

Vestry Meeting Minutes:
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, DeKalb, Illinois
January 18, 2015, 12:45PM

Members Present: Luke Krueger, Peggy Newby, Pat Brown, Bill Cummings, Jocelyn Prall, Mary Lincoln, Marilyn Cleland, Rev. Stacy Walker-Frontjes

- Opening Prayer—Rev. Stacy
- Appreciations
 - For all those who planned and carried out the Epiphany service, pageant, and supper. The Epiphany celebration was a great success.
 - To the alter and flower guilds for all their work during the Christmas season.
 - To Luke, Pat, and Bill for their service on the Vestry over the past few years.
 - For Marilyn and all those who have helped in the planning the MLK Day commemoration service to be held at St Paul's on Monday the 19th.
- Sharing Our Faith Stories—Bill Cummings (Marilyn will give her story in February and Jocelyn will do hers in March)
- Review and Approval December 14, 2014 Vestry meeting minutes—Clerk, Bill Cummings; motion to approve passed unanimously
- Committee Reports
 - Senior Warden's Report and Buildings and Grounds report—Luke Krueger (see attached report)
 - Nominating Committee-Jr Warden: Rick Johns, Vestry members: Julie Stubblefield and Vince McMahon, Delegates to Convention: Peggy Newby and Rick Johns and Henry Leonard (alternates are Eva Leonard, Maryilyn Cleland, and Bill Cummings), Endowment Board: Dick Downen and Brad Cripe.
 - Junior Warden's report—Peg Newby (see attached report)
 - Stewardship 2015-pledges are up 1% over 2014
 - Treasurer's Report—Pat Brown (see attached report)
 - Fellowship—Jocelyn Prall (see attached report) We had a successful combined fellowship group dinner last evening at Fanaticos.
 - Music—Lorraine Langer, Director of Music Ministries
 - Christian Education—Marilyn Cleland
 - **MLK Day Celebration, Monday, January 19 at St. Paul's, 5PM-all are urged to attend.**
 - Rector's Report—Rev. Stacy (see attached report)
 - Lent 2015-we will not be having a Wed. night Lenten activity this year.
- Old Business
 - Financial Review Team for 2010-2013—Pat Brown & Peg Newby-continuing
 - Energy cost comparisons-continuing
- New Business

- February and March Meetings will be the fourth Sundays (2/22 and 3/22)
- Bishop Epting's Visit on February 8th-A pot-luck meal is planned following the service at 10:30. Also we will try to plan a time for a meeting of the confirmation candidates with the Bishop before the service.
- Closing Prayer and Adjournment—Peg Newby
Next vestry meeting will be the *Fourth* Sunday, February 22, 2014 at 12:15PM. Next Executive Committee Agenda Planning Meeting: Tuesday February 17th, 2014 2:30-3:30PM. February closing prayer will be led by **need a volunteer****.**

Senior Warden Report for the Vestry Meeting of January 18, 2015

With the winter coming, I have been out shoveling snow and laying salt. Although our plow team comes and does a great job, they usually arrive a little after seven, and Reverend Stacy arrives well before then as do some of our 8:00 AM service people, and I prefer to have main walk ways cleared and salted for their arrival. I will see if the plow team can be there earlier so all that needs be done is salting the walkways. However, I do not mind doing this, and enjoy it. I will continue to do so after my term expires.

I have contacted Marc Vassos, a consultant who was forwarded our way by the Chamber of Commerce. I plan on speaking with him to see if we can lower our energy costs as per discussion at the last vestry meeting. If this is an attempt to switch our energy supplier, I will not engage in any further discussion. Moreover, I will not make any decisions, but I will report all my findings to the vestry.

I continue to serve as a greeter for our Sunday school classes. This is truly a great joy. Maureen is fantastic with the children. Since Amy Biundo has taken a new job and will not be able to serve as the regular greeter, others of us in the parish will be needed to step in and serve as the greeter. I know the Stubblefields are already stepping up. A big thank you to Amy for her service! And thank you to the Stubblefields for stepping in as well. I'll continue to help out, and I highly encourage others to be greeters. It is exceptionally rewarding.

The Epiphany service was a HUGE success. I was able to have a little cameo as the Angel of the Lord, but the children of St. Paul's did a tremendous job! What great thespians. Julie Stubblefield, Rochelle Cripe, Peg Newby, and Rev. Stacy did wonderfully directing, stage managing, and narrating the young actors. The dinner afterwards was fantastic. Excellent fellowship. It was heartwarming to hear all the laughter amid the buzz of rollicking conversations.

Perhaps in one of my final roles as senior warden I will participate in the MLK service at 5:00 PM on January 19. I will read a section of a speech by Martin Luther King Jr. I am very much looking forward to this service, and I wish to thank Marilyn Cleland for her hard work (and this is no understatement) in helping to coordinate St. Paul's role with this celebration. Please do all you can to attend and well represent St. Paul's on the 19th.

Time got a little ahead of me, and I was unable to schedule a meeting time with Rev. Stacy to finish the signage on our property (parking lot signs and a sign noting the address for the rectory). This falls purely on me for that oversight, but we will still meet this month, and I will continue to spearhead this effort to its conclusion despite rotating off the vestry.

Finally the nominating committee has filled all the vacancies except for one vestry spot. This is not for lack of trying. Peg will address the parish on the 18th seeking to have someone step up to fill that final spot. For vestry thus far we have Rick Johns and Julie Stubblefield. For the two spots on the Endowment Committee Brad Cripe and Richard Downen enthusiastically agreed to remain on the Endowment Committee. Henry Leonard will serve as our third delegate to convention, which again, he enthusiastically jumped at the opportunity to continue in this role. Thank you to all for agreeing to help serve our parish.

This is my last report to the vestry as senior warden, a journey that has been a little longer than expected. But it has been a great journey. There has been few things in recent memory that have given me as much joy as serving St. Paul's. This church has been so kind to Chris and I and given us so much both spiritually and in fellowship. I want to extend my deepest thanks to allow of you for the trust you have shown me in this role as senior warden. Our vestry is great. We have a myriad of personalities, but I feel all have shown deep respect to one another. I thank God for this opportunity, which in no small way has been a great blessing in this opportunity to serve. I look forward to new opportunities to serve our parish from here forward. Thank you all and God bless.

Respectfully submitted,

Luke Krueger
Senior Warden

Jr. Warden report for January 2015 Vestry Meeting

My recent activities include finishing up the Stewardship Campaign and assisting with the Epiphany Pageant.

We have, we believe, received all of the expected pledges. Our pledges are up about 1% over last year's.

I enjoyed working with the kids for Epiphany, and was very glad to see the wonderful attendance at the service. The fellowship following the service was terrific.

Pat Brown and I have had to put our financial review work on hold for a while, to accommodate Christmas events and travel, and preparation for the Budget and Annual Meetings.

I am preparing for the transition to Sr. Warden, and am planning as much as possible for the coming year.

Peg Newby

To: St. Paul's Episcopal Vestry
From: Marilyn Cleland, Member of the Vestry
Representative of Adult Christian Education
Subject: report of January Activities for Adult Ed

Date: January 17, 2015

Because of the New Year's holiday and members being out of town, our first substantive meeting occurred on Jan. 11th. At that gathering, we decided our program for the spring. We will be reading a book, _____.

FELLOWSHIP REPORT FOR JANUARY 18, 2015 VESTRY MEETING

The reception after both Christmas Eve services again provided an opportunity (excuse) to stay a few minutes after service to greet others, some who we don't see so often as well as those who are coming back to the area for family gatherings. Thanks to those who contributed goodies to this at a very busy time. Because of the scheduled pageant on the Epiphany, this service and the celebration that followed was very well attended. We barely had enough table settings to accommodate those who attended (a great problem to have and easily remedied). Two fellowship groups are combining to meet Saturday the 17th for a dinner outing. Coordinators for the Chili cook off and Ash Wednesday supper have signed up. We will need to add something for the upcoming Assistant Bishop's visit. Our parish is full of very willing helpful people. During and after events so many just chip in and help clean up which is greatly appreciated.

Jocelyn Prall

Music Ministries Report

In addition to attending the Association of Anglican Musicians (AAM) (Region 5) Conference in Chicago on January 18, 19 and 20, 2015, "Cultivating Excellence in Liturgy, Music and Preaching" (see more information below), I am currently working on several administrative projects that include:

1. Reviews: Organist and Pianist
2. Music research and selections: hymns and service music for the year
3. Adult/Youth and Children's Choir: anthem selections, rehearsal and service schedules
4. Instrument update: The organ and three pianos were tuned in December 2014. The Organ will need some additional repairs this year. Report and budget forthcoming.
5. Drafting: CD insert for choir recording, date for children's choir goal meeting & fellowship, and wish list/budget for materials to better serve the choirs such as: bells light enough for children, a white board to teach aspects of music and worship, children's choir folders, folder storage cart/bookcase for adult/youth and children's choirs, etc.

AAM Conference. "Cultivating Excellence in Liturgy, Music and Preaching". This is a conference for clergy and musicians, that will explore the complex interplay between the work of the musician and the work of the clergy person. Building upon the sermon preached by The Rt. Reverend Eugene Sutton at last

summer's AAM Convention in Washington, D.C., we will explore in more detail his notion of a new, Anglican "three-legged stool." With worship, learning sessions, recital, workshops, and a panel discussion.

Taken from sermon at AAM Convention given by The Rt. Reverend Eugene Sutton... *Good worship consists of its own "three legged stool": music, liturgy and preaching. Each leg of that stool is important, and if one of them is weak than the other two will not be able to stand for long. The truth is no matter how earnestly a church may pour itself into serving its community (which, as I said earlier, is a good thing), if the preaching is uninspiring, the liturgy is sloppy, or the music is barely listenable, then that church will shrink and eventually may have to close its doors as a worshipping community.*

<https://sedangli.wordpress.com/2014/06/24/decently-writ-xvii-a-sermon-by-the-rt-rev-eugene-taylor-sutton/>

Rector's Report to the Vestry of St. Paul's
The Very Rev. Stacy Walker-Frontjes
January 18, 2015 (written on January 15, 2015)

- I. Liturgy
 - A. Our Christmas Eve services were splendid this year. I think our 4PM Children's Service went as well as any we have held in my tenure.
 - B. Feast of the Epiphany was a wonderfully good time! The children and their adult helpers held an excellent Epiphany pageant. I look forward to next year's Epiphany pageant! Seems like a good tradition (little "t") to add to our already festive Epiphany celebration. Thanks to everyone who helped make the evening a holy and joyful occasion.
 - C. **Ash Wednesday is fast approaching! February 18th. I'm making plans now for Ashes to Go with Amy Fallon of Grace Place. I will be looking for lay volunteers again from St. Paul's to assist with our outreach efforts here.**
 - D. The next regularly scheduled baptismal date will be Easter Vigil, Saturday evening April 4, 2015.
 - E. Any adult interested in Confirmation should contact me asap. Bishop Epting is visiting on Sunday, February 8th, 2015.
 - F. **Bishop Epting is visiting Sunday, February 8th, 2015. We will have one service that day at 10:30A.M. Please plan to be here, and invite a friend who doesn't go to church if you can!**
 - G. Wednesday Healing services
 1. I have set the following dates for early 2015 evening services: 4th Wednesday of each month January thru May (1/28, 2/25, 3/25, 4/22, 5/27)
 2. On the day of an evening healing service there will not be a morning service, it will be at 5:30P.M. in the Sanctuary.
- II. Pastoral Care
 - A. It's happening! I am in regular contact with those who are not getting out as much in the inclement weather.
- III. Christian Education

- A. We will be postponing our Saturday, January 31st, 2015 for our next Dine and Discuss book club. We are in the process of setting an alternate date in February or March right now.
- B. **Children’s Christian Education is in desperate need of volunteers. We are down to ONE Sunday School teacher. Please talk to Maureen Gerrity and me if you are able to assist.**

IV. Administration

- A. Capital projects
 - 1. Luke Krueger and I had to reschedule our date to finish up plans for signs around the parking lot and building. We will work on meeting to address that sometime in early 2015.
- B. Keeping God’s People Safe—working on getting everyone up to date with this training who needs to take it, including staff and Vestry members. Looking to book a date with a trainer sometime this spring. More details to follow.

V. Mission and Community Activities

- a. Oak Crest
 - 1. Our next service of Holy Communion will be Wednesday, January 21st, at 2PM. Last month’s Christmas Hymn sing before our service was a hit! Had a wonderful time and several “new” folks stayed for worship service as well.
- b. Grace Place
 - 1. I continue to be active as the president of the board of directors of Grace Place. We are working on board development and structure which should more equally share the work of the ministry of the board of directors. Good developments happening at our NIU campus ministry.
- c. TAILS Humane Society
 - 1. I continue to serve on the TAILS board of directors, this year I am serving as the Secretary to the board.
- d. Rockford Deanery
 - 1. I had some extra duties as Dean this month when the interim priest at Holy Trinity, Belvidere died suddenly on December 26th, 2014. I assisted the congregation and family in planning the funeral and attended as the Master of Ceremonies to assist the congregation and Bishop Lee on January 5th, 2015.
- e. NIU/Association of Campus Religious Organizations (ACRO)
 - 1. I am staying in touch and attending meetings as my schedule allows. The January 2015 meeting was canceled due to inclement weather.
- f. On Thursday, January 8th I hosted a meeting at St. Paul’s with the City Manager of DeKalb, Representatives from the Communiversity office at NIU and Center of Governmental Studies, and local faith leaders to discuss how best to connect with a wide spectrum of the community. The City of DeKalb is beginning a 10 year strategic plan planning process this winter.

VI. Continuing Education

- a. My continuing education plans for next year will be primarily the UNCSW meeting in New York in March, and a sabbatical in the fall of 2015.
- VII. Other
- 1. Important dates and events to remember—some to attend, some FYI
 - a. Sunday, January 18th, 2015—Budget Meeting between services
 - b. Monday, January 19th, 2015—St. Paul’s hosts the Community Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration : service at 5PM, reception at 6:30P.M.**
 - c. Sunday, January 25th, 2015—Annual Meeting between services
 - d. Sunday, February 8th, 2015—Bishop visitation with The Rt. Rev. Christopher Epting, assisting bishop in the Diocese of Chicago**
 - e. February 10th-16th—Vacation for Rector
 - f. February 15th—Guest Preacher, The Rev. Amy Fallon of Grace Place Campus Ministry at NIU
 - g. February 18th—Ash Wednesday, services at 8AM and 6PM, and Ashes to Go 10AM to 1PM
 - h. February 22, 2015 Vestry meeting (fourth Sunday)
 - i. March 6-20th—Rev. Stacy at United Nations Commission on the Status of Women meeting
 - j. March 22, 2015 Vestry meeting (fourth Sunday)