

**St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Vestry
August 7, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Vestry Members Present: Rick Lotz, Cathy Sutton, Gaylee Gillim, Gibbs Reese, Justin Klassen, John Shelby, Kevin Wardell, Judy Fischer, Faith Cirre, Becky Donovan, Matrid Ndife

Others Present: Edie Nixon, Treasurer

Absent: Amanda Harrity, George Wheeler, Clara Klassen, Susanne Cramer

Clergy/Staff: The Rev. Kelly Kirby, Rector; The Rev. Benjamin Hart, Director of Congregational Life

Opening Prayer:

The Rev. Kirby convened the meeting at 6:15 with an opening prayer.

Reading/reflection:

Gaylee Gillim led the reflection.

Approval of June minutes:

Minutes were accepted with one minor typographical correction.

Financial Report:

Edie Nixon gave the financial report. She reported that our cash position is stronger than usual for this time of year, and that our loan is down to \$675,000. Judy Fischer moved to accept the financial report subject to audit. Faith Cirre seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Rector's Report:

Rev. Kirby reported on the status of the Communities of Calling grant project. For the first year, goals include expanding the parish's vocabulary around vocation, creating a parish culture that encourages discernment through life transitions, and beginning tangible practices that integrate individual calling with communal calling toward wholeness. Feedback from the Collegeville Institute indicates that there is an especially strong need for churches to do vocational discernment work around the transition to retirement. We discussed a project already underway with our food pantry neighbors, whereby the congregation begins to see the food pantry as more than an opportunity for charity, but instead a locus of our mutual journey toward wholeness. The overall purpose of the project is to make connections between doing what we love and God's desire for wholeness.

Rick Lotz moved to elect four deputies to Diocesan Convention in November, Robin Garr, Angela Koshewa, Charles Halton, and John Shelby, along with one youth representative, Madison Bailey, and one alternate, Justin Klassen. Gibbs Reese seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Rev. Kirby informed us that the archives have been relocated from the library to one of the upstairs meeting rooms.

We discussed the August 20 service to take place commemorating the 400th anniversary of slavery.

Vestry Committee Liaison Reports:

Buildings and Grounds:

Kevin Wardell talked about ongoing maintenance issues, including many lights that need replacing around the building, both inside and outside. There is ongoing discussion in the committee about whether or not to replace the lights with LEDs, among other questions. Rick Lotz let us know that work is ongoing to determine whether our sound system can be improved in the sanctuary, in particular for those who use hearing aids or other assistance devices in church.

Dimensions of Faith:

Nadia Bolz-Weber is coming here on the 13th of October, Sunday only. She will preach at the 10a and 5p services, and give a public lecture at 6p.

Finance:

Nothing beyond the Treasurer's report on our financials.

Nominating Committee:

Made up of Becky Donovan, Judy Fischer, Justin Klassen, and Rick Lotz, plus two at-large members of the congregation. Will convene in the coming months.

Outreach:

The 2020 Outreach budget proposal amounts to a total of \$34,284. There was some discussion of the reduction compared to last year, as a result of the depletion of some designated funds that we had previously used to supplement the outreach budget. Rick Lotz moved that the vestry accept the outreach budget proposal. Judy Fischer seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Planned Giving:

Meeting next month.

Social Justice:

No report today.

Stewardship:

Ongoing planning for the pledge campaign, including the planning of a visual display of both images and data meant to inspire engagement with the church's financial health.

Warden Reports:

Senior Warden Report:

Rick Lotz reminded us that the ministry fair is coming up August 18.

Junior Warden Report:


No report today, beyond building and grounds update.

Theological Reflection: The Vestry reflected on where/when they found the Holy Spirit in the meeting, and how their work moved us closer to fulfilling our mission/goals.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10p.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Klassen

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'J' followed by a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line extending to the right.