

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
Vestry Minutes  
August 18, 2013

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

Members Absent: Pat Brown, Treasurer; Bill Cummings

Guest: Lorraine Langer, Director of Music Ministries

The meeting was called to order at 12:25 p.m. with an opening prayer by Rev. Stacy.

Appreciations

- David appreciated Peg Newby for agreeing to join the vestry as Junior Warden (although he kept his appreciation secret until his report)
- For seeing people back safely from vacations
- To God for the beautiful weather this summer
- For David and Ellen's model of people whose faith shines forth – we are grateful to know them
- For Rev. Stacy's sermon today and how she enlightens the Word
- For Rochelle's introduction to Prayers2Pass
- To Rev. Joyce for her work at Oak Crest and with the older parishioners
- Thanks for the Thrive team and all their work
- David appreciated the vestry and how we work together
- To God for the Andersons' new grandson
- Lorraine appreciated seeing the choir members again, both old and new

David read today's lesson, Luke 12:49-56, which was followed by discussion.

Review and approval of July minutes: Dave motioned and Marilyn seconded to approve last month's minutes. Motion passed with one abstention.

Senior Warden's Report: This is David's last meeting. He mentioned that regarding the counting process, we all need to switch off on the computer, and perhaps there should be some more training. He reported that a parishioner commented to him that they were glad to have Pat Brown's financial report in the Proclaimer. David then reported that Peg Newby has agreed to be the Junior Warden and will step into the Senior Warden position the following year. He hopes that the message gets out for the need for everyone to step up and serve, and he wished everyone Godspeed. Rev. Stacy thanked David for his many years of service, and the vestry accepts his resignation as Senior Warden.

Junior Warden's Report: Luke stated that it was nice to see that the trees were taken down, and that work will continue on the drain situation, and the chunk of sidewalk will be dealt with.

Treasurer's Report: Pat was absent today and so there was no financial report. Pat will deliver two months' reports in September

Fellowship Committee: Freyja reported that Jocelyn Prall will join the fellowship committee, and will ask Julie Stubblefield to join as well. The next event coming up will be the Bishop's visit on October 6th, which also coincides with the Pet Blessing. Rev. Stacy said that there will be three youth confirmed – Maggie and Danny Russell and Madison Williams; two adults will be confirmed – Julie Kostrey and Linda Kelly; and there may possibly be two more confirmations.

Music Ministries: Lorraine submitted the following report by e-mail:

**Music Ministries Report - Current Works in Progress**

- **Adult/Youth and Children's Choirs 2013 & 2014**
  - **Hymn List/Schedule**
  - **Anthem List/Schedule**
  - **Rehearsal Schedule**
  - **Attendance Rosters**
- **Administrative Miscellaneous**
  - **Pianist Position**
    - Posted at NIU Music Department
    - Posted on Craigs List-Chicago
    - Posted on Episcopal Diocese of Chicago Website
    - Will be auditioning and interviewing over the next two weeks
    - Kathleen Johnson will assist w/choir during process
  - **Cleaned Choir Robes at VIP Cleaners Choir Folders**
    - White Cotta [Retail: 14 x 11.00 = 154.00 Discount:  
14 x 7.50 = 105.00 **Savings: \$51.00]**
    - Blue Cassock [Retail: 12 x 13.50 = 162.00 Discount:  
12 x 9.50 = 114.00 **Savings: \$48.00]**
    - New Hangers [6.99 x 4 = 27.96] & clasps: 4 x 3.49 = 13.96]
    - Looking into Ordering New Folders for Adult/Youth and Children's Choirs
  - **Recording Project** [CD of St. Paul's Music All Choirs & Musicians] I Met and discussed
    - Cost & scheduling with Dan Nichols (Lorraine self cost)
    - Potential Copyright Issues with Michael Duffy
  - **Design & Order Picture Mugs for newer choir/music members** (Lorraine Self Cost)
    - Jan, Tyler, Andrew, Chris, Amanda, Madison, Morgan, Jocelyn, Yuki
- **Technology [Audio & Video]**
  - New Website! Will be working w/Melissa & Rev. Stacy on edits. Maybe publish in September.
  - Newsletter [September, October, November, December]
  - Video Edits for both choirs (Including Kids: Sign-Language, Solos)
  - Dan Nichols Meeting Notes from this summer - I will review & share w/Rev. Stacy
    - Sound system, recording, router extension for Wi-Fi in Sanctuary/St. Timothy Center
    - Record choirs for CD (Lorraine self cost)

Lorraine talked a bit about the recording project. Marilyn asked her about the new Website and if it might be possible to have a recording of a church service on the site. Lorraine felt that it might be possible but time-consuming and maybe costly.

### Rector's Report:

- Rev. Stacy reported that we will be starting a monthly Eucharist at Oak Crest. This will be one of two public protestant Holy Communion services open to all Christians; the other is a Methodist service on the first Sunday of each month. Rev. Joyce has coordinated this project.
- The Prayers2Pass information needs to have the exact time added to the Website (11:00-2:00), and donations of food and water are welcome.
- We will have a booth at the TAILS Mutt Strut on September 7th and need another couple of volunteers as well as donations of dog biscuits.
- Brad Cripe will chair the Stewardship team for the 2014 Annual Fund.
- The first day of the new breakfast ministry will be September 8th; donations of food are welcome.

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

#### I. Pastoral Care

- a. In the past month I have visited with a number of parishioners at St. Paul's in their homes and have also provided pastoral care over the phone.
- b. I have also taken the time to talk to several adults who are newer to our congregation about confirmation and baptism.

#### II. Liturgy

1. The liturgy for the parish picnic has been planned and will include presentation of youth and adult confirmands to the congregation, blessing of the backpacks with back to school prayers, and prayers for the prayers2pass team.
2. In the next month I will begin working on plans with Lorraine Langer (Director of Music Ministries) for Bishop Lee's visit on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

#### III. Christian Education

1. Children's Sunday School is set to begin this fall with our first breakfast together on September 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00A.M. I encourage members of the vestry to come a little early and enjoy breakfast with the children and teachers.
2. Youth Sunday School
  1. I will be teaching the youth Sunday School in late August thru September as a confirmation preparation course. This class will be open to all youth (regardless of whether or not they are seeking confirmation) and will be an exploration of our Episcopal faith.
  2. I am also praying about whom to invite to join me in teaching youth Sunday School throughout the rest of the year. I need a partner in teaching this class so that I am able to spend time teaching in the Adult Sunday School occasionally throughout the year as well.
3. Adult Sunday School has continued to have a small yet dedicated group from 9:15-10:15 A.M. on Sundays this summer. The topic has been a Bible study of the book of the Acts of the Apostles. As far as I know the plan is to stay with this study until the end of Acts.
4. "Big Questions" met on Saturday, August 10, 2013 at the Rectory. We welcomed a new member to the group. 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 in part as preparation for adult confirmation and reception. Dinner is a part of this

evening. Our final meeting before Bishop Lee's visit (October 6<sup>th</sup>) will be Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 5PM. Location tba.

5. We have two adults that have expressed their desire to be confirmed. I will be meeting with each of them privately and/or as a small group in the next month. We may have a few more adults interested in confirmation, a couple of people are still thinking about whether or not they want to be confirmed.

#### IV. Administration

- a. At my invitation Brad Cripe has agreed to serve as the chair of the stewardship committee for the 2014 Annual Fund.
- b. I signed a contract with JJ Marshall Landscaping for installation of the patio at the rectory. Construction should begin mid-September.
- c. Painting and repair of interior walls in the living room, dining room, foyer, and main bath are complete at the Rectory. Looks great! No more peeling paint! Thank you for your commitment to keeping the rectory a pleasant place to live.
- d. I am waiting to hear back from Trevor Floyd regarding estimates for the cost of vestments. We received the designs earlier this month and they look fantastic! I will be sharing them with the altar guild soon. Mr. Floyd is on vacation until August 21<sup>st</sup> so I will share the estimates at a future meeting.

#### V. Mission and Community Activities

- a. Thrive—We are on a summer break from our diocesan wide meetings until September.
  - i. Our St. Paul's Thrive team met on Tuesday August 6<sup>th</sup> at Grace Place Campus Ministry.
  - ii. We planned the fall version of prayers2pass, set for Tuesday August 27<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday August 28<sup>th</sup> from 11:00A.M. to 2:00P.M. outside St. Paul's and at Grace Place Campus Ministry.
  - iii. We are looking for volunteers to hand out snacks, greet students, and/or offer prayers on either or both of those days.
  - iv. Rochelle Cripe has designed a great flyer based on her design from the Spring prayers2pass. I made 750 copies of this flyer on Wednesday August 14<sup>th</sup> and delivered them to the chamber of commerce for distribution at the Taste of Northern. (This is a perk included in our chamber membership dues.)
  - v. 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.
  - vi. The members of the Thrive team(s) were commissioned on Epiphany Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The learning team: Rev. Stacy Walker-Frontjes, Christina Krueger, and Rochelle Cripe. The accountability team: Ellen Anderson, Terry Dickow, and Jamie Stubblefield.
- b. New Teacher Welcome Luncheon sponsored by the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce
  1. As chamber of commerce members we were also invited to provide information to the annual luncheon welcoming new teachers and staff to DeKalb. Melissa London designed a basic half-sheet flyer with information about St. Paul's for this event.
  2. I have also signed up to attend the luncheon on Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at DeKalb High School.

- c. Pet Blessings at the TAILS Humane Society Mutt Strut at Hopkins Park
  - 1. We are registered with TAILS to host a Pet Blessing booth together with other clergy and laity from St. Paul's and St. Peter's (Sycamore).
  - 2. We will also be sharing a flyer to be included in the goodie bag given to runners of the 5K-9 Run for the Rescues and Mutt Strut Dog Walk participants about both of our Pet Blessings (held on different dates in October). Cost for this that we will split with St. Peter's is \$250. Our share of that cost is \$125.
  - 3. So far I have had one person from St. Paul's volunteer to help. We could use a few more volunteers for the day of the event and before to package doggie bags of treats to hand out with labels advertising our October 6<sup>th</sup> Pet Blessing.
- d. Rockford Deanery Picnic, Saturday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at White Pines State Park
  - 1. If you would like to attend, please let me know by August 19<sup>th</sup>.
- e. I have also had several conversations this month with clergy and lay leaders in the diocese on behalf of Grace Place Campus Ministry.
- f. I am pleased to announce that we will begin leading a monthly Holy Eucharist in the chapel at Oak Crest retirement center. Rev. Joyce has worked very diligently with our parishioners who are resident at Oak Crest and with the administration at Oak Crest to plan this service. Thank you, Rev. Joyce!
  - 1. This will be a service that is open to the public and will provide a second "open to all Christians" Holy Communion option for the residents of Oak Crest. (The second option is a communion service the first Sunday of each month sponsored by the United Methodist Church).
  - 2. The first service will be Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 2:00P.M. All are welcome to attend.
  - 3. We hope to have a regularly scheduled monthly date at Oak Crest finalized soon.

#### VI. Other

- a. I am looking at my calendar now to plan a time for a retreat between now and the end of 2013. This is in accordance with my goals set at the mutual ministry review earlier this year.

#### VII. Important dates and events to remember—some to attend, some FYI!

- a. August 25, 2013—Church Picnic at St. Paul's and welcome back weekend at NIU
- b. August 27&28—Prayers2Pass—the Welcome Back Huskies Edition!
- c. September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013—first day of Youth Confirmation prep
- d. Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013—St. Paul's & St. Peter's Pet Blessings at the TAILS Humane Society Mutt Strut at Hopkins Park
- e. September 8, 2013—Sunday School kick-off including the new Children's Breakfast Ministry (9:00A.M. in the St. Timothy Center)
- f. October 6, 2013—Bishop Lee's Visitation and our 5<sup>th</sup> annual Blessing of the Animals/Pet Blessing
- g. October 20, 2013—Stewardship 2014 kick off, and VESTRY!
- h. November 3, 2013—All Saints Sunday and Stewardship 2014 close
- i. Friday and Saturday, November 22&23—Diocesan Convention
- j. November 24, 2013 VESTRY!
- k. December 15, 2013 VESTRY!

#### Old Business

- The Financial Review is still in progress.

New Business:

- Brad Cripe will talk about online giving next month.
- There will be a special collection taken at the picnic for Thrive and Prayers2Pass

At 1:35 p.m. David motioned to adjourn, seconded by Freyja, and Luke closed the meeting with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Freyja Rasmussen-Johns, Clerk of the Vestry