

**St. David's Episcopal Church**  
**Vestry Meeting – March 28, 2017**

**Attendees:** Vestry–Colleen Bast, Orlon Daniels, Hal Williams, Jennifer Rust, Patty Conard, Julio Alvarez, Lia Bertelson, Lee Hunter, Ama Couch, Robert Ward

Not present- Fred Speyrer, Michael Sutton

Non-Vestry –the Rev'd Michelle Ortiz, Karen Wright, Rachel Berhannan, Gary Dunsmore, Jan Georges, Thomas Nolf, Peggy Fallon

Not Present, Non-Vestry the Rev'd Ken Swanson, Rev'd Anne Elizabeth Swiedler

**Check Ins:** Vestry members briefly shared, salient life events.

**Opening Prayer:** Rev'd Michelle Ortiz

**Acceptance of Minutes:** Motion to accept the minutes from the February 28, 2017 Vestry meeting, was made by Robert Ward seconded by Patty Conard. Motion passed unanimously.

**Spiritual Meditation:** Jennifer Rust

**St David's Preschool Report:**

Peggy Fallon, St. David's Preschool Director, provided an update of the status of the St. David's Preschool to the Vestry.

- ❖ The Preschool was started in 1970 and was profitable until 2008. During the period from 2008 to 2015 the preschool functioned with a negative budget. It is wonderful that the school year 2016 to 2017 finds the Preschool again functioning with a positive budget.
- ❖ That along with a gift from the Rev'd Ken Swanson's discretionary account allowed the preschool, for the first time, to be able to join the NAES, the National Association of Episcopal Schools. This membership allowed Peggy to attend the National Conference in New Orleans this past fall. She found that experience filled with beneficial information, which she brought back to St. David's to enhance the school program. Peggy has included the membership fee for the NAES into her budget for the coming year. The Conference for 2018, will be held in Atlanta and Peggy hopes to be able to have several members of the Preschool staff attend the conference.
- ❖ The Preschool now has a very capable board that has been influential in assisting Peggy in making some positive changes in the Preschool. After filing a Grant Application in 2016, funds were received to install doors to create boundaries between the Preschool and the Church common areas. Installing the doors has

proven to be more expensive than originally expected. The Preschool has applied for an additional Grant for 2017. That project remains under development.

Motion presented by LiaBertelson to accept the Preschool Budget. Motion seconded by PattyConard and passed unanimously.

**Sr Warden:**

- **What if:** Year Round Stewardship. During the Diocese of Atlanta Convention a Year Round Stewardship Program was presented. The program starts with a statement of 'Who We Are.' Then presenting six objectives, which offer building blocks to provide a twelve-month focus within the stewardship program. The stewardship program is framed with a desire to change lives within the parish, changing those lives as guided by grace and not guilt. Each monthly program incorporates Spiritual Growth, Ministry Spotlight, Financial Health, Outside Ourselves and Gods Creation. The Stewardship Committee would be a leadership committee that is as committed to stewardship service as a Rector Nominating Committee member or a Vestry member. The Stewardship Committee will be asked to develop a three to five year plan for the parish. The Year Round Stewardship Program recommends the Stewardship Committee be given a budget equal to 3% of the annual church budget. Year round Calendar events will have a specific focus to highlight various areas of stewardship. Colleen had a short power point presentation of the program, however, due to some technical challenges she was unable to show the power point slides. Colleen will email the presentation to each Vestry member and asked that all be ready to continue discussion at the next Vestry meeting.

Concerns and comments from the discussion and explanation included

- ❖ A sense that this program may feel overwhelming
  - ❖ Education on many issues would be provided as part of this program
  - ❖ This would provide a future plan for stewardship avoiding having to develop a plan each year
  - ❖ Includes the youth
  - ❖ Writing thank you notes to ministry leaders
  - ❖ Highlighting a ministry each week
  - ❖ Indicate the Parish financial condition each week in the bulletin
  - ❖ Great Program, it will turn our church upside down
  - ❖ To do this program you need to do the complete format
  - ❖ Stewardship = Joy of giving
  - ❖ This program will grow our church
  - ❖ This program will give a strong statement of the direction of this church
- Pilgrimage is going well. Colleen encouraged everyone to visit the pilgrimage blog.

- **Common Purpose:** A second session is planned for May 2, 2017. Several members of the Common Purpose group reached out to put their faith in action in light of the immigration issue and the environment. This group is using the '5 Marks of Mission' education program, which emphasizes advocacy, conversation and education.
- **Communication Audit:** The task force has been reaching out to the target list of churches developed a few months ago. This is not to judge the current communication but is just to do a discovery process of what is available and how other churches are using the tools. The task force plans to be ready to present their conclusions at the April meeting.
- **St David's Episcopal 2016 Parochial Report:** Motion to approve the 2016 Parochial report as submitted presented by Hal Williams. Motion seconded by Patty Conard. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Jr Warden:**

- The L.E.D. lights have been installed in the gallery but still need a bit of tweaking. The estimate came in lower than expected, therefore with the extra funds we were able to replace the cross lights. One of the lights replaced is on the cross over the Choir Room and two lights are in front on the side. The new L.E.D.'s are replacing the three 350 watt bulbs that are in use now.
- There is a scout who would like to do an Eagle project at the church. He will be repairing and replacing the stone walkway going to the Memorial Garden that is in desperate need of some tender care. The only drawback to this is he wants to do this on the Saturday of the Car Show. We are still in discussion about this.
- The courtyard should have a nice array of flowers in time for Easter. Crabapple Landscape will be coming by with a depiction of the finished product soon.
- The front step renovation and landscape is still in the works for the first day after the preschool adjourns.
- The elevator has once again been repaired.

**Treasurers Report:** Presented by Rachel Berhannan. The church is using a new process for online payment of pledges. Every contributing member using the online payment process, is encouraged to reapply their information for automatic payment of pledges. Rachel also has an audit proposal on the table.

**Financial information:** Gary Dunsmore reported that the church is on budget at this time.

#### **Ministry Reports:**

- Question was raised why we require quarterly ministry reports. Discussion indicated quarterly ministry reports might not be practical for some ministries.
- Assistant to the Rector for Youth Ministries, Katie McRee's ministry report indicated she does not have WiFi in Sinclair House. This impacts her ability to

offer some educational opportunities at Sinclair house. It was suggested that Katie's Vestry liaison follow up with Ken.

- Dick Lord and Ron Felder want to change the name of the Magnetic Ministry to the Media Ministry. A short discussion concluded Media ministry would be fine.

**Old Business:**

- The position of Chair of the Calling ministry continues to be vacant.

**New Business:**

- none.

Jennifer Rust moved to adjourn the meeting. Patty Conard seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

**Closing prayer:** Reverend Michelle Ortiz

**April Vestry Meeting:  
Tuesday, April 25, 2017 6:30 PM**