

VESTRY MEETING MINUTES

October 24, 2011

Present: All members were present plus two guests: Joyce Ringlet and Don Foudriat.

Meeting was opened with a prayer for Jeff Pearson and his family.

Joyce Ringlet thanked us for the use of our Parish Hall and its facilities. She passed out a sheet with several issues for the Vestry to consider. Including a new sign for outside the church with their information on it. This sign was accepted by the Vestry. She also mentioned that there is a need for new chairs and showed us the styles and the prices. Because they cannot afford to buy too many, they would like to have St. James to join with them to buy these chairs. The guild will be contacted about this project.

Don Foudriat joined us to discuss the reasons for his leaving the church because of the major change in the number of services and also he liked to spend time with his family on Sunday. Other people are not coming to Sunday service because of health problems. 5 o'clock service has existed for 35 years.

We need to balance the number of services with the loss in revenue to the church.

The decision was made in order to decrease the time for Rev. Tobias' needed to prepare for services as well as cutting costs for heating and electricity.

We are starting to see more families with young children who are attending Sunday School.

Don suggested that we should read "Transforming Stewardship."

When asked what we should do, Don replied "We should revisit the number of services."

1). Secretary's Minutes: Two corrections were made. Motion was made and seconded to accept these corrected minutes. Motion passed.

2). Treasurer's Report was made by G. Gallant. The financial report looks fairly good for the rest of this year, despite the changes in pledges. Motion was made to accept this report. Motion passed.

3). Stewardship Committee Report was made by R. Salome. He presented two versions of the letter that will go to all parishioners. Following a lively discussion, the Vestry chose one form and with two minor changes. This letter with a pledge card will be mailed to parishioners.

4). Grounds and Maintenance Report was made by G. Carpenter.

- A). An electrician was in and he fixed the kitchen lights.
- B). We have a new snow plowing contract for the coming year. It does include sanding.
- C). The mats in the Nursery Nook were taken out to be cleaned as were the toys. J. Holt stated that the toys in the Nook were “Purelled” each time the Nook was used. She and G. Carpenter will discuss how to appropriately clean the area.

5). NEW BUSINESS:

- A). Future plans – list of priorities for St James was given to the Vestry Members. Allen Gable will tabulate the results.
- B). Pastoral visits: Patty Carter is doing well as is Janet Mitchell. A list needs to be developed for persons who have need to get to church, or to go shopping, or go to HATT.
- C). Bishop Search Committee: Gloria G. reported that the committee is getting its materials together. Rev. Tobias reported that there were 25 responses to the survey for a new bishop from St. James.
- D). G. Wells-Kay felt that the Vestry is handling things at its meeting, but not doing things between meetings. She suggested that we use Action Orientated minutes instead of the way we do minutes now. (Topic – what – when – why – whom). Motion to change to Action Orientated Records for two months, August and September, was made. The motion was carried.
- E). J. Holt stated that we do have committees in place. Rev. Tobias added that with the priorities list then we can set up committees for accomplishing these goals. G. Wells-Kay stated that once we have the priorities we should have a workshop/retreat of about 3 hours to set up these committees.
- F). July 24th is St James Day. Does everyone know the symbol of the oyster shell? Next year will be the 150th year Celebration for St James Church. B. Salome suggested that the Annual Picnic be on July 24th.
- G). Tim Rich will be visiting on August 18th. He will preach on that Sunday and would like to have an informal meeting with the Vestry. He will also tour the Rectory, and possibly go to the Salome’s after.
- H). Jeff Pearson, Jim Presher and Robert Salome will be Eucharist Ministers and help at the 9am service.

6). Date of the next meeting: Following discussion of several suggestions, motion was made to hold the Vestry meeting on the third Saturday of the month at 3pm. Motion was carried.

7). Meeting was adjourned with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Florence Rivers, Clerk.