

St. Peter's Episcopal Church/ Vestry Minutes, March 5, 2019

ATTENDING: Wyndie Eberle, Debbie Giordan, Kim Ribbens, Paul Soderberg, Lyndall Stanley, Randy Stolt, Judy Sweeterman, Jim Toedtman. Rev. Hnt Priest, Rev. Kelly Steele.

EXCUSED: Bob Gilbert, Ned Smith

OPENING PRAYERS: Vestry members shared individual concerns and joined in the Lord's Prayer

AGENDA AND MINUTES: The consent agenda and minutes from January and February meetings were approved. Appointments of Emilie Miller as clerk, Doug McManamy as chancellor and Bob Gilbert as treasurer were approved. Steve Langston was thanked for his service as treasurer.

FINANCIAL REPORT: A resolution was approved adopting the Finance Committee's recommendation to have the church finances fully audited once every four years and begin in 2019 a three-year "CPA review" cycle. A change in church leadership, for example, the departure of a rector, would trigger a "full" audit. Steve Langston was assured by South Street bank officers that this cycle would not jeopardize St. Peter's ability to borrow funds. The annual savings would be \$3,000 during "review" years.

Three budget adjustments were unanimously approved: include required dental insurance for Parish Administrator in budget; remove from pension calculation reimbursement to rector for 50% of club dues and reimbursement to Parish Administrator of medical insurance costs.; raising the cost of a maintenance contract for HVAC system in sanctuary to \$2,775, rather than the \$2,500 budgeted (increase \$275)

The treasurer's report for January was presented, though not discussed. It showed a sharp drop in pledge income from 2018, no payments to the Diocese and a \$562.76 actual spending-to-budget surplus.

JUNIOR WARDEN: Debbie Giordan, smiling, was elected Junior Warden.

SENIOR WARDEN: John Sobke distributed "Vestry Handbooks" to all members. They include a letter from Hunt and John affirming the Vestry's leadership roles at St. Peter's; a Vestry Covenant; which was signed by all members present; the church by-laws; a calendar; and delineation of members' responsibilities for monitoring church activities. Members thanked the senior warden for this effort to add structure to our deliberations.

RECTOR'S REPORT: Hunt presented the annual Parochial Report, which affirmed the drop in membership, weekly attendance and Sunday school attendance. He explained that membership roles had been purged to eliminate long-inactive members.

Hunt suggested a series of smaller Vestry lunches. He also prompted a discussion of visitors and how we welcome them. Judy Sweeterman is preparing a set of suggestions for future discussion.

CHURCH ADMINISTRATION: Hunt proposed that Chuck Koepke be confirmed as chair of the Endowment Committee. The resolution was approved.

CHURCH PROPERTY: Paul Soderberg reported that McDevitt Air would be offering a proposal on integration the dehumidifiers with the Trane unit to enable the Trane unit to help with de-

humidification in the summer months. Since the installation of the new dehumidifiers, the relative humidity has been maintained at or below the desirable 50% range. Post dehumidifier installation tests for mold and air particles in the Sanctuary will be necessary and we are receiving quotes from Whitaker Lab and ServPro.

He reported that sanctuary windows had not been painted in 10 years and may need repainting and re-caulking. Any treatment would include a layer of mildew-resistant paint. The committee is also assessing the need to power wash and repaint the two archways to the sanctuary building and possible dry rot at the base of the steeple's west side. He also raised the question of indemnifying those who sign contracts for the church. He is to discuss it with the church chancellor Doug McManamy.

MISSION/MINISTRY ACTIVITIES REPORTS: Kim Ribbens thanked those involved in the Parish Weekend festivities February 22-24. There were many highlights, including the weekend visit of Rev. Jeff Jackson and the enthusiastic participation of parishioners in a Qi Gong session. She expressed the hope that a future Parish Weekend could be held at Honey Creek.

Randy Stolt previewed the Strategic planning process due to formally begin Sunday, March 10. It will involve a full parish breakfast and discussion led by Rev. Bill Cruse of the Kaleidoscope Institute. Vestry members were reminded of their important role in the Holy Currencies process and in developing and implementing future St. Peter's initiatives. Additional congregation-wide sessions are set for April 7 and October 6.

Not discussed were St. Peter's two major missions – The Market and the Dominican Republic eye mission. The Market had record participation, record attendance and record revenue, all for the benefit of HUGS and Family Promise of Greater Savannah. For the first time in its 21 years, The Market also paid St. Peter's a room use fee of \$5,500. In San Pedro de Macoris for the sixth year, the St. Peter's Eye Team examined the eyes of 910 residents and distributed 1,500 pairs of prescription glasses, reading glasses and sun glasses. For the first time, the project included cataract surgery performed by Dr. Bill Degenhart, Dr. Judy Piros and their team from the Georgia Eye Institute. A total of 98 persons regained vision when they had cataracts removed.

FINAL PRAYER: Hunt led a blessing for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, and members adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Next meeting: March 19.