

St. David's Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting

April 24, 2018

6:30 pm Bethany Room

Attendees (Vestry): Robert Ward, Ken Harris, CaroleAnn Padgett, Pat Daly, Patty Conard, Julio Alvarez, Orton Daniels, Lia Bertelson, Ama Couch, Lee Hunter, Rachel Berhannan

Attendees (Nonvoting): The Rev'd Ken Swanson, Gary Dunsmore, Meron Kelly, Rev. Michelle Ortiz

Attendees (Non-Vestry): Peggy Fallon

Absent: Leonard Ferrand, Jennifer Rust

- Anne Elizabeth will be out for some time due to an injury.
- Opening Prayer Rev. Ken Swanson
- Acceptance of Minutes Rev. Ken Swanson
 - Corrections:
 - Feasibility Study – add CaroleAnn to group
 - Treasurer's Report (over budget due to "staffing" issue)
 - Motion to accept the minutes with corrections was made by Patty and seconded by Lee.
- Meditation Ken Harris
 - Outreach to others
 - Engage the heart in your daily activities
- St. David's Preschool Budget Review Peggy Fallon
 - Preschool continues to do well and has sustained employment long-term
 - 2018-2019 school year: the day will be extended by half an hour and is welcomed by teachers and parents alike
 - Peggy shared the proposed budget (Appendix A) with the Vestry
 - To date, 84 of 98 slots full for Fall 2018 and active enrollment continues
 - Summer Camp also brings in new families
 - Staff changes: Suzanne Gwynn will be leaving the preschool. Cheryl Jones will take over as lead of her classroom and Peggy encouraged her staff to share any classroom changes they may hope for in the coming school year.
 - Motion to accept the budget was made by Robert Ward and seconded by Ken Harris.
 - Motion was accepted by all members.

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Rev. Ken Swanson

- Rector Update
 - **“What If”**
 - Connect First update
 - St. David's parishioner has offered to pay for 6 months of the service
 - At the May Vestry mtg, the card design will be presented
 - 3 mile radius will be reached – (278 people moved in during the month of Feb)
 - Capital campaign update
 - Scheduling issues prevented a meeting from happening with Bob Saacke and Howard Benson
 - Robert, CaroleAnn, Gary Dunsmore, Lance Patterson and Marilyn Hedrick will be a part of the small group
 - If successful, there is a possibility that the debt could be paid off before Ken retires in 2020
 - Ken feels a new campaign is unlikely due to timing but the conversation will still take place
 - Ombudsman ministry
 - The protocol for ministry was done by a great team. Ken Harris had mentioned previously that the vestry should really be responsible for this role. It has been decided that the Vestry will in fact take on this role.
 - There will be a special event for the Vestry so that members can receive training on handling disaffected parishioners.
 - Proposed Fall launch (September)
 - Lead person on a Sunday will be the VPOD
 - Communication launch will take place before implementation
 - All Vestry members are to accept any issues brought up by parishioners
 - Summer Schedule
 - Two-service schedule will begin May 20th – Sept.9th (start of Sunday School)
 - Parish picnic on May 20th
 - Two services allow for parishioners to see members they normally wouldn't
 - Aug. 5th – 3rd Varsity Food Truck event
 - Aug.26th – Ministry Fair
 - Adult Education planning

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- There was a meeting with all of the principals of adult education last week
- There is an opportunity for spiritual growth/learning at St. David's every day of the week
- August, (17th, 18th, and 19th) – Matthew Linn (author, Jesuit) Friday-Healing team, Saturday – Entire parish; 4 hour workshop, and Sunday – Rector's Forum)
- Kyle Lambelet – will teach a series in the Rector's Forum on Sunday morning and Wednesday evening class during Lent next year
- Common Purpose – part of Spiritual Formation and will be bringing in excellent speakers (i.e. Don Mosley in May)
- Rector's Forum in the Fall – 3 week series followed by a break. Topics will include: what it means to be an American in our society, abortion, gay rights, gun control (3 perspectives – pros, cons, biblical theology) – Lia will collaborate with this class
- Robert Ward mentions that year round stewardship should be coordinated with spiritual growth. There is a concern that the themes of monthly programming aren't well coordinated with what is already going on. This will be a growth opportunity
- By the end of May, all Adult Ed topics will be decided
- 2017 Parochial Report
 - Ken shared the parochial report with the Vestry (Appendix B), highlighting the following:
 - Orlon, Rachel and Ken Swanson will sign the report
 - As far as membership, there was a growth year for membership (2236 active baptized members). 200 are most likely soft members. Ken will talk to parishioners and decide who should be labeled inactive
 - Sunday attendance is down by 30
 - New member integration is going well. 2018: 20 new families representing 56 people.
 - On May 6th – double baptism - a father, Kyle Walz, and his son Darby
- Senior Warden Update Robert Ward
 - Year Round Stewardship plan review
 - Lee, Pat and Robert have discussed plans for future stewardship opportunities

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- May (Lee) & June (Pat) plans are being finalized
- Thomas Nolf sent Ken and Robert a stewardship letter (to be mailed) with a great message about "Encountering Christ" that fits perfectly with May stewardship. Robert suggests a meditation for each month's activities.
- Three months in advance may be a better plan for completing each month's playbook
- Lee updated suggestions for May Stewardship:
 - Spiritual Growth – Confirmation highlighted (May 9th) as well as the Suttons
 - Lee shares that meeting with the various individuals involved in each month's activities takes some time which can slow the process
 - Illumination article was suggested: Women of Wonder was suggested previously; however, there has been a change in plans. Lee learned that WOW doesn't want to be highlighted in May when the program gets wrapped up at that time. September would be better month as that is when WOW gets started again.
 - As far as Mother's Day and the WOW connection, it has been noted that the WOW ministry leads didn't want the ministry to be highlighted as exclusively serving "moms"
 - Drake House will instead be highlighted in the weekly prayers for the people and a weekly fact about the Drake House will be noted in the bulletin
 - Outside Ourselves – weekly needs will be collected for the Drake House – A collection point (like the picnic) would be a good idea and a bulletin reminder to bring something from the list.
 - God's Creation – Possible nature activity during picnic? The Boy Scouts could be highlighted for their work cleaning up the Memorial Garden.
 - Lee added that a lot of ministries are unknown and that spotlighting the less visible ones might be helpful
 - Finance Committee would like to introduce a budget update to the parish and each month highlight a part of the budget that relates to the month's stewardship theme.
- Pat shared ideas for June stewardship. The following were suggested:
 - beach meditation, blood drive spotlight
 - Outside Self – bring a dad or guest to breakfast

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- God's creation - Chattahoochee center activity ; (Pat shared a draft logo that Maggie Daly created for year round stewardship
 - We will plan on beginning activities in the month of August
- Ministry Liaison Reports
 - N/A
- Junior Warden Update Patty Conard
 - Building & Grounds update
 - David Ingram - 3 of 7 parking lights are broken
 - ~\$6000 to convert to LED
 - Gray railings will be repainted
 - Mtg tomorrow night re: Buildings & Grounds, specifically re: playground
 - ~\$10-\$12,000 (range of quotes for preschool playground)
 - Judy Hine will represent the preschool in this mtg in Peggy's absence
 - Meron suggested the preschool try a fundraiser for the playground; parents would most likely want to contribute if they knew the need
- Treasurer's Report Rachel Berhannan
 - Rachel shared the latest report (Appendix C)
 - Gary Dunsmore shared: In March , 3 parishioners made sizable contributions
 - Easter collections were also lower than expected due to lower attendance
- Finance Committee Gary Dunsmore
 - Capital campaign follow-up
 - Three letters have been drafted to go out in May and those that have completed pledge will be asked if they would like to contribute more
 - The letters will go to those that have paid completely, those whose payments are on track, and those behind on their payments. The anticipated shortfall is only 4%.
 - Recently met with Wynn Calloway(Diocese of Atlanta) re: Healthcare issues
 - We are looking at how to address the upcoming inevitable exposure on healthcare issues
 - Working on narrative of budget to share with parish in collaboration with year-round stewardship
 - Working on analysis of compensation going forward
 - Parish compensation is our single largest item; how do we show how that has changed over the years?
- Old Business
 - N/A

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- New Business
 - Lee Hunter: Children's Offering goes into overall budget and parents have requested that this offering be set aside for children related ministries. Some parishioners have expressed that they feel it is not completely transparent what the children's offering goes towards.
 - Ken shares that this is a big issue from a theology perspective. All ministries are funded through the church's total budget (We will not go back to separating out offerings.)
 - Perhaps there is a missed opportunity for communication – children need to understand that it is *their* offering that will go towards helping others
 - Ama shared that she didn't realize how many people give to specific programs and agrees that we need to communicate where the money goes so that there is complete transparency.
- Patty Conard moved and Ken Harris seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- Closing Prayer Rev. Michelle Ortiz

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Appendices

Appendix A

[2018 Preschool Budget](#)

Appendix B

[Parochial Report 2017](#)

Appendix C

[Treasurer's Report April 2018](#)