

Vestry Meeting November 15, 2021 @ 6:00 pm - virtual, via Zoom

In attendance: John Eads, Margarita Tschomakoff, Ann Balsamo, Jeff McIntire-Strasburg, Anna Hall, & Ann Quay Rushing, Brent Brower-Toland, Steve Hoeplinger, Rev Nancy Emmel Gunn

Absent: Liam Clements

Opening Prayer, Rev Nancy Emmel Gunn

Declaration of a Quorum - John Eads

Appreciations - Anna Hall will mail out letters to those mentioned.

Accept minutes from October: John motions to accept, Jeff seconds, unanimous yes; one abstained who wasn't at the September meeting

Divine Purpose Statement

- Vestry met together on Saturday, November 6 from 9:30 - 11:30 am with Valori and Martin to create a Divine Purpose Statement. Together, the group broke apart the statement to cover We Believe, We Worship, and We Serve... The group reread the statement and reviewed word choice and meaning. John motioned to accept the Divine Purpose Statement. Ann Balsamo seconded (with one small edit to be made). Unanimously, the Vestry voted to accept and adopt the statement. The statement will be used on our website and bulletin.
- Martin requested that our parish provide payment for the workshops. The full cost of the workshop(s) was \$700. It was told that scholarship money was available to be paid for the workshops, but after the fact was requested to pay. Nancy and John will follow up with Martin about the cost to confirm whether or not the workshop was a part of the retreat, which was already covered.
- Vestry will wait to discuss payment for the workshop after John and Nancy discuss scholarships and payments with Martin.

Budget Discussions and Update - John Eads

- Reviewed budget through the end of October. We are down on pledge and offering income. Is there going to be another mailing of pledges updates? There will be one sent out at the beginning of December. This will give people a reminder of where they stand and hopefully are able to meet the committed amount.
- Looking at building and grounds, it remains a large part of our budget. We need to be really clear with the congregation the context and needs that the building requires.
- Rental income is down from what was predicted, but should level out next year. The Welcome Neighbor rental situation is still yet to be resolved.
- At this point in the year, we are in the black \$7k.
- The budget for 2022 has been submitted to the Diocese. The budget hasn't been workshopped by anyone yet.
- The December Vestry meeting should entail being more dialed into the anticipated budget for next year. And the finance committee needs to be in operation.

Annual Meeting

- Scheduled on January 23, 2022.
- We need Committee reports (will send out
- What will the meeting look like? Can we manage the meeting in the Parish Hall? What if we stay in the sanctuary and have the meeting as 'part' of the service? We can introduce candidates for election early in the service to allow for the 30 minute wait before voting. This helps to keep everyone that attended the service to stay and participate in the meeting.
- Hospitality will discuss the 'social' aspect of the Annual Meeting - probably no potluck? Raffle?
- It will be good to include with the early December mailer a pledge commitment form. And maybe a self addressed envelope?

Vestry Elections

- Vestry went into Executive Meeting to discuss vestry elections.

Priest's Report

- Rev Jon Stratton has requested the bell in the nave. Moving forward with confirmation classes along with Trinity.
- Advent Concert: November 28 - We may break even this year cost-wise, but could turn this into more of a fundraising event
- Convention is this weekend.
- Acolytes to start training again.
- Housing allowance - needs approval to declare on taxes. Ann motions to approve the housing allowance. John seconded. All who are present voted to approve.

Building & Grounds

- There is mold in the nursery space. Pictures have been sent and forwarded on to the B&G committee.

Loose Ends

- Email to use moving forward: Nancy@towergrovechurch.org
- Hanging of the Greens: December 12
- Anna Hall will attend the Executive meeting on December 15, 2021.
- Next Vestry Meeting on December 19 at 12:15 pm