

St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Sister Bay
Vestry Meeting, Nov. 21, 2021
MINUTES

The meeting convened at 11:10 a.m. in the Canterbury Room.

Attendees were Frank Maxwell, Betsy Rogers, George Hughes, Pete Thelen, Susan Hoffert, Trudy Jischke, Carol Heil, Norma Bramsen, Carolyn Finch, Karen Malzahn
Lori Holt attended via Zoom.

Guest: Meredyth Albright via Zoom.

Opening prayer

Carol offered the opening prayer.

Procedural

The November agenda was approved.
October minutes were approved.

Transition Ministry Officer

Meredyth explained this was a chance for her to touch base with the Vestry regarding our search for a new rector. She has spoken with Ross Holton for an update from the Search Committee and learned they expect the OTM and Parish Profile to be finished by the end of January. Advertising will then begin in March or April. Some media, such as certain databases are free but we will also want to advertise in the Living Church magazine which goes to all churches and clergy in the Episcopalian Church four times a year. \$1,000 will cover advertising costs. She cautioned that the Search Committee will need other funds to cover hosting candidates and other expenses.

She also explained the procedure once applicants apply. Only the Search Committee will know the names to protect confidentiality. When individuals are chosen for interviews, their names will be shared with the Vestry. Once candidates begin to apply Frank will not be involved in the process. She also indicated that the Vestry will need to direct the committee as to whether we will look for a full- or part-time rector. The Bishop has indicated his wish for us to hire a full-time rector.

Meredyth promised to touch base with the Vestry again in January.

Interim Rector's report

Frank sent by email. He mentioned that 100 stewardship packets have been sent and a follow up note will be sent once David Skidmore's video is finished. Betsy asked for the names of those who have pledged so she can write thank you notes.

Senior Warden's report

Betsy asked for input on when to hold the December Vestry meeting as the normal timing would result in a meeting during Christmas week. Moving it a week earlier will make it difficult for the treasurers to have information ready. Agreement was reached to hold the meeting on Monday, Dec. 13 at 2 p.m.

Junior Warden's report

George reported he has received two bids for sealing the parking lot. One from DC Asphalt offers a one-year warranty but will only cover the sealing itself, not prep work. The bid was \$1,430. The second from Seal-Tec includes fixing cracks and prep work, and two coats for \$3,245. Motion was made and passed to accept the Seal-Tec bid.

George reported that we owe Doug Schwarz a thank you for cleaning up all the apples in the driveway. He will also fill in for George when he is busy on some personal issues.

Treasurer's report

Our income continues to steady. After several months of investment losses across both of our accounts, Fidelity made nearly \$15,000 this month. The most noteworthy expenditure was the \$15,045 wire transfer to Masvingo from the Wright Tithe. The final figure for that tithe, after factoring in the check we received last month from the estate, is \$83,697. This means the Outreach Committee still has \$1,607 to spend from it, as well as about \$7,000 from the regular budget for outreach (we do not yet have any bills covering October or November food pantry expenses).

The balance sheet shows we moved the last \$20,808.66 of the original Wright check from the savings account into the checking account.

George raised the issue of whether we could afford to buy a home as an extra enticement to a new rector. Carolyn pointed out that houses will need maintenance costs. Susan suggested purchasing a condo. Carolyn and Frank will investigate that potential.

Lori mentioned discussions she has had with parishioners who disagree with hiring a full-time rector and have considered withholding their pledges until they understand the need for it. Frank said we need to explain the difference in duties between full- and part-time in detail so people understand the need. Betsy will draft an article for the eNewsletter.

Outreach

Pete reported the committee voted unanimously to give \$1,700 back to the Vestry to help, in a small way, to facilitate the hiring of a new rector. He proposed that 1/2 of the funds currently in the Diocesan Common Trust Fund be withdrawn and redeposited with the Door County Community Foundation Fund. A more detailed written reasoning was circulated to all Vestry members. Carolyn said the Vestry should see performance

numbers for the Common Trust and Fidelity over the next month and the treasurers will bring those results to the December meeting. Discussion on Pete's motion will continue then.

Old business

Frank asked if direct deposit has been set up for the parish employees. Karen said yes and that Paul is finalizing.

New business

Lori volunteered to lead opening prayer for the December meeting.

The meeting adjourned with prayer at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Hoffert
Vestry Clerk