

Minutes of Vestry Meeting November 15, 2022

Present: Stewart Tabb, Mitch Burton, Rick Jones, Susan Meredith, Katherine Lawrence, Kris Huddle, Cindy Jones, Doug Thompson, Carol Evans

Devotion: Illustrated how beauty has an aspect of selectivity contained in it. One perfect specimen of a shell has more meaning than many similar shells together.

Check-in :Members were asked what activities they enjoyed at Ascension and how they would invite others to participate. Some of the recent challenges and celebrations were also shared.

October 18 Minutes: It was moved and seconded to approve the October 18 minutes. Motion passed.

Finance: The church finances are doing well and running a deficit as expected. Investment balance is down from \$660,000 to \$605,000, and the deficit is being funded by the investment balance.

The church audit is still in progress and should be completed by the end of November. The training of people to assist in the audit takes about a month, and this year the audit will be completed without assistance. Possibly helpers can be trained in the spring to assist with the audit at the end of next year.

Pledge cards are due and beginning to come in slowly. Pledge cards MUST be signed in order to properly facilitate the accounting process.

Reports: Reports are attached to the meeting agenda. Lots of things are happening!

Changing of Trustees:The Vestry reconsidered its need to change trustees.based on a desire to promote healing. decision to change Trustees. A motion was made and seconded to rescind the Vestry's earlier decision. Motion was passed.

Re-imagining Space: The Day School needs some additional space. The concern is the Day , School needs to remain competitive, and renovations will help the Day School to maintain its great reputation in the community. Preliminary drawings have been made, and a feasibility study is planned. Permission to begin a capital campaign will have to be approved by the church. Mark is committed to seeing the improvements through and has been training an assistant to take over when he retires. We should look to see if this investment will be possible. Grant writing as a source of funding was also mentioned. The Vestry will get more information as the feasibility study progresses.

A motion was made and seconded to support Mark in getting cost estimates for the feasibility study and capital campaign. Motion was passed.

Re-imagining Church Zoom Meeting: The time for the Zoom meeting will change beginning Wednesday, November 30th to 12:00 PM. The change was made to get more attendance and participation at the meetings.

Diocesan Council Delegates: Kris Huddle and Katherine Lawrence will serve as delegates, with Rick Jones and Mitch Burton serving as alternates.

Vestry Meeting Change: It was moved and seconded to change the date of the December Vestry meeting to December 13th at 7:00 PM. Motion was passed.

Advent Reflection Wednesdays: The 5:30 PM service will be similar to the reflective tone of the services held last year. Last year's facilitators will be asked to serve again.

Rector's Housing Allowance: A motion was made and seconded to continue the housing allowance. Motion was passed.

Upcoming Sabbatical: The rector's sabbatical will be August-October 2023. The Rev. Stan Sawyer will be serving, and Anne Zobel will also be here. The congregation will also need to plan for some of Stewart's current activities.

Diocesan Pledge: Letter requesting 10% of last year's pledged amount has been received. A motion was made and seconded to pledge \$10,000 to the Diocese. This amount is the same as last year. Motion was passed.

Cindy Jones will provide the devotions for the next Vestry meeting December 13, 2022 at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Carol Evans, Register