Approved Minutes

St. Andrew’s Vestry Meeting

August 27, 2024

Rector and Vestry present: Tanya Albert, Laura Blanchard, Laurie Grey, Kirk Holbrook, Kelley Kash, Terry Marsh, Ruth Piper, Alex Pugh, Suzannah Rohman, Sara Sandberg, Jim Swan.

Vestry member excused: Martha Elliott

Treasurer present: Mark Freese

Property Committee members present: Margaret Coit, Martha Dodge, Bob Lundeen

Suzannah opened the meeting at 5:00.

Opening Prayer/Reflection - Laurie read a poem from the book Benedictus by John O’Donahue. Ruth will give the opening prayer/reflection at our next meeting.

We moved, seconded and voted to approve the July 23, 2024 minutes. The motion was passed by all.

Treasurer’s Report - Mark Freese reviewed a request to transfer $4,000.00 to the bank account of the Lincoln County Ecumenical Committee for Haiti (L.C.E.C.) From the Haiti Fund. The motion to approve the transfer of $4,000.00 now and to transfer the remaing balance after L.C.E.C. obtains non for profit staus was moved, seconded and voted. The motion was passed by all. We thanked Mark for his great work as our treasurer.

Mark Freese will serve as our Treasuer until the next annual meeting. Ed Ross will serve as our Treasurer beginning after the upcoming annual meeting for two years. During this time an assistant treasurer will be trained to assume the treasurer position.

Suzannah has been awarded The Clergy Renewal for Sabbatical grant from the Lily Foundation. Suzannah’s sabbatical will be from June 1st - September 30th, 2025.

Property Committee – Jim briefly reviewed the ongoing memorial garden work. Jim invited Bob Lundeen, Margaret Coit, and Martha Dodge to present their research and suggestions for carpeting that will replace the current (since 1984) carpets. Bob showed us samples of the carpets. We moved seconded and voted to approve the full payment including a contigent of $5,000.00 for the carpet replacement project. The motion was passed by all. Thank you Jim and all the Property Committee. Great job!

Earthkeepers - Sara reviewed the upcoming Season of Creation plans. Season of Creation begins with a potluck lunch in the undercroft after the 10 a.m. service. Following lunch, a discussion will be held on the book that the group has read, “Not the End of the World”. Also as part of the season will be our annual Blessing of the Animals following the 10 a.m service on October 6.

Vestry Retreat - Ann and Kelley Kash have invited us to have the retreat at their home. The date for the retreat is Saturday, October 5 from 10:00 until 2:00.

Foyer Groups - Sara said that sign ups will begin in September. Belinda Nields and Ann Creamer are helping to plan the Foyer Groups.

Parish Needs Discernment Committee - Kelley reported that the interview process is complete.  We had 14 focus group sessions with 80 participants and over 250 comments.  In addition, we had six persons who submitted write-in comments.  The PNDC met in August to go over the information and gleaned major themes and subitems.  They will present their findings to the vestry in September, which will then be the focus for its October retreat.

Stewardship - Kelley encouraged one or two members of the vestry to join John Ward in this years stewardship campaign. Laura Blanchard has already offered her assistance to John. It is important that we plan for succession and continuity, and we need volunteers for this important mission. Therefore, Kelley may reach out to members individually in the next couple of weeks.

Outreach - Steve Ward, representing our commitment to continuing community outreach, has asked that the ECHP (Euchemenical Group for Homeless Prevention) be given $3000. We currently have $5400 in dividends from investments which will be used for such requests. We moved, seconded and voted to donate $3,000 to the ECHP. The motion was passed by all.

Proposal for Outreach - Suzannah Rohman reviewed proposals for outreach distributions. These will be discussed with the congregation in later October.

Proposal for Pastoral Care - Suzannah shared that the Wednesday service will begin at 11:30 a.m. followed by a light lunch. There will be transportation made available for those who are no longer driving.

Audit Commitee - Kelley reported that the annual audit will be conducted before the annual meeting early next year.  Like Stewardship, we have relied on the same people for several years now, and we can use new faces to help and provide new perspective. The audit committee has suggested that one vestry member be on the audit committee.

Expressions of Gratitude - Kelley expressed gratitude for the tremendous work by unseen volunteers - including Fred Kreuter, Sally Pearse, and others – to keep our gardens weeded and beautiful. Expressions of gratitude were offered to those who serve in silence.

Upcoming Meeting - Tuesday September 24, 2024 at 5:00 PM

Adjournment- 7:10 PM

Respectfullly Submitted by Terry with help from Kelley and Ruth.