash balance is fine.
- * Looked at expenses - diocesan assessment (we had incorrectly filled out 2015 report and paid \$1,600 more than required.)
- * 2 sizable pledges totaling \$9k were recently paid for the year.

Parochial Reports

- * Goal is to figure out what we've spent on regular operations (ex: not outreach)
 - DioCal assessment is calculated by using the total of all operating expenses and not outreach or capital expenses.
- * 2016 Income and Expenses are covered in this report.
- * April 30 is Financial Committee Meeting.
- * Re-balance of portfolio and a deep dive on financials to date will be focus of the committee.

Stewardship Committee - Sandra Dratler

- * Big focus is John's party on the 29th of April.
- * Goal is \$5k.
- * Total of 450 invitations were sent out.
- * Live plus silent auction for party. Silent auction might not yield that much. Possibility of offering flowers in lieu of silent auction.
- * After the May 7 service will be a workshop for "Five Wishes" for Healthcare, which creates a durable power of attorney.

Parish Life Committee - Meg Bloomfield

- * Have amazing offers for volunteer assistance - really rock solid.
- * Meg is captaining the Easter team, Eleanor doing Agape, and Carla is heading up the camping trip!
- * Short discussion on who is bringing what for Easter.
- * Meg solicited the Vestry for contributions to Easter coffee hour.
- * It was reported that the Newcomer's dinner at Tracey's was a great success :)

Spiritual Life - John Kirkley

- * Opening meeting was 3/26, with good attendance.
- * Worship and Children's programming was discussed.
- * Meeting again in May to focus on a re-vamp of the Children's program for the fall.
- * Supplemental curriculum to Godly Play.
- * Tap older kids to work with the younger kids.
- * Rite I at the 8 a.m. service
- * Eucharistic prayer D at the 10 a.m. service
- * Some changes with the Easter vigil will happen
- * Christian Formation - meeting at Eastertide to re vamp for the fall.
- * John mentioned he would like to do a study of St. Theresa of Avila
- * Have steadily been 4-5 people for the meditation group at 5:30 p.m.
- * Regarding Pastoral Care - Anne Johnson, returning member will serve as co-coordinator for this program. Will organize for food delivery for recuperating hospital patients and other practical needs. Also, the people on the Pastoral Care Committee will get copied on updates to the prayer list.
- * Will likely be a seminarian here in the fall, from Utah. He's probably here for 6 hours/week. Will be very helpful for Faith in Action and marketing, as he has a background in social media.
- * Roger mentioned a special service in the fall to bless teachers.

Property Committee - Ann Rieger-Matthews

- * Painting is done next door!
- * Parish work day is 4/8, from 9 a.m. - Noon.

Peace and Justice - Ed Wilcox

- * There is a forum on 3/19 to report on community organizing.
- * FIA focus is assisting immigrant families and have trained 1,200 people to date to provide support as witnesses and accountability.
- * This focus is now shifting to developing "accompaniment teams," which includes support (not yet finalized) for families while a detainee is awaiting trial.

Miscellaneous Closing Items

- * Rebuilding Together on 4/29, 8-10 people will be attending. There are 2 properties near each other, and St. James is committing only to the morning work.
- * John put in a plug for the Meditation group, meeting every Sunday at 5:30, and done by 6:10. This will be a permanent calendar event.
- * The book study wraps up on April 5.
- * More people needed for Holy Week sign up, particularly Thursday through Sunday.
- * Roger will be handling lunch for the next Vestry meeting, scheduled for 5/21.

Next Vestry meeting is May 21.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Carol Overman, Clerk