

Vestry Meeting Minutes
Trinity Church – Milford
7PM on July 11, 2016

Check-in and Opening Worship (*Elaina Chambers*)

Attendees: Fr. Mac Murray, Dwight Kee, Dianne Belamarich, Ruth Warner, John Ellis, Peach Warren, Sarajane Duncan-Rector, Ralph Stafford, Jim Phillips, Steve Ketcham, Elaina Chambers, Patricia Peterson, Cheryl Martin

Absent: Cheryl Eidenger Taylor, Gayle Ruscitti, Ginny Starkis, Lucille Clinkman

- ✦ Opening Worship – Vestry members and guests shared the best part of their Summer so far. Also observed a moment of silence for the 5 officers killed in Dallas the prior week.

Housekeeping

- ✦ Adoption of the Agenda. – **A motion was made and seconded from the floor to accept the agenda as presented. It passed unanimously.**
- ✦ Acceptance of the Minutes of the June 2016 Meeting – **A motion was made and seconded from the floor to accept the Minutes of the June Vestry meeting as provided via email. It passed unanimously.**

Parishioner Sharing – Comments / Discussion

- ✦ Ralph had an opportunity to discuss the summer style service Mac is trying with some people...there were some positives and some, not negatives but, uncomfortable comments. The comments were that some prayers or statements were left out and they wondered if it was intentional or accidental. All were willing to try it for the summer though.
- ✦ Mary Torian commented that she's been expecting a change to the sacristy and it hasn't happened.
- ✦ James Jones is still looking for the vestry to take action toward increasing the 20-30 age set. It was explained to him at a prior vestry meeting that he needs to do some ground work and that it's not an easy task. That age set isn't easy to attract.
- ✦ James would very much like to have only wafers on Sunday. It was explained to him that more people like the bread than the wafers but that he can always ask for a wafer if that's his preference. He said what he doesn't like is crumbs in the wine. I told him that the altar servers would be told to utilize the spoon for scooping out the crumbs.
- ✦ Patricia was asked by a parishioner about the possibility of an associate rector. Fr. Mac explained that we've increased Mary Johnson's hours to fill the need at this time. The idea of bringing on an associate would be for that person to take on the Christian Ed leadership role. The position would be funded out of our resources. It's a 2 year commitment if we get someone. If we fully pursue it, we will look at new seminary graduates to start in the summer of 2017. And Fr. Mac would postpone his sabbatical a year. We are the largest parish in the diocese without an associate. I

Vestry Handbook and Vestry Resource Guide

- ✦ Discussion of Chapter 4 of each book
- ✦ The Vestry Resource Guide
 - Discussion of Chapter 4 – Vision and Strategic Thinking. We have 2 vestry retreats scheduled. "Renewal Works" might make a lot of sense for us to look at. Do we want to team up with some other churches to participate? The retreat planning committee needs to assess this.
- ✦ The Vestry Handbook
 - Discussion of Chapter 4 – Buildings and Grounds. Fr. Mac is registering us as a Jubilee Ministry Church. Visit Episcopal Jubilee Ministries to learn more about this. If/once that's approved we have grant opportunities open up to us.
 - Cemeteries and Columbariums – we are burying ashes in the memorial garden but not urns.

Ministry Issues / Actions

- ✦ Worship Experience / Worship Helpers: Peach Warren
 - Cathedral in the Night (*Justin Varteresian*) – The idea was presented about 3 years ago that we do something like the cathedral in the night or Church without Walls. There are different ministries in NE. Some parishes hold an outside service open to anyone. It would be an ecumenical type service that other churches would participate in. Right now the planners are thinking of a Saturday morning service with a meal included. Cathedral in the Night is more about fellowship where Church without Walls is more liturgical. Does the vestry think this is a good idea for Justin and the other's involved to continue to pursue...the vestry all agreed it was worth pursuing.
- ✦ Education And Spiritual Development : Ginny Starkis & Elaina Chambers
 - Youth Group (*Justin Varteresian & Beth Moeller*) – Justin and Beth met with the Youth Missioner to the Diocese to discuss our youth groups. We have a very active and engaged junior youth group. The

senior youth group is going through a transition. The most engaged leaders came from strong youth group experiences. The junior youth group meets every other Sunday between services. They tend to leave and not attend service afterwards even though they are encouraged to. The senior youth group meets the alternate Sundays and are supposed to go to church after.

- Some suggestions to sustain the programs are to do youth group as 6th to 12th grade. Have a combined meeting between services and splitting up for different discussions. Introduce a curriculum that the missionary suggested... "Reform Ancestors" is one they have looked at. Beth has a detailed report on the meeting they had if anyone is interested in complete details. They are in desperate need of some leaders to commit to sustaining this program. Justin and Beth are willing to mentor the leaders.
- ✦ Pastoral Care: Patricia Peterson – nothing to report
- ✦ Mission and Outreach: Lucille Clinkman and Cheryl Martin – nothing to report
- ✦ Parish Life: Steve Ketcham and Ralph Stafford – Ralph is going to do another outreach to the leaders
- ✦ Fundraising And Parish Wide Events: Gayle Ruscitti and Ruth Warner
 - Fall / Welcome Back Picnic (September 11) – The thought right now is that this be a vestry hosted event.
- ✦ Congregational Development: Sarajane Duncan-Richter
 - Beth Washburn – Next Adventure – As a candidate for holy orders she has met with the commission on ministry and the standing committee and has been granted candidacy. So as she completes her training she will then be ordained a deacon. As a deacon she reports to the bishop and the bishop places deacons wherever he/she feels they are needed. The bishop has asked that the deacons in training begin to cut their ties with their existing parishes.
 - Nomination of Justin Varteresian for Postulancy. The vestry discussed their desire to support Justin while he left the room. **A motion was made and seconded from the floor to support Justin in the Postulancy and including the \$550 he needs for the psych evaluation. Even though only two thirds vote was required...It passed unanimously.**
- ✦ Management Of Parish Resources: John Ellis and Jim Phillips – nothing to report

Treasurer's Report (*Cheryl Eidinger-Taylor / Karen Carig-O'Neill*)

- ✦ No June Treasurer's Report – Information will be forwarded upon the return of the Treasurer from her daughter's wedding
- ✦ Finance Committee Activities
 - Progress on Insurance Settlement – The roof is done. Dick Kosiba was instrumental in supervising the job.
 - Plans for AC and Windows – The finance committee needs to meet before anything is discussed and decided. Another thing to consider is three ceiling fans in the parish hall. **A motion was made and seconded from the floor to put three ceiling fans in the parish hall and purchase 2 box fans. It passed unanimously.**
 - Pledge Statements have been prepared along with a letter. Which was passed around for signatures.

Wardens' Report (*Dwight Kee and John Ellis*)

- ✦ Planning Committee for the Vestry Retreat – has to meet.

Pastoral Associate's Report (*Mary Johnson*)

- ✦ Milford Area Humanitarian Coalition
 - Summer Lunch Program – has been an amazing success. Some people have been concerned that there's only been a few kids. But the attention they are getting has been fantastic. Numbers should increase as the word gets out.
 - Mary is looking at having a speaker and discussion group session.
 - Mary preached on Sunday and got really good feedback.

Rector's Report (*Fr. Mac*)

- ✦ Everything is going really well. If there is a concern its summer attendance but it was good this past Sunday.
- ✦ Fr. Mac is hoping to recruit a parent to help with Confirmation class.

New Business

- ✦ **A motion was made and seconded from the floor to continue to support Beth in her process of becoming a Deacon in the form of \$500. It passed unanimously.**
- ✦ Mary Johnson is going to the Episcopal Health Conference in Indiana. One topic to be discussed is Opioid abuse. **A motion was made and seconded from the floor that we support Mary and help pay for the program and her airfare and room and board – amount to follow. It passed unanimously.**

Closing Worship (*Elaina Chambers*) – The meeting ended with the Lord’s Prayer

CALENDAR: See Attached Calendar (to be provided at Vestry Meeting)

Upcoming Leadership Events:

- ✦ Upcoming Vestry Persons of the Day
 - 17-Jul..... Proper 11 Lucille Clinkman
 - 24-Jul..... Proper 12 Dwight Kee
 - 31-Jul..... Proper 13 John Ellis
 - 07-Aug..... Proper 14 Dianne Belamarich
 - 14-Aug..... Proper 15 Sarajane Duncan-Richter
 - 21-Aug..... Proper 16 Steve Ketcham
 - 28-Aug..... Proper 17 Jim Phillips (Blessing of the Backpacks)
 - 04-Sep..... Proper 18 Patricia Peterson (Labor Day)
 - 11-Sep..... Proper 19 Ruth Warner (Parish Picnic)

- ✦ Summer Lunch Program (through August 30th)

- ✦ Vestry Meeting – Monday, September 12th – Sarajane Duncan-Richter, Facilitator

- ✦ Vestry Retreat – Sunday, September 25th – The Rev. Pam Mott, Facilitator

- ✦ Diocesan Convention – October 28-29 @ Marriott in Springfield

- ✦ Trinity Christmas Fair – December 3, 2016

- ✦ Vestry Retreat – Friday / Saturday, February 17th and 18th – Location TBD

Annual Events

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">✦ Monthly<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ First Friday – ROMEOs○ Last Wednesday, Thursday and Friday – Community Dinner✦ Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and Burning of the Ashes✦ Ash Wednesday Service✦ Adult Inquirer’s Class (during Lent)✦ Rotating Stations of the Cross in Lent✦ St. Patrick’s Day Dinner✦ Community Blessing of the Palms (Palm Sunday)✦ Maundy Thursday Service✦ Good Friday – 3 Hour Service✦ Easter Egg Hunt – Holy Saturday✦ UTO Breakfast✦ Newcomer’s Potluck Supper✦ Parish Clean Up Days (Spring and Fall)✦ Pentecost – Mylar Balloons ??? | <ul style="list-style-type: none">✦ Welcome to Summer BBQ✦ Blessing of the Backpacks✦ Welcome Back BBQ✦ Ministry Fair✦ Blessing of the Animals✦ AGS Walk✦ Fall Senior Social (Covenant Committee)✦ Taste of Trinity✦ Italian / Harvest Supper✦ Covenant Evensong and Potluck (Thanksgiving)✦ Thanksgiving Baskets✦ Thanksgiving Meal Delivery✦ Jesse Tree✦ Christmas Fair✦ Caroling to Homebound✦ Ecumenical Christmas Concert✦ Blue Christmas Service✦ Annual Meeting |
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