

Minutes of Vestry Meeting December 13, 2022

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

Absent; Mitch Burton, Rick Jones

Devotions: The angel announces the birth of Christ to the shepherds. What was their reaction? What is our reaction to the news? God's message: don't be afraid, I bring joy. Members shared their experiences of attending different live Nativity presentations.

Check-in: A wish for continued health for both the church and its members. We are looking forward to starting new projects.

Change to November Minutes: A request was made to strike the decision to change trustees. The Vestry reconsidered its need to change trustees based on a desire to promote healing. A motion was made and seconded, and the motion was passed.

November Treasurer Reports: Reports are attached. The numbers are not as bad as anticipated.

Audit Report: Report is attached. There are some "quirks and complexities" in the auditing procedure that necessitate training for those assisting with the audit. Doug will be doing some training in March to address this. The Church's bills are being scrutinized and questioned, and we are reminded that it is important to tie spending to documents and receipts.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the audit as presented. The motion was passed.

Pledge Numbers: The Vestry reviewed the progress of the stewardship drive. There are quite a few outstanding pledges and a plan was made to contact members in January if needed.

Fire Alarm Panel: The church needs a new fire alarm panel. An estimate for \$5000 was received, and also the committee looked into buying a panel and installing it by a member of the church. The work would still have to be inspected, and the cost to DIY would have to include an inspection. The company BFP will do the installation, testing, and inspection for \$4595, which was agreed upon. A question was raised about carbon monoxide detectors, which the church currently has in addition to the alarm panel.

Pastoral Care: No report.

Fellowship: Planning a pop-up party in the church parking lot after the 9 PM Christmas Eve service. Eggnog and cookies will be served.

Formation: No report. The Sunday afternoon youth group, which includes participants from other churches, is at about 9-11 members. The 3rd to 6th grade class is sparse, but the small children's class has 2-3 regulars attending. Adult formation has been well attended consistently.

Staff Gifts: The employer, the church, also pays the taxes on whatever the gift amount is, so that the total amount will cover both the gift and the taxes on the gift. Last year the gift amount was \$100. The Vestry discussed raising the amount to reflect current inflation numbers, and \$150 was proposed as the gift amount. A motion to increase the staff gift to \$150 was made and seconded. The motion was passed.

Football Game Fellowship: Last year the church held a football game watching party, and the Vestry would like to organize another, possibly a playoff game.

Upcoming Christmas Services: A family service for Christmas Eve will be held at 4 PM, and the traditional Christmas Eve service will be held at 9 PM. There will only be one Sunday service on Christmas Day at 10 AM; no formation on Christmas Day.

The January Vestry meeting will be held on January 17, 2023. Kris Huddle will serve as register in Carol's absence. Doug Thompson will provide devotions.

"And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly hosts" How did the shepherds feel? How would we react?

Life is full of "and suddenly" moments. God's peace will always be there.