

Trinity Parish Wethersfield

Vestry Minutes

August 18, 2022

Attendees: Garth Myers, Rebecca Scruton, Tom Furrer, Rob Heath, Melanie Hepburn, Sarah Butters, Don Ghostlaw, Carol Jones, Charles Melchreit, Peter Dewberry.

Absent: Warren Blessing, Susanna Brown.

Minutes

Meeting started 6:35pm

1. Opening prayer, led by Garth Myers.
2. Dwelling in the Word. Rebecca Scruton. Matthew 6:7-13. 1). Members were asked what grabbed their attention as you read it now, how do your prayers compare, what does this prayer say about God or us, what wisdom might this provide for us as leaders of Trinity? Members shared their experiences and challenges with their prayer life.
3. Agenda – Garth Myers. Noting this is an informational meeting, is intended to be brief.
4. Monthly reports.
  - a. Financial Report. Rob Heath. We are still under budget for the year, as expected, but has improved slightly as per usual practice. Explanation of break out of the Outreach and Programming budget, to provide more clarification. Charles Melchreit provided some additional background for that change in how the monthly report is displayed. Investments have improved this last month, as market has improved. Motion to approve by Carol Jones, second by Rob Heath.
  - b. July minutes. Garth Myers. Motion to accept Carol Jones, second by Don Ghostlaw.
5. Don Ghostlaw moved that Father Tom announced his need to leave the parish and return to Ohio and the Vestry has considered his announcement and accepted his resignation. Motion seconded by Garth Myers. Vestry members accepted motion reluctantly, unanimously.
6. Additional agenda item. Rebecca Scruton. The wardens have received a packet of information from the diocese regarding the path of transition that we are on with regards to our leadership, that will be forwarded to members. Rebecca Scruton has also received an email from the Church of the Good Shephard regarding Swords into Plowshares. Information will be distributed to members.
7. Old Business.
  - a. Law suit. Rebecca Scruton. The expectation is that we will go to mediation to find resolution. The outcome is expected to result in a settlement figure, that will be shared between the diocese and the parish in some suitable proportion.
  - b. By Laws. Garth Myers. Members were asked to make recommendations regarding the current by laws and potential changes. Please review and forward suggestions to the wardens.
  - c. Property Committee. Garth Myers. Thanks to Rob Heath for this work. Several requests are out for quotes. Vestry will be updated.

- d. Committee Updates. Garth Myers and Rebecca Scruton. The worship team is in pretty good shape with supply priests/readers/etc. The beautification team did some work on the grounds and many thanks to Rob Heath for all of his work on the landscaping. Charles Melchreit has offered to manage the weekly trash containers. We are hoping that more members will be willing to step up to give a short homily/devotional message. Lay visitors team – Rebecca Scruton and Lesley Jones will be setting up a schedule.
- e. New Business.
  - i. Garth Myers. More description of the transition plans, including administrative work. People who will be leading worship will be Shaw Mudge, Darryl Burke, Carol Jones, Bruce Duncan, Peter Dewberry, Garth Myers, Sarah Butters, Gordon Scruton. The administrator has submitted her resignation as of October 6<sup>th</sup>. A position announcement has been posted on the website; Joan Joseph and Donna Brown will be assisting the wardens with the position description. Rebecca Scruton will be sending a schedule around to committee members.
  - ii. Stewardship. Garth Myers. Last year's stewardship campaign was very successful. We were not successful in finding an outside leader for this year's campaign. Instead, Connie Harasymiw and Donna Brown have offered to step up and fill in to organize a modified version of that stewardship campaign. Stewardship homilies will be given October 9 and 16, Stewardship Sunday will be October 23<sup>rd</sup>, with a lunch following the service.
- f. Fr. Tom. Reminisced about his service to our parish. He read to us from Paul's letter to the Phillipians. God is still at work and has a plan that is still revealing itself to us. Members thanked Fr. Tom for his time with us.
- g. Closing prayer. Rebecca Scruton.

Meeting adjourned 7:48pm

Minutes respectfully submitted

Melanie Hepburn

8/18/2022