

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Vestry July 17, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Vestry Members Present: Sara Bailey, David Brooks, Susanne Cramer, Becky Donovan, Judy Fischer, Amanda Harrity, Justin Klassen, Rick Lotz, Matrid Ndife, Marti Plager, and Kevin Wardell

Absent: Greg Petrites, George Wheeler, Kate Ledvina, Brad Kimbrough, Elizabeth Walden

Clergy/Staff: The Rev. Kelly Kirby, Rector; Derrick Grant, Director of Music

Opening Prayer

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

Reading/reflection: Sara Bailey gave the reflection.

Approval of May Minutes

The minutes of the May meeting, 5/15/18 approved as presented.

Music Director Staff Visit, Derrick Grant

Formed a music committee to ensure coordination and planning of events. New updates to the music library this year. Focusing budget on acquiring new pieces of music. At least one concert on the books for this year, hoping to see more scheduled. Derrick shared the dream of taking the choir abroad. Would like to see younger members in the choir, hopefully grow in numbers. We discussed what may be possible as far as attracting new members. Discussed the challenges of recruiting younger members, especially because of evening commitments and children, etc. Also discussed the difference between advertising/inviting and word of mouth and more personal connections drawing people in. We discussed the possibility of introducing Derrick to members of the youth group more directly to try to develop those relationships. Discussed the possibility of bringing back music to Walking in the Word. It was part the Bridge previously (but the children were older). Raised the possibility of just introducing some music into the church school experience. And the possibility of one-time, "pickup choir" experiences or events (perhaps which include families). Dreaming for the future, thinking about the possibility of an assistant, someone who could serve as a section leader, which is important for recruiting singers who need a bit more confidence with reading music.

Vestry Committee Conversation & Warden's Reports

Discussed the need for the committee liaison structure to work well, so that committee work does not slip through the cracks. The shift from a staff-led church to a place where our budget can't cover the whole staff, so there needs to be more lay leadership, especially leadership of committees. Discussed some concerns about making vestry

members also de facto committee chairs. Some debate on whether the role of vestry members as leaders requires them to be committed in this way. Could be problematic for recruiting future members of the vestry. It's not everyone's skill set to lead a committee. Need more specific job descriptions, more deliberate transfer of knowledge from one year to the next. The hope is that committees will be attractive to seasoned parishioners of any age, who are not ready presently for serving on the vestry.

Vestry Liaison Reports

Dimensions of Faith: Recent subcommittee meeting regarding criteria for choosing future speakers.

Buildings and Grounds: Recent storm took down trees and limbs, have a contractor lined up. Sidewalk work proceeding. Memorial garden hearing scheduled for July 30. A few major things upcoming. Air conditioning in the sanctuary went out a few weeks ago. Can patch things up with one new compressor, or can replace whole system, which is our likely path. Roof on Clingman Hall needs repair or possible replacement. The parking lot needs repair and repaving. Office wing soffit repair still a priority also.

Outreach: Meeting in August

Planned Giving: Meeting in August

Stewardship: Upcoming meeting

Bylaws Committee: No report at this time.

Nominating Committee: No report at this time.

Financial Report & Finance Committee

David Brooks reviewed the financial reports with the vestry. Rick Lotz made a motion to approve the financials subject to audit, Becky Donovan seconded the motion and all voted to approve.

Rector's Report

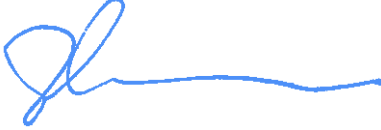
Kelly reported that the Episcopal Church decided at General Convention to start thinking about prayer book revision. She reported on the decision by the church to make the sacrament of marriage available to all persons in all churches, even if the particular bishop of that diocese does not approve. Convention approved expansive language for trial use.

Theological Reflection

After a reflection on where and when the vestry found the Holy Spirit in the meeting, the meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM and all moved to the chapel for compline.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Klassen

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Justin Klassen', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.