

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes
June 9, 2013

Members Present: Rev. Stacy Walker-Frontjes; Dave Anderson, Senior Warden; Luke Krueger, Junior Warden; Jocelyn Prall; Bill Cummings; Marilyn Cleland; Freyja Rasmussen-Johns

Members Absent: Pat Brown, Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. with an opening prayer by Rev. Stacy.

Appreciations

- For Luke's article writing in the Proclaimer
- To the coffee hour hosts
- For the Sunday School groups, and especially for Gretchen Schlabach's graciousness in getting everyone involved
- For how lovely the grounds look
- To all who asked Chris Krueger to call if she needed anything while Luke is away
- For Courtney's presence and sermon today
- For all who helped make the garden possible
- To all who are active in donating to the food pantry

Bill read today's lesson, Luke 7:11-17; discussion followed.

Review and approval of May minutes: Many thanks to Jocelyn for taking the meeting minutes in May. Corrections: Pat Brown's and Lorraine Langer's names should be corrected on page one. Dave motioned and Marilyn seconded to approve last month's minutes. Motion passed with two abstentions.

Senior Warden's Report: David said that all has been going well, so he had no major report. He thanked Luke for diving right in.

Junior Warden's Report: Luke submitted the following email report and briefly elaborated by sketching a picture of the drain and what the plan is for working on it:

I. Trees

To recap the bids:

1. CBS (the company Pat mentioned and Mr. McMahon has used) : \$1,800
2. Bowman: \$1,800
3. Askeland: \$1,300
4. D. Ryan (Formerly Midwest Tree removal): 1,200

D. Ryan offered 4,500 for a day's work to take down the willows, and the ash by the rectory and whatever pruning they could do.

Askeland did get back to me. They said they could do the willows and ash tree by the rectory for \$2,180 (\$1,000 for all three willows and \$300 for the stump removal. For the ash, \$800 and \$80 for the stump removal).

Askeland also donated the mulch we procured for the spring cleanup, which would have cost us \$250.

In consultation with the Buildings and Grounds Committee last week it was their recommendation that we go with Askeland. I concur.

- II. Roof
 - A. After dealing with International National Roofing, it appears that they would like to contract with us for regular check-ups on our roof and maintain it at a regular retainer fee. In consulting with the Building and Grounds Committee, we agreed that we should not pursue this, and I will pass that message along to INR.
 - B. Rhys Prall and I are looking at some options for our top roof where we are having the ice dams to see if there are options that can adequately prevent these.

- III. Roof Drain – this will be addressed in the Old Business section on the agenda but to summarize:
 - A. On June 3, 2013, Rhys, Rick, Dave, and I met to make an exploratory dig to find the spillage pipe to look in and see if water is coming down from the roof. Rhys' theory had been that perhaps the breezeway might have crushed the piping and therefore, no water could make it out to the sewer.
 - B. Fortunately we did not have to dig. The pipe was covered by a little mulch. When we opened it and looked in, it was bone dry. This tells us that the blockage is located between the roof and the ground.
 - C. Our plan is to pump all the water out on June 22, take out the horizontal pipe that is connected to the vertical pipe leading directly to the roof. We believe we will be able to access the blockage either from the vertical pipe leading to the roof or the horizontal pipe leading to the outside. We will then replace the horizontal pipe. Rhys and Rick both have experience with this.
 - D. Buildings and Grounds ran through a number of options and complications that we might encounter. No main water service will be interrupted or hurt by this effort. If we encounter an issue that will require more experience than we have, the pipe can quickly be plugged, again with no interruption of service. We will then cover the roof drain temporarily so no more water will drain into there.

- IV. Thrive
 - A. I attended the Thrive Conference on May 31 to June 1 at the Techny Towers. I attended with Rev. Stacy and Rochelle Cripe. The topic for the conference was Adaptive Leadership, focusing one of the first adaptive leaders, Moses.
 - B. I took a great deal from this which I can discuss in more depth, but in discussions with people from other parishes, it is clear that the role of the vestry is changing to move from dealing with purely technical problems to adaptive challenges.
 - C. It was certainly a great event, lots of theory, but certainly translatable and applicable for us as a vestry and as a parish as a whole. Moreover, some of the theory that was presented could be actively applied to the CAT survey as regards our the needs our parishioners have expressed.

Respectfully submitted June 9 2013,
Luke Krueger, Junior Warden

Treasurer's Report: Pat was absent today and so there was no financial report

Fellowship Committee: Freyja submitted the following report by e-mail:

Ellen Anderson and I are looking at prices and discussing options for entrees for the dinner following the service of the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, which is taking place on Thursday, June 27th. Because St. Paul's is hosting the event this year, we're planning to provide the entree (we have checked with Pat Brown about financing this), and we'll ask St. Peter's parishioners to bring desserts, and St. Paul's parishioners can provide salads.

Rector's Report:

Rev. Stacy reported that the Thrive group wants to do another Prayers2Pass for Welcome Week. This year's kickoff event will be the church picnic on August 25th.

Thrive will be focusing on trying to put together mission and vision statements.

The children's Sunday school teachers and Rev. Stacy talked about the possibility of having a breakfast before Sunday school. It was noted that several neighborhood children were coming to Sunday school, who seem to be hungry. They will meet again to discuss this.

The rectory has a maintenance budget, and more painting needs to be done. Rev. Stacy distributed an estimate from Randy Chester. She also checked about what it would take to install a patio at the rectory. Blumen Gardens quoted \$4700. Sycamore Lawn Care gave an estimate for a 16 x 10 foot brick patio for \$2700. She is going to check with other companies.

All is in place for Rev. Stacy's absence; Rev. Joyce will be filling in.

Rev. Stacy provided the following report by e-mail:

- I. Pastoral Care
 - a. I spent some time visiting a few of our older members in their homes this past month.
 - b. I also had some pastoral care conversations throughout the month with various members.
- II. Liturgy
 1. May 26th Plant the Garden Sunday on Trinity Sunday went very well! Although attendance was low that day due to the Memorial Day weekend we had lots of participation with the planting. Look on our Facebook page for photos from that event.
 2. Our next major liturgical worship will be on June 27th at 6PM for the feast of Ss. Peter and Paul. I am working on getting a draft of this order of service together before I leave on vacation next week.
- III. Christian Education
 - a. I met with Children's Sunday School teachers to debrief this year and plan for next year on June 2nd at 915AM
 1. We discussed an idea for a Sunday School breakfast ministry to serve children in our neighborhood who are hungry. We have had a few children

visit this year without their parents who are clearly looking for actual nourishment as well as spiritual nourishment.

2. We agreed to pray about this and think about the opportunities and challenges for such a ministry and meet again for more discernment and discussion on Sunday, June 30th at 915AM.
 3. I also asked the teachers to think about others we could invite into this discussion.
 4. I am looking for a liaison from the vestry to attend this June 30th meeting as well.
 5. Additionally we discussed lesson plans for the 2013-2014 Sunday School year. Youth Sunday School will have a September module and a April/May module taught by me. The rest of the year we will check in periodically, but for the time being do not have a curriculum or teacher planned. This idea is based on conversations with parents of youth and their availability for Sunday School.
- b. I met with the Adult Sunday School team on June 3rd to debrief last year and discuss lesson plans for the next 12 months.
1. Based on input from participants in the program and the leadership team we decided on the overarching theme of “A Year Living with the Bible”— that name may change!
 2. The focus will be on incorporating scripture into a series of modules that address Church history, interpretation, and spiritual practices.
 3. Adult Sunday School will meet on Sundays during the summer and will be reading the book of The Acts of the Apostles.
- c. “Big Questions” meeting scheduled for June 8th has been canceled, we will reschedule for a date in August. This small group for adults will discuss theological questions brought by members of the group, the theology of the Episcopal Church, and other spiritual concerns. This group will also serve as preparation for adult confirmation and reception. Dinner is a part of this evening. Dates and locations in **August, and September tbd.**

IV. Administration

- a. May 20 and 21st I attended a workshop “Stepping up to Supervision”. This summer I plan on taking a closer look at our personnel policies and performance reviews to set some more concise standards of practice. I will let you know how that goes.

V. Mission and Community Activities

- a. On June 1st I attended the annual banquet and auction fundraiser of TAILS Humane Society wearing my new nametag as a board member “Reverend Stacy Walker-Frontjes”. I also made a connection with the board member in charge of the Mutt Strutt and 5K-9 Run for the Rescues at Hopkins Park in September. I will follow up with her about some advertising for our Pet Blessing at this event, and perhaps setting up a pet blessing booth at the event as well.
- b. Thrive—Our fifth meeting was a retreat on Friday May 31st and Saturday June 1st at Techny Towers in Northbrook. Rochelle Cripe and Luke Krueger attended with me on behalf of St. Paul’s.
 - i. Our St. Paul’s Thrive team met on May 28th to prep for the retreat.

- ii. We are planning to offer prayers2pass again during welcome week with the Parish Picnic on August 25th at St. Paul's as our kick off event.
 - iii. Our Thrive team believes our next task is to develop identity, mission, and vision statements for St. Paul's. We will work on this over the next few months and report back to the Vestry.
 - c. Camp Chicago
 - i. I have also been invited to serve as a chaplain at Camp Chicago July 7th through July 12th (Sunday afternoon thru Friday afternoon)
 - ii. Camp Chicago is held at the Stronghold Center in Oregon, Illinois.
 - iii. I have been working with two other priests on liturgy and Christian Education plans for the week and will continue that prep work in late June/early July.
- VI. Other
- a. I will be on vacation June 10th thru June 25th, 2013. The Rev. Joyce Beaulieu will be our guest priest on the two Sundays I am gone at the current supply rate. She will serve on the Wednesday mornings I am gone as a "volunteer priest".
 - 1. **Joyce will also cover pastoral care emergencies (death, severe injury) while I am away in June. Her phone number is 815-721-5215.**
 - 2. **For pastoral care concerns that are non-emergency, please direct parishioners to contact me upon my return.**
 - 3. **Also, during an emergency please do contact me at my cell phone as well even when I am on vacation: 773-717-9448**
 - b. Other dates I will be out of the office this summer:
 - 1. Tuesday July 2nd thru Friday July 5th—Fourth of July family visit
 - 2. Sunday afternoon July 7th thru Friday afternoon July 12th—Camp Chicago
 - 3. Thursday July 25th thru Thursday August 1st—Vacation (Rev. Amy Fallon supply on Sunday July 28th)
- VII. Important dates and events to remember—some to attend, some FYI!
- a. June 8, 2012—Reconvening of the 2012 Convention of the Diocese of Chicago re: reunification with the Diocese of Quincy, at St. James Commons, Chicago.
 - b. June 9, 2013—Guest Preacher, Ms. Courtney Reid, M. Div., Director of Operations in the Diocese of Chicago
 - c. June 9, 2013—VESTRY!
 - d. June 16 and 23, 2013—Guest priest and preacher—Our priest associate, the Rev. Joyce Beaulieu
 - e. Thursday, June 27, 2013—Ss. Peter and Paul at St. Paul's (with St. Peter's, Sycamore as our guests) and welcoming as our guest preacher, the Very Rev. Joy Rogers—Dean of the Cathedral of St. James, Chicago. 6PM, dinner at 7PM
 - f. July 21, 2013—VESTRY!
 - g. August 18, 2013—VESTRY!
 - h. August 25, 2013—Church Picnic at St. Paul's on welcome back weekend at NIU
 - i. Week of August 25th—Prayers2Pass—the Welcome Back Huskies Edition!
 - j. September 8, 2013—Sunday School kick-off
 - k. October 6, 2013—Bishop Lee's Visitation and our 5th annual Blessing of the Animals/Pet Blessing
 - l. October 20, 2013—Stewardship 2014 kick off, and VESTRY!
 - m. November 3, 2013—All Saints Sunday and Stewardship 2014 close
 - n. Friday and Saturday, November 22&23—Diocesan Convention

- o. November 24, 2013 VESTRY!
- p. December 15, 2013 VESTRY!

Old Business

- a. The Financial Review Team should be completing their report by July 31st.
- b. Tree removal – Luke reported he received three bids (see his Jr. Warden report). The building & grounds committee wants to go with Askeland Tree Service (who donated the mulch for the spring clean up).
Luke motioned and Bill seconded to go ahead with Askeland's plan for \$2,180 to take down the three willows and stump removal, and the ash by the rectory and stump removal for that. Motion passed.
Luke said that replacement trees will need to be looked at in a while.

New Business:

Rev. Stacy presented an estimate for an additional wireless microphone for \$499. Lorraine and Rev. Stacy have been discussing the need for this second microphone for some time. This might well be a memorial fund line item. Bill motioned and Freyja seconded to go ahead and purchase the microphone. Motion passed

It was decided that there will be enough vestry members present for the regular vestry meeting in July even though Luke, Dave, and probably Bill will be out of town.

At 1:45 p.m. Bill motioned to adjourn, seconded by Dave, and Dave closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Freyja Rasmussen-Johns, Clerk of the Vestry