Minutes of the St. Michael & All Angels Vestry

October 19, 2015

Meeting opened at 6:30 pm.

Present: Rector Kevin Huddleston; Reverend David Cox; Sr. Warden David Wiggins; Jr. Warden Bob Carlson; Treasurer Win Zoellner; Clerk Lindsay Mohn; Leta Anderson; David Schlomer; Judy Miksch; Debbie Treglia; Mike Meng; Jerry Cormack; Stephanie Stratemeier; Ronda Barker; Elizabeth Gooch

Absent: Kent Jackson; Walker Phillips (resigned)

Guests; Jama Akers; Gaye Lynn Huddleston; Stacey Chesser; Charles Everson; Doreen Rice

Meeting opened with a devotion on Psalm 25 by Ms. Anderson.

Three new staff members were introduced.  Jama Akers has been hired as the part time Director of Communications.  She is "excited to share the message of St. Michaels with the community."  Stacey Chesser has been hired as the part time Youth Minister.  He has a JD, as well as experience as an investigative reporter, and is currently a seminarian.  Gaye Lynn Huddleston has been hired as the Interim Director of Children's Ministry.  She is trying to reach "deep and wide to get good representation" while recruiting adult volunteers.  Sunday School attendance was 48 last week  Third and fourth graders were given bibles yesterday.  A part time bookkeeper also needs to be hired as Tony and Henry have been doing that work but are leaving town for the winter.  Their last day will be Wednesday.

Charles Everson introduced himself.  He is making his application for admission as a candidate for Holy Orders.  He intends to serve as a Bivocational Priest.  He is half way through his senior year, with 7 classes left to complete.  Mr. Everson feels called to urban ministry, and hopes to be part of a community.  Ms Gooch moved to approve Mr. Everson's candidacy.  Mr. Carlson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Rector Huddleston noted that Diocesan Convention starts a day early.  He has gotten a good response to 'Rebuilt'.  He was pleased with the energy at the 3rd and 4th grade bible distribution, and was pleased with the number of people who attended Adult Formation.  The recent GPS meeting was attended by 55 adults and 48 children. Father Huddleston believes there will be funds in the budget to hire a part time priest.

Senior Warden Wiggins said that it is a Diocesan requirement that the Vestry do a Mutual Ministry Review, but the discussion was tabled until next month in order for him to gather more information about was is necessary.

Junior Warden Carlson distributed a hard copy of his report in advance of the meeting.  He noted action required by the Finance Committee and Vestry.  The B&G Committee has asked for funding for new speakers in the Sanctuary for the music performed at the 8:45 service.  Dr. Walker has received a proposal from Sound and Acoustic Sales which would include a new array speaker, subwoofer, wall mounting bracket, installation, and a mixer which will be run by an iPad.  The system was tested for several people recently, and performed significantly better than the current one.  The price quoted was $3,980, which is well below the price of systems that have been considered in the past (between $7K and $20K).  The Adult Classroom and Classroom 'B' project which are being done by a Boy Scout for his Eagle badge is scheduled to take place over winter school break.  The slate roof damage from 2013 has been repaired, although a portion of the roof over the north aisle was replaced with composition tiles.  The slate tiles removed from that area will be held for future repair needs.  The tree trimming project is complete.  New lighting has been installed in the upper hallway, and repairs to the drywall are underway.  The Sextons did the work, installing fixtures that had been donated for that purpose.  Mr. Carlson also reported on seven projects that are in the planning or pricing stage.

Treasurer Zoellner reported that the loan restructuring is under way.  It has been approved by the bank.  There was no written Finance Committee report, but Mr. Zoellner reported that pledge revenue is still down, but expenses are on track.  He reminded the Vestry of what happened at the end of last year, which is that we were in a deficit situation right up until the end of the year, but then received a windfall of pledges that put us back in the black.  'Stewardship' will now be referred to as 'The Pledge Drive', and it will kick off on November 1st.  The theme will be 'you are known by the tracks you leave'.  Pledge cards will be blessed on November 22nd.  All of the sermons in November will have giving as their theme.  The goal is 100% participation.  Clark Hanner's firm will evaluate what needs to be done in terms of Cobra and the Defined Benefit Plan for the employees that have recently left.  This will cost about $2K.  In response to a question about medical insurance, Rector Huddleston explained that the decree on the medical plan comes down from the National Church (the Church Medical Trust), and we have no option of changing the provider.  All lay employees that work more than 1000 hours per year are required to be included in the Defined Benefit Plan (at 18%).  Ms. Miksch asked why the budget is not posted somewhere.  It was suggested that it be put on the website once it is up and running properly.

There being no corrections to the September minutes they stand approved.

Mr. Cormack made a motion to approve that $3,980 be transferred from the Memorial Fund balance to pay for the new sound system.  Ms. Barker seconded the motion.  Discussion noted that the current mic issues will be resolved.  Ms. Gooch asked who was dissatisfied with the current system, parishioners or the musicians.  The answer was that both had asked for the system to be improved.  It is necessary for any music other than the main organ.  Ms. Gooch expressed her discomfort with using funds for something optional during lean financial times.  She was told that that was why the funds would not be coming from the Operating Fund.  The motion was taken to a vote and passed by majority, with one no vote.

Ms. Gooch said that a parishioner had asked her why the Legacy Society members have special name tags, and it was agreed that that was a question to ask one of the Foundation Trustees.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Mohn

Clerk of the Vestry