

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Sister Bay
Vestry Meeting, Aug. 15, 2021
MINUTES

The meeting convened at 11:00 a.m. in the Canterbury Room.

Attendees were Frank Maxwell, Betsy Rogers, George Hughes, Paul Neuman, Pete Thelen, Susan Hoffert, Trudy Jischke, Lori Holton, Norma Bramsen, Carolyn Finch, Karen Malzahn

Guest: Ross Holton

Opening prayer

Pete offered the opening prayer.

Procedural

The August agenda was approved.

George made a correction to the July minutes (correcting the word consultation to maintenance). Minutes with correction approved.

Interim Rector's report

Submitted electronically. Frank reiterated his concern that Covid restrictions will return and noted congregants are asked to wear masks at any Church gathering, including service.

Senior Warden's report

Betsy reported that with Sue Raye having knee surgery, alternate Diana Wallace will go on St. Luke's behalf to the convention.

Betsy, Trudy and Susan will have a follow-up meeting with the canon missionary in northwestern lower Michigan as a result of attending a Province V ministry in resorts network.

Although the motion was made and approved last month to make an annual education donation of \$1,000 in Barb's name as a tribute, Betsy motioned to define that donation as \$1,000 to the diocese camp scholarship fund. Lori asked if individual parishioners may add to the fund and was informed they can designate a donation to it. A letter to Barb will be drafted by the clerk and signed by the vestry. An announcement will also be made in the Enews and annual report. Motion carried.

She then introduced Ross as the search committee chair. He asked the vestry to help determine a date for the first parish workshop which will help determine the parish's strengths and weaknesses. The vestry agreed it should be held before congregants who spend the summer in Door County return to their winter homes. The session will be held on Sunday, Aug. 29, for one hour after the 10 a.m. service. An email and

Enews announcement will go out this week. Betsy and Frank will go through the membership roster to determine who will get the email.

Junior Warden's report

George reported the windows have been installed and came in at the budgeted amount.

Treasurer's report

Submitted electronically. Pledge income continues to be steady but income from visitors and the plate continues to be down substantially from projected levels and from pre-pandemic levels. Next year, we will need increased income from pledgers in order to carry our existing operations even if we kept the same salary/benefits costs for a rector as we had with Mother Barb. The additional costs of a new rector requiring new benefits will require an even larger increase in pledges.

Karen noted most of the tithe from the bequest has been dispersed. Only the money eared for Masvingo is still in the account. Pete asked if the tithe money could be split from the normal outreach money so it is clearer what is left for the food pantry. Karen and Carolyn will do that.

Norma noted the treasurer's computer is more than five years old and not capable of handling updated programs. The processor was corrupted in the past and now struggles to handle the required responsibilities. A new computer is needed. Karen indicated the treasurers will look for a model of good value that costs less than \$1,000.

The Community Foundation has contacted Frank and indicated there is a contribution for St. Luke's. Before they can give it to us, however, they need a Letter of Determination. The treasurers will provide that.

He also asked them to consider implementing direct deposit for the staff. Karen said they will check to see if it's feasible through Nicolet Bank.

Karen reported the financial review has been submitted and no major issues were identified. The vestry needs to respond so the treasurers will send an email for an electronic vote as the deadline for completion is September.

Stewardship

Frank is working on a more complete stewardship report so parishioners can see more detail on where their contributions are used.

Outreach

Pete reported the committee is going to determine if more money will be needed for the food pantry before the end of the year. If so, he has some fundraising ideas.

Old business

None.

New business

Carolyn volunteered to lead opening prayer for the Sept. 19 meeting.

The question was asked if we require outside groups using the Canterbury Room to mask. We do.

The meeting adjourned with prayer at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Hoffert
Vestry Clerk