

**St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Vestry  
May 21, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

**Vestry Members Present:** Cathy Sutton, John Shelby, Faith Cirre, Gibbs Reese, Gaylee Gillim, Becky Donovan, Judy Fischer, Kevin Wardell, Justin Klassen, Clara Klassen, George Wheeler

**Absent:** Amanda Harrity, Rick Lotz, Susanne Cramer, Matrid Ndife

**Others Present:** Edie Nixon, Treasurer

**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:** Kelly Kirby led the reflection.

**Approval of April minutes:**

Minutes accepted with minor typographical corrections.

**Financial Report:**

Edie Nixon highlighted increased rental income of late, from renting the church's space.

Gaylee Gillim moved to accept the financial report as presented, subject to audit. George Wheeler seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Justin Klassen made a motion that the church commit \$91,065 to the 2020 Diocesan budget, which represents 13% of Total Operating Revenues as shown on the last Parochial Report Form. Gibbs Reese seconded the motion, and it carried by a unanimous vote.

**August 20 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Slavery Ceremony:**

Gibbs Reese moved to move our August vestry meeting to Wednesday, August 7, 2019. George Wheeler seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

We decided to table discussion of St. Matthew's' participation in the August 20 commemoration until the June vestry meeting.

## **Mutual Ministry Review Instrument:**

Kelly Kirby agreed to explore options for vestry self-assessment with Amy Coultas when she returns from sabbatical.

## **Rector's Report:**

Kelly gave the vestry an update on the status of the Communities of Calling project grant, including the understanding of calling that is shaping the project: calling as a movement toward wholeness. This will include increasing our vocabulary around wholeness through sharing skills, living more fully into our vocation of charity, and fulfilling our calling to theological education by addressing specific vocational needs of parishioners in times of transition. The proposal will be presented and approved/revised at the Collegeville retreat in June.

## **Vestry Committee Liaison Reports**

### Buildings and Grounds:

Working on mechanical rooms and their historical debris. Soffit project on the horizon, Carpet replacement in Clingman too. Looking for funds for some exterior painting.

### Dimensions of Faith:

We are closing in on final details with Nadia Bolz-Weber.

### Finance:

Finance committee meets in July.

### Outreach:

Outreach committee working hard on rummage sale. The funds are being used to give the endowment sub-fund a break this year so that it can grow.

### Planned Giving:

Has not met since the last vestry meeting.

### Social Justice:

No report this month.

### Stewardship:

Has not met since the last vestry meeting, upcoming meeting May 29.

## **Evangelism Follow up:**

Benjamin Hart reminded us of research findings that all churches see themselves as "warm and friendly," but churches that are perceived this way by newcomers are those

who have systems in place to incorporate visitors intentionally. The evidence shows that it makes a real difference for people when they are recognized and welcomed individually as visitors.

**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 8:01p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Klassen

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

