

St Matthew's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting, Wednesday September 20, 2023

The vestry of St Matthew's met Wednesday, September 20 at 6pm via Zoom. Members present were Lee Storey (Sr. Warden), Melinda Hood (Jr. Warden), Chris Yarberry (Secretary), Deb Hansen (Treasurer), Ellen Gregan, Susan Alford and Selena Ellis. Also present was the Rev. Jay Bruno (Vicar) and the Rev. Nancy Cook (Deacon).

Compline was led by the Rev. Cook with responses by Rev. Bruno.

Motion to accept August minutes as written by Deb Hansen and Lee Storey, seconded by Ellen Gregan. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to accept August financial report by Melinda Hood, seconded by Ellen Gregan. Motion passed unanimously.

Average Sunday attendance for June was 40.

The vestry began with a brief chat and discussion about new visitors; some of these will be received or confirmed in the coming year. Everyone is excited about these additions to our congregation!

Old Business

The Mesley's are back so Rev. Bruno will talk to Chuck about getting the church sign color changed, maybe to green?!

Rev. Bruno also reminded us of his upcoming surgery on October 3; he expects to be out for two days and return on the 5th of October. He will miss Oct 8 service. Preparations are going well. Father D won't be able to serve because he's helping at El Dorado, so we will have ante communion that day.

Rev. Bruno also gave us an update on preparing for Eucharistic Visitor ministry. He is purchasing additional items we need to complete our travel kits to serve communion. Rev. Bruno will talk with our current EM's about who would be willing to serve in this capacity.

New Business

November 12 will be out in-gathering for stewardship and we will have brunch as well. There will be stewardship talks on 4 Sundays leading up to the in-gathering. Rev. Bruno suggested a possible committee made up of Dawn, Kyle and Selena, with Selena leading it. We may need an alternate committee member since Dawn had surgery recently. Rev. Bruno has just started to receive materials from the Diocese to use in sending out letters, etc. for stewardship.

Lee Storey has been working on a project to clean up and clear out the back room to make space for our Christmas decorations, so that we can move them from the attic to this new space. We will go through everything at this year's greening and dispose of any old/broken or

no longer used items. Moving forward this will make the greening of the Church easier and safer!

Rev. Bruno will send out a breakdown of the rest of the year's Church schedule. He has also sent out the directory to vestry members for us to review/edit and let him know of any changes that need to be made.

Our annual blessing of the animals will be held on October 21 at 10am, led by Rev. Cook and Nancy. Anita will also assist, as Rev. Bruno will still be recovering from his surgery. Rev. Bruno said he would check to see how many blessing certificates we still have.

The dedication of the Little Free Library will be held on October 22. Kelly came out and installed the library and added bracing to support it.

The vestry also discussed a few additional updates on the RB House and vicarage. Moving forward the Church will not be responsible to mow or clean up those yards.

Ellen Gregan shared her thanks and gratitude to the vestry for their patience and support during the loss of her mother.

Motion to adjourn by Deb Hansen, seconded by Ellen Gregan.