

Minutes of the Vestry of  
Episcopal Church of the Ascension

July 30, 2023

Mission Statement: To restore all people to unity with God and each other.

We strive to be a radically inclusive community with diverse and vibrant worship, intentionally focused on children and youth, caring for each other, and on being the hands and feet of Christ in all that we do.

Present: Paul, Katie, Andrew, Steve, Marsha, Ashley, Harry, Aaron, Tom, Joan

Not present: Todd

Father Paul called the meeting to order at 1:15 pm.

Devotional - Tom

Prayer requests - Tom, Adrian, Lisa's parents, Joan, Suzanne

Ordinary Business

- a) Approval of the Vestry Meeting Minutes - Tom moved to accept, Joan second. Approved.
  
- b) Financial Reports - Harry moved to accept, Katie second. Approved.

New and Continuing Business

- a) Youth Center budget - furnishing etc

The plan is focussed on 4 central areas, with seating for 28. The current set up is too young for needs of current youth. We will eventually need 2 spaces for youth - Jr. vs Sr. High students. We will have 6th to 12th grade youth. Is there another space for AI-Anon? The youth got to give feedback on what they wanted. What is the plan to start buying things and updating the space? Basically 3 big purchases, and then assembling. We can make a call to youth dads and ask for help. Do we use current funds? Or do we have money we can use now? We have cash available to spend for this. We can approve it as an un-budgeted expense. Seems to be as flexible as it can be for our current needs. Harry made a motion to accept the proposal and make it happen. Marsha second, motion passed unanimously.

- b) Sabbatical planning - budget for clergy. Discussed clergy comps for Paul's replacements. Per month, \$3K for Dale, \$1.5K for Ernie. Total for 3 months, is \$13.5K. Covered by unspent funds for 3rd service. There will be at least one Sunday we will have to pay supply rate. Eric Lyles will be preaching the first Sunday that Paul is gone. Fr. Dale will have the following responsibilities- Staff meeting, Wednesday Bible study, appts for preparing for baptisms, etc. Total of about 16 hour per week. Fr. Ernie will be lead on Pastoral Care. Janey will preach one Sunday, and Fr Paul is trying to get 2 others. Motion to approve payments to Fr. Dale and Fr. Ernie made by Harry, second by Marsha. Approved unanimously.
- c) Reaching out to members - any to touch base with?
- d) From the Diocese - we are due for only 3 delegates, not 4, based on weekly attendance. Robin and Robert, then Dabney and Peggy. Make Robert the alternate? Should ask Robin what she prefers . Either Robin or Robert will become the alternate.

#### Reports -

Junior Warden - Andrew. Trying to get a better sense of our existing contracts. Would like to be more intentional about renewals.

Sr. Warden - Harry. Enjoyed talking to Paul about sabbatical planning. Trying to maintain momentum during the month around vestry responsibilities. He is planning to have a weekly communication regarding what's happening and what needs to be done.

Rector - Paul. Doesn't expect to have any extra vestry involvement over the next 3 months. We should maintain our regular committee and vestry meetings on the original dates. Will only need an additional meeting to approve the audit. Staff are working hard to get ready, updating the website. Fr. Dale has an email account now. Got a lock installed on the parlor restroom entrance. Removed some poison ivy in the irises. Two different calls from our neighborhood who were helping people in need, asking for advice and support.

Calendar of upcoming events - check report out

People to thank - Daniel Miller filling in for Todd with AV equipment. Also came to help water all the trees. The Flower Guild for the wonderful flowers. Leave a note for them on the flower cooler?

Devotional - Joan; lunch Pastoral care

Future devotionals:

October - Katie

November - Todd

December - Audry

January - Aaron