Minutes of the St. Michael & All Angels Vestry

January 19, 2015

Present: Rector Kevin Huddleston; Sr. Warden Debbie Kremers; Jr. Warden Mike Treas; Treasurer Steve Adams; Clerk Lindsay Mohn; Stephanie Stratemeier; Debbie Treglia; Jean Pyle; Sheila Miller; Judy Miksch; Bob Carlson; Jerry Cormack; Kent Jackson; Elizabeth Gooch; Walker Phillips

Absent: Christine Schipfer; Larry Lee

Meeting opened at 6:00 pm with a devotion on hope led by Jean.

Kevin+ opened the Rector's report with 2014 worship attendance statistics.  Attendance has been on a downward trend for the last several years.  Kevin+ and the staff met for two full days recently, and have completed the 2015 calendar.  They will plan for 2016 after Easter.  Christian Formation will happen every Sunday from 8/22 forward except during Advent.  However, there will be an Advent workshop in the fall.  There will also be a four week resurrection class, with information from all the Gospels to be held some time after Easter.

Treasurer Steve Adams said that Deacon Karen Wichael will not be replaced.  The Finance & Audit Committee will be going to Country Club Bank to cancel the sweep account that we currently have.  They will also be refinancing the loan in 2015 to improve cash flow.  The current balloon payment is due in one year, but they are proposing a 20 year amortization of the loan, with a balloon payment in 5 years.  Steve said that the average pledge is up between 6 - 8%, and suggested the Vestry make a gesture of leadership by raising the pledges they have already made for 2015.  We believe there are 80 MIA pledges that have not been contacted yet during this drive.  There was a suggestion that the formal Stewardship campaign be moved to the spring.  Elizabeth moved that after a change in the wording the resolution below be passed.  Jerry seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed unanimously.  The resolution states that 'The Vestry, upon the recommendation of the Financial Committee, requests that all fund raising events outside of the Annual Pledge/Stewardship Campaign be subject to Vestry approval.  This is not intended to prohibit or discourage fund raising opportunities, but in order to provide better coordination of these events in the life of the parish.'

A special Vestry meeting is scheduled at 5:30 pm on Friday, January 30, the evening before the Annual Meeting.

Sr. Warden Debbie announced the Vestry slate for presentation at the Annual Meeting.  The nominated candidates are David Schlomer, Rhonda Barker, Leta Anderson and Mike Meng.  Convocation Delegates nominated for election are Melissa Carlson, Jim Cummins and Brenda Skaggs.  Foundation candidates standing for election are Carol Zoellner, Amy Winters, and Dan Schipfer.  Winn Zoellner is the candidate for Treasurer.  All Vestry members were encouraged to attend the relevant portions of the Vestry retreat next month.  A 'Letter of Support and Commitment from the Vestry' was circulated for signatures on behalf of Stevie Carter, who is a candidate for the Diaconate.

Jr. Warden Mike said that the Building & Grounds Committee is prioritizing their list of future projects.  The Day School is installing a door, and per last month's meeting, the B&G Committee is discussing how much of the job expense they feel the church should shoulder.

In Liaison reports, it was noted that Rev. Dr. Fred Schmidt will be a speaker at the Bigger Bible School.

When asked about the daily devotions that Kevin+ offered during Advent, he responded that he intends to begin them again during Lent.

Kent moved that the December minutes be accepted at written.  Sheila seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting closed in prayer and then adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Mohn

Clerk of the Vestry