

St Matthew's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting, December 28, 2022

The vestry of St Matthew's met Wednesday, December 28th at 6pm via Zoom. Members present were Kyle Dennis (Jr. Warden), Deb Hansen (Treasurer), Chris Yarberry (Secretary), Ellen Gregan, Selena Ellis and Melinda Hood. Also present was the Rev. Jay Bruno (Vicar) and the Rev. Nancy Cook (Deacon).

Evening Devotion was led by Rev. Bruno with responses by Rev. Cook.

Motion to accept November minutes as written by Deb Hansen, seconded by Ellen Gregan. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to accept November financial report by Ellen Gregan, seconded by Kyle Dennis. Motion passed unanimously.

Average Sunday attendance for August was 37.

Rev. Bruno clarified a question about the Bishop's check for the food pantry; they will be sending one. Deb clarified which utilities the church covers for the RB house.

Discussion was held about keeping \$100 from Dollars for Outreach for another community cause, and sending the Bishop's offering to the Bishop's office, as it was a good amount.

A motion was made by Ellen Gregan and seconded by Deb Hansen, to send Bishop's offering of \$240 to the Bishop and \$100 from Dollars for Outreach to "the Van". Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Rev. Bruno thanked everyone for a successful annual pledge drive. All of last year's pledges were renewed, and we added 4 new pledges. There was a lower average pledge, but higher total amount pledged overall.

Thanks to Kyle for the update and improvement on the church lighting!

Deb asked about the fellowship hall porch light; Kyle will look into it and get it fixed.

New Business

The Worship and Special Events committee will meet again in January. As the Bishop mandates we hold worship on High Holy Days, we will have a service for Epiphany on January 6 at 11am (time and date agreed upon by the vestry).

Further discussion of upcoming services and special events was held.

Shrove Tuesday will be February 21st. The ECW will provide a potluck meal for this event. Time for the gathering will likely be 6pm. The vestry meets the week before on February 15th. There was also

discussion of table cloths and decor for the Shrove Tuesday potluck. Selena is going to ask the ECW about providing funding for this.

St. Matthews was on the front page of the Saline County Courier recently! The new editor is Episcopalean and will likely attend our church, so we have a good connection there now.

We will consider gift baskets in the future for renters at the RB house and the vicarage. Also consideration will be given to the church giving prayer books to new confirmands.

A question about updating the electronic church sign to soften the color was put forth. Jay and Kyle will investigate this and ask Chuck as well.

Judy made a request that we consider selling the guitar amp, konga drums and some of the music stands that are taking up space behind the organ (and not being used much or at all). Vestry agreed to look into this and consider options, but felt we should keep a few music stands in case we have a need for them at some point.

The vestry discussed and agreed upon an inclement weather policy. If there is ice/snow, in which case Jay and Nancy are not likely to be able to get to the church safely, we will meet virtually via Zoom. This will be announced in advance should inclement weather occur or be likely and the zoom link for the virtual service will be posted on Facebook.

There was discussion of some pipe repairs related to a burst pipe during recent extremely cold temperatures; a motion was made by Selena Ellis and seconded by Kyle Dennis, to replace the burst pipe with frostless pipe (if replacement is necessary).

A list of potential new vestry members for consideration (for upcoming Annual Meeting on Jan 29) was discussed and included the following individuals:

Kelly or Tonya
Susan
Lee or Mike
Martha

Special thanks to Kyle Dennis and Chris Ellis (outgoing vestry members) for all their hard work and contributions to the vestry the last few years!

Delegates for the Diocesan Convention as well as an alternate will be needed. These are usually selected at the Annual Meeting. Selena and Anita have offered to do this, so we just need to recruit an alternate as back up for them. As an added bonus, this year's delegate will also help vote for and elect our new Bishop!

A request for the alternate delegate will be announced in church and in the newsletter. There was also discussion about the procedures for electing the new Bishop.

Rev. Bruno is updating his vacation time and will take some earlier in the year, possibly in April. He and Rev. Cook will discuss who will preach the last two Sundays in January.

Finally, there was discussion of what type of food or snacks to have at the Annual Meeting, and it was agreed that we would have breakfast snacks between services on January 29.

Motion to adjourn by Selena/Deb, seconded by Ellen.