

October Vestry Meeting Minutes
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, DeKalb, Illinois
October 19, 2014, 12:15PM

Present: The Rev. Stacy Walker-Frontjes, Luke Krueger, Peggy Newby, Jocelyn Prall, Mary Lincoln, Marilyn Cleland.

- Opening Prayer—Rev. Stacy
- Appreciations
 - Peggy Newby stated that she appreciated the Pet Blessing event, which she believes is a gift to the community and draws many from the community.
 - Jocelyn Prall appreciates the work that has been done by Terry Dickow through the years for the Halloween event at St. Paul's.
 - Other appreciations were offered.
- Scripture reflection:
- Review and Approval September 21, 2014 Vestry meeting minutes—
 - Were Sept minutes accepted and approved?
- Committee Reports
 - Senior Warden's Report and Buildings and Grounds report—Luke Krueger (?)
 - Junior Warden's report—Peg Newby (see attached report)
 - Stewardship for 2015- the letters about stewardship would be going to parishioners in the week following, with a goal of concluding the campaign by mid-November.
 - Treasurer's Report—Pat Brown (see attached report)
 - 2015 Budget (Pie chart, projected outlay)
 - Preliminary budget handed out
 - Fellowship—Jocelyn Prall (See attached report)
 - Jocelyn highlighted the upcoming Halloween event directed by Terry Dickow. She also reminded us that the date of St. Paul's Blue Christmas service has been changed to December 10th.
 - Music—Lorraine Langer, Director of Music Ministries (See attached report)
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 - Christian Education—Marilyn Cleland
 - The group continues reading of the Book of Mark, which has been a source of challenging discussion. Father MacLemore, a visiting priest, joined us during the last session, a second visit with us, and joined in the discussion. The group has decided to set aside one meeting for deciding what we wish to do next. We have read so far the book of Acts, Matthew, and Mark.
 - Rector's Report—Rev. Stacy (See attached report)
- Old Business
 - Financial Review Team for 2010-2013—Pat Brown & Peg Newby
 - Nominating Committee

- New Business
 - Heath Insurance
 - Diocesan voting matter
 - Mutual Ministry Review Goals check-in
 - More active role in building membership and outreach to non-member visitors/parish members
- Closing Prayer and Adjournment—Rev Stacy
 - **Next vestry meeting will be the *third* Sunday, November 16, 2014 at 12:15PM. Next Executive Committee Agenda Planning Meeting Thursday, November 13, 2014 12-1PM.**

Junior Warden's report for Vestry meeting 10/19/14

1. Stewardship Campaign – Mary Lincoln and I are looking at and have begun using the “Walking the Way” materials from TENS (Episcopal Stewardship resource). Bulletin inserts are included every week for about 4 weeks. A letter from Mary and me will go out next week. This letter will include the pledge card and a pie chart supplied by Pat B. showing how our dollars are spent. Susan is aware this mailing is coming. Our goal is to conclude the campaign by mid-November, as pledges will be needed to continue work on next year's budget.
2. Nominating Committee – with Luke, George N., and Vince M. Of particular interest to me is who might be willing and able to serve as Jr. Warden.
3. Financial Review – Pat and I have put several hours into this project, and it is taking shape. We are at the point now of dividing the information for each year into logical categories. We will meet again later this month to continue the project. We hope to be able to turn the first year over to the financial review team before the end of the year.
4. I served as a greeter for Sunday School earlier this month. I found it to be very interesting and rewarding. I encourage all Vestry members to try it!
5. I attended the Pet Blessing, and spoke personally with many of the guests. This is a very well-attended event that is humbling and inspiring.

Peggy Newby

Fellowship Report For October 19, 2014 Vestry Meeting

In the next few weeks we will be reviewing the completed Fellowship Group surveys and form groups. Terry Dickow is again coordinating pumpkin decorating after the 10:30 service on Sunday October 26th. Several people have signed up to coordinate some of the year's scheduled events. There are still opportunities available. Note, there is a change in the event calendar for the Blue Christmas service and reception. It is Wednesday December 10th. Thank you to those who helped with the Pet Blessing.

Jocelyn Prall

St Paul's Episcopal Church, DeKalb, IL 60115

October Vestry Meeting Treasurer's Report with September 2014 figures:

This report covers the month of September 2014. The American Midwest Bank checking account is our primary operating account. Accounting is done by the American Midwest Bank Tax and Payroll Department. This account includes funds transferred from the Building Fund at Edward Jones to facilitate paying capital project bills. Our Building Fund major funds and the Endowment Fund are managed by Edward Jones.

Note to Counters: Please check the counting schedule. If you cannot count on the day you are scheduled please find a replacement. Also please send the counting sheets to Jon.Blanco@Americanmidwestbank.com. His name is in the address book. Susan, our administrative assistant has put a sheet with email information in the front of the counting book. This should make your job easier. Also, please be sure you put the Sunday date on the count sheet when you save it from the sample. Please make sure you total the deposit slip at the bottom and side and add in the cash. Thanks for your efforts.

Receipts through September 30, 2014

We have received 80% of the pledged amount and 84% of the total budgeted receipts by the end of the nine month period. Total operating receipts through September 2014 were \$180,702.

Disbursements through September, 2014

Total operating disbursements for the nine month period were \$170,141. The difference of receipts over disbursements for the year is \$10,561. We've received 84% of budgeted receipts and spent 75% of budgeted disbursements. By percent we are ahead on receipts and even on disbursements after three quarters of the year.

Building Fund

The balance in the Edward Jones Building Fund at the end of September was \$53,957 - \$40,000 in CD's and \$13,957 in the Money Market Fund. The total balance of Building funds is \$62,516. The Building Fund balance in AMB checking is \$8,559. We received contributions of \$85 in the regular building fund. A CD for \$10,000 matured in the Edw. Jones account. This will pay for the rectory roof. Expenditures from the building fund were \$2,200 for sign installation and \$801 for rectory dishwasher in August, and \$8,253 for sign and installation in September.

Endowment Fund

The value of the Endowment Fund at the end of September was \$2,035,551. The net decrease in value for the year as of September 30, 2014 was \$29,089. We have taken allocations of \$85,000 from the Endowment for Operating expenses. See receipts above.

Apache Stock - The 5.878 shares on deposit with the company were valued at \$551.77 on September 30, 2014. There is a decrease in value of (46.79) from August

On September 30, 2014 the Flower Fund balance was \$(214.79), Discretionary Fund was \$1,604.77 Columbarium Fund was \$1,471.80. The Garden Fund has a \$156.23 balance to be sent to DCCG. The balance in the Operations account on September 30, 2014 was \$16,978.47.

Respectfully submitted Pat Brown, Treasurer, October 19, 2014

Music Ministries Report, Vestry Meeting, October 19, 2014

- **The Adult/Youth and Children's Choirs** are doing some great work by rehearsing music for the entire year and adding more skill and repertoire each month. It is great to see and hear them work to make beautiful music. This week, we added two more children to our Thursday children's choir rehearsals.
- **Kathleen Johnson, Organist and Huixin Chen, Pianist**, continue to work and perform very well. It is an honor and joy to work with them. Their maturity in collaboration, work ethic, and advanced musical skills provide the support that our choirs need to flourish.
- The **2015 Music Budget Proposal** was submitted to The Very Rev. Stacy Walker-Frontjes and Pat Brown, Treasurer, on October 09, 2014.

Rector's Report to the Vestry of St. Paul's
The Very Rev. Stacy Walker-Frontjes
October 19, 2014 (Written October 15, 2014)

I. Liturgy

1. Our 6th Annual Pet Blessing on Sunday, October 5th was a success! We had 35 in attendance, at least 20 dogs, 4 cats, and many photos of pets. A few stuffed animals as well. Thanks to everyone who helped make this event possible. It really is appreciated by many members of our community and while it is always festive, I'm often providing pastoral care as well.
2. We are currently scheduled to have two baptisms of babies on All Saints Sunday, November 2nd, 2014.
 - a. If anyone else would like to be baptized on November 2nd, have them contact me ASAP! There's still time. The next regularly scheduled baptismal date will be the Baptism of our Lord, which is the first Sunday after the Epiphany in January 2015. I do make other baptism Sunday date arrangements to fit family's schedules as well.
3. Also we will again have an altar of remembrance for All Saints Sunday. Cards for writing attributes of your everyday saint who has gone on to glory will be available October 19th and October 26th. The altar will be set up in the parish hall starting on October 26th. I have invited the children's Sunday School to participate as well as they are about to begin a series on the lives of the saints.
4. Wednesday Healing services second evening service will be Wednesday, October 22nd at 5:30P.M.
 - a. 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.
5. I have decided to cancel the Thanksgiving "Day" service. This service has been on various days the week of Thanksgiving and it is always poorly attended. I would

rather put my energy to planning for Advent services (including Blue Christmas) than put it into a service that 6-8 people attend (at most).

II. Pastoral Care

- a. This past month much of my pastoral care time and energy has been going to planning Norma Fitzgerald's funeral (Saturday, October 18, 2014).

III. Christian Education

- 1. **We are up and running. The Children's Sunday School needs greeters. Please talk to Maureen Gerrity and sign up.**

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 before the end of 2014.
- b. Pat Brown and I will meet and worked on a 2015 Budget to provide some general numbers that will be helpful as we move into the 2015 Stewardship pledge season.
- c. 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. More details to follow.
- d. This past month turned out to be quite full, so I will say again that this next month I will be setting aside time to work on staff evaluations for the administrative assistant and director of music ministries. Also looking at models that would work for reviewing the childcare staff.
- e. Andrea Mysen, Associate for Ministries in the Diocese of Chicago, will be our guest preach on November 16th and will be with us for our vestry meeting. She will help lead us in a discussion of the role of the vestry in the parish as to our Mutual Ministry Review goal from this past spring.

V. Mission and Community Activities

- a. Thrive
 - 1. Thrive Garden and Market
 - a. Our final Thrive Market was Saturday, September 27th from 11AM to 2PM.
 - b. Chris Krueger (Thrive Market and Garden Team Leader) and I will be working together to plan a closing event for the garden, most likely on a Sunday soon—before Advent.
 - c. Chris and the Thrive team made an excellent video about the Thrive Market and Garden as well as Prayers2pass—two projects inspired by our participation in the diocesan Thrive program. This video will be part of the garden closing event for 2014. It complements our stewardship campaign season as well in the sense of sharing our stories of faith and our commitment to St. Paul's.
 - 2. Diocesan Thrive Meeting was at St. Paul's on Saturday, October 4th.

- i. We are now officially “graduated”! However, the work of Thrive will continue through Prayers2pass, Thrive Market and Garden, and whatever else God has in mind for us here at St. Paul’s!
 - 3. We have also been invited to be a part of a workshop at Diocesan Convention along with St. Paul’s, Peoria and St. Chad’s, Loves Park regarding ways congregations can serve their neighborhoods.
- b. Oak Crest
 - 1. Our volunteer pianist said she would play her last service with us on September 17th. But then she changed her mind! So at this point we are continuing on with the Oak Crest service. I am going to discuss the future of this service further with Linda Sherman at Oak Crest. Attendance is still pretty sporadic.
 - 2. Many of the people attending this service are also still attending services on Sundays at St. Paul’s. Those who are not I could visit individually with home communion.
- c. Grace Place
 - 1. I continue to be active with the board of directors as the president. We are doing some work regarding development of the roles and duties of the board, as well as directing attention to fundraising.
 - 2. St. Paul’s will host a Trivia Night fundraiser for Grace Place on a Friday night in October, 17th from 7-9P.M. Grace Place will run the event, we are providing the parish hall and parking.
- d. 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.
- e. Rockford Deanery
 - 1. We will have our next meeting that I will lead on October 23rd at Grace, Sterling.
 - 2. I will also be at a Deans’ Retreat on October 16th and 17th at St. James Commons, Chicago.
- f. NIU/Association of Campus Religious Organizations (ACRO)
 - 1. Eboo Patel is coming back to NIU on Monday, October 25th. If you missed his lecture last year, I strongly recommend attending. I plan to be there and be a part of interfaith activities that day.
 - 2. I have also been in conversation with Jennifer Groce, head of Communiversality Relations at NIU. Along with her colleagues we are discussing community organizing in our neighborhood. We had our first meeting with NIU sociology faculty and area pastors at St. Paul’s on Thursday, October 2nd at 2:30P.M.
 - 3. Also, I am keeping tabs on developments with interfaith action and relationships conversations happening at NIU. NIU is turning out to be a leader in this area among public universities in the United States. I am attending meetings on campus as I become aware of them.

4. Tuesday, October 21st I keep hearing there is going to be a Unity March in response issues of racism that have been brought to light in the past two plus months in Ferguson, Missouri. I haven't seen a flyer yet, but I will share that when I find it. The event is happening here in our neighborhood starting at the Nursing School. St. Paul's will provide overflow parking.

VI. Continuing Education

- a. In the next few months I will be attending some non-profit board development seminars at the DeKalb County Community Foundation in Sycamore through my service on the TAILS Humane Society board. These are often in the mornings, about once a month and last about two hours. I went to the first one on September 30th and found it to be quite productive.

VII. Other

- a. times I will be out of the office in 2014
 1. Bill McLemore will also be the guest priest and preacher on November 9 while I am at Credo (November 3-11th).
- b. Important dates and events to remember—some to attend, some FYI!
 1. Wednesday, October 22nd 5:30P.M. Healing Service
 2. Sunday, November 2nd, 2014 All Saints Sunday, Holy Baptism at 10:30A.M.
 3. Sunday, November 16th, 2014 Guest Preacher, Andrea Mysen, and Vestry meeting. (I will be present!)
 4. Friday and Saturday, November 21&22, 2014 Convention of the Diocese of Chicago
 5. Sunday, November 30th, 2014 First Sunday of Advent
 6. Wednesday, December 10th, 2014 7PM Blue Christmas