

Episcopal Church of St. Andrew - New London, NH

Vestry Minutes

21 February 2017

Attending: Bruce Avery, Harvey Best, Joe Daly, Marni Eaton, Mark Kellett, Lisa Kelly, Peter Ruth, Becky Rylander, Kelly Sundberg Seaman, Greg Vogt, Judy Wallace, Ellen Yenawine.

Absent: Jay MacLeod, Barbara Smith

Kelly opened the meeting with the Collect for the 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany, found on page 216 of the BCP.

Becky welcomed our new members and gave all of us a copy of "A Vestry Covenant" which is found in the Vestry Resource Guide.

Marni presented *the minutes* from the January meeting. Harvey made the motion to accept them. Mark seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Peter presented the *ledger to budget report* for January and commented that 2 items not on there were the prepaid pledges (\$54,350) and grant money (\$25,650) which have been received.

Becky also commented that the Outreach budget has been realigned and will be spelled out at another time.

Kelly spoke about the *Vestry retreat* that would take place from the early morning through lunch on a Saturday. April 1 is the date that was chosen with the place still to be determined.

Ellen brought us up to date on the *Junior High Youth Group*, which meets with the Baptist Church Youth Group. This year the focus has been on refugees – a subject chosen by the students. Their learning culminates with refugee simulation activities on March 11. A flier will be in the bulletin to make the whole parish aware of these activities. The students will be looking for sponsors and all money received will then be donated to support refugees and the students will decide where to send the money. On March 5<sup>th</sup>, between the services, the youth group will share an extraordinary film on the plight of refugees. Ellen and Gardner have enjoyed working with Steve Allenby from the First Baptist Church and Jeff McGuire is responsible for getting the film.

Becky spoke about *church communications*. It seems that not everyone is receiving the church email blasts. A notice will be in the bulletin asking people to check their emails and, if they are not receiving any from the church, to let Shelly know their correct email or if they do not have email, let Shelly know that as well.

Richard Haines is involved with the new website and Jay is planning to ask him to be our new Communications Coordinator and confirm his willingness to do so.

Judy asked if there were any large print Prayer Books for the people who attend the 5 o'clock service and need to be able to read the psalm. Kelly will check to see if there are any at Epiphany.

**Upcoming events:**

Pancake supper: Tuesday, 28 February 5:30 – 8:30pm

Ash Wednesday services: 1 March noon Eucharist here at St. Andrew's; evening ecumenical service at the Presbyterian Church this year

Stations of the Cross; 31 March noon at Epiphany

Old St. Andrew's open: 17 June, 5pm (Father's Day weekend) – 3 September

Easter Egg Hunt: after the 10am service and an egg or two will be given to children who attend the 5am service.

**Christian Formation:**

Faith and Issues begins on 4 March 10-11am

Lent course begins 5 March 11:45-12:45pm through 2 April

**Buildings and Grounds:** We meet all the criteria for the Diocesan Advanced Fund Loan, which we could use to pay for the air-conditioning units for the church. The interest rate is 3.25% and it needs to be paid back within 5 years. Harvey has one estimate of \$17,000 and is getting more. There is a new leak in the sacristy as a result of an ice dam on the roof. Peter asked why the water bill was so high and that will need to be investigated.

**Other business:** Kelly presented the names of those who need to be re-licensed as Eucharistic Ministers: Nola Jordan, Karen Shepherd, Madison Snaith, Greg Vogt and Diane Seamans needs to be licensed as a EM. Mark made the motion to approve them. It was seconded by Ellen and passed. Marni will sign the forms and give them to Anne Hall, who will take them to Concord to the Bishop.

Peter asked why people needed to be retrained in Safe Church every 3 years. Kelly replied that the training is constantly being updated and it is an insurance need.

Bruce asked us to check the pew rack for cards that new people sometimes fill out but do not turn in.

Mark asked Kelly to comment on the discussion at Western Convocation. Christine Kellett is the new co-convener and Kelly is our clergy delegate to the Diocesan Council. The discussion was about Sanctuary Churches – What does it mean to be one? Is there a policy? Kelly will follow up with the Bishop. Speak to Kelly or Jay if you are interested in pursuing this topic.

Dates that vestry members will be away:

Jay: Feb 21-28; April 20-29

Peter: Feb22-March14; April19-May 4

Greg: Feb 24-March 6

There being no further business, Kelly closed our meeting with a moment of silence and she reread the collect.

Respectfully submitted,

Marni Eaton, Clerk