

St Matthew's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting, Wednesday November 15, 2023

The vestry of St Matthew's met Wednesday, November 15 at 6pm via Zoom. Members present were Lee Storey (Sr. Warden), Chris Yarberry (Secretary), Deb Hansen (Treasurer), Ellen Gregan, Selena Ellis and Susan Alford. Also present was the Rev. Jay Bruno (Vicar) and the Rev. Nancy Cook (Deacon).

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

A motion to accept the October minutes as written, was made by Ellen Gregan, and seconded by Deb Hansen. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion to accept the October financial report as written, was made by Lee Storey, and seconded by Ellen Gregan. The motion passed unanimously.

Average Sunday attendance for September was 44!

There was a quick discussion and questions about a couple of items that would be discussed later in the meeting or when the November financials are reviewed. These were James' Pantry and some repair concerns.

The vestry also discussed attendance and new visitors.

Deb Hansen gave an update on our pledge status. This included 4-5 new pledges, and only 1 pledge lost, as well as a couple of vestry member's pledges still out (hint-hint).

Old Business

RB House Repair - Jay sent out an email regarding the RB House repair needs and Selena had some questions about the siding and gutters. The vestry discussed details such as whether or not to do siding or wood, scrape and repaint, etc.

Deb provided current financials: money market of just under \$45,000, checking account slightly over \$8,000 and nine CD's totalling roughly \$38,000.

Selena offered all the information she had collected from her referral's quote. There was general discussion of the options and ideas with siding vs wood. Selena will ask the contact from her referral about insulation for the siding. On the question of siding vs repair/repaint wood, the vestry tended to lean towards the siding option, if there was an option for water proofing and insulation.

A provisional vote was taken with a motion made by Ellen Gregan and seconded by Lee Storey, to go with the siding option, contingent upon waterproofing and insulation being included. The provisional vote passed unanimously. Selena will email the vestry if there is any price difference on the insulation and waterproofing inclusion and also if there is any type of warranty. An official vote will be held after this information is available.

Pest Control - On the issue of dealing with our rodents, Chuck's suggestion was that the high cost charged by pest control companies was not worth it. The following cost estimates were given for these companies:

Curry - \$1,250 to bait and kill, then seal

McCauley - \$110 per month

Terminix - \$50 per bait box plus an extra \$50 per quarter to maintain bait boxes*

*in addition to our current cost of \$110 per quarter with them for insect control

Deb also priced Amazon bait boxes at around \$17 per box (possibly 4-6 boxes) and \$140 for the poison needed to load them.

Deb recommended that we try the bait boxes first to see if this will be a good solution at a much lower cost before we pay a larger amount for a full professional job.

A motion to go with the "do-it-ourselves" bait box plan (at approximately \$244) was made by Lee Storey and seconded by Deb Hansen. The motion passed unanimously.

Perishable Food Giveaway - There will be a perishable food giveaway at the church this coming Saturday, November 15th at 10am until we run out of food! Susan and Jay will bring ice. We have a large quantity of eggs. Nancy is also bringing lots of hot dogs and beef. Nancy and the others will be making preparations on Thursday.

There will be an Advent study on Thursday nights at 6:30pm for a duration of four weeks, starting on November 30th.

New Business

The "Greening of the Church" will be held on Sunday November 26th after the late service. We will select what is good to keep and put up or out for display, and then discard anything that we don't want or need. Big thanks to Lee Storey for bringing everything down from the attic and moving it to the back room in preparation for the greening!

Christian Community Care Clinic - We have previously participated in this event. Selena shared a bit about what they can do and offer, and noted that ECW has given contributions to them before. They provide a variety of medical and other health care services to those in need in the community. Rev. Bruno will contact the organization and find out what options are available for us to support them.

St. Matthew's Coffee Mugs - We have a set of these still in storage, and they were previously given to newcomers with a brochure and info about St. Matthew's and the Episcopal Church. The vestry agreed we should use these for this purpose again to welcome newcomers to our congregation!

Motion to adjourn was made by Ellen Gregan and seconded by Chris Yarberr.