

The Vestry of St. Matthew's met on Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2015, at 6 pm in the fellowship hall. Members present were Rev. Slaymaker, Deb Hansen, Ellen Gregan, Bucky Ellis, Ginny Engel, and Melinda Hood. Amy Sullins and Chris Yarberry were unable to attend. Also in attendance was Fanny Neely, Vestry Secretary. Vestry began with Evening Prayer.

August minutes were unavailable for review.

Motion: B. Ellis, Second: E. Gregan to accept November minutes as submitted by D. Hansen. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: E. Gregan, Second: D. Hansen to accept November financial report as submitted by M. Hood. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: G. Engle, Second: B. Ellis to explore the possibility of paying Curtis Jones to come to St. Matthew's on the 2nd and 4th Sunday's of January - May. Motion passed unanimously. Lorrie will talk with Curtis about his willingness to take on two more Sunday's.

M. Hood reported that each church's assessment to the Diocese would be increasing from 10% to 10.25%.

Old Business:

The Men's Club will host a Shrove Tuesday pancake supper February 9, 2016.

New Business:

The Stewardship Campaign ended with 23 pledges + 3 more promised for a total of \$55,670. Motion: B. Ellis, Second: M. Hood to approve the 2016 budget except for the changes to Lorrie's salary /stipend (if needed) and the Diocesan assessment increase of 10.25%. Motion passed unanimously.

St. Matthew's will be represented at the 2016 Diocesan Convention by Ginny Engle and Fanny Neely. Bucky Ellis and Deb Hansen are alternates. Lorrie's 2016 registration fee will be paid by St. Matthew's alternating each subsequent year with Grace, Pine Bluff.

A miscommunication occurred between CjCohn and St. Matthew's regarding the collection of 50 canned sweet potatoes and 50 boxed stuffing mixes. Lorrie personally purchased the items since the organization was counting on the delivery for food baskets. Motion: E. Gregan, Second: B. Ellis to reimburse Lorrie the cost of the items she purchased for CJCohn (\$175) with Dollars for Outreach funds and the balance of those available funds are to go to Arkansas Food Bank Network if it's at least \$100. Motion passed unanimously.

The nomination committee will contact Selena Ellis, Laura Curry and Markie Bryan about their interest in serving on Vestry. Mary Mitchell, Jim McClelland and Phil Munoz were also mentioned as possible candidates.

Ads will appear in the Saline Courier and the Tri-Lakes to announce our Christmas Eve worship times.

Motion: M. Hood, Second: D. Hansen to accept the \$6000 housing allowance for 2016 for Lorrie. Motion passed unanimously.

Next vestry will meet on January 19, 2016, at 6 pm in the fellowship hall.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Fanny Neely