



Faith Episcopal Church

Bishop's Committee Meeting

March 20, 2016

MINUTES

A meeting of the Bishop's Committee was called to order at 11:47 a.m.

Members present: Kathleen Costello, Nancy Davis, Geof Farnsworth, Cindy Louter, Lisa Pickford (quorum)

Members absent: Ralph Behrsin, Janet Chisholm, Mike Dmytriw, Bryan Price

Also present: Rev. Valerie Hart

1. Opening Prayer: offered by Rev. Valerie Hart
2. Affirmation of Mission: offered by Nancy Davis
3. Approval of Minutes: Moved, seconded and carried to approve as corrected the minutes of the February 21, 2016 Bishop's Committee meeting.
4. Clergy Report. Rev. Valerie Hart reported that the clergy will meet on April 2 to set the rota schedule through the end of summer; it will then be published on the website (Contacts page) and in the next edition of This Week at Faith. Rev. Brad Karelius remains on the rota but has schedule conflicts until fall; Rev. Karen Wojahn will join the rota on Sundays but will not fill Wednesday slots. Some parishioners have expressed confusion about the rota scheme; Cindy Louter will include a brief explanation in her announcements during weekly services on Sundays, and announce clergy for the following week. The clergy team would like to celebrate an Instructed Eucharist at an upcoming Children's Sunday service. While the clergy team deals with details concerning the rota schedule and coverage, the Liturgy Committee considers traditional clerical issues such as what services will be held, Sunday School, etc.; the Liturgy Committee includes Lorelei Auld, Deb Farnsworth, Cindy Louter, Susan Parr, Lisa Pickford, and a representative of the clergy team. Cindy Louter requested that Bishop Diane visit Faith to bless the cross; the Diocese has added Faith to the schedule of bishop visitations. Ours will most likely be done by Bishop Diane and occur in the summer. That would be a good time to hold Confirmations and Affirmations. We should offer a preparation course during 8 weeks in advance of the Bishop's visit for those wishing to be confirmed or received.
5. Treasurer's Report. Cindy Louter reported for Janet Chisholm that the February 2016 Treasurer's Report shows a shortfall of \$2,666.83 in pledges and regular giving, offset by a reduction in expenses of \$723; these budget deviations are thought to be more of a timing nature than a structural issue; there are no failed pledges. Reported balances as of February 29, 2016: \$29,827.68 in Union Bank; \$14,182.67 in Morgan Stanley investment account; and \$22,842.68 in Sutton Trust. It was moved, seconded and carried to approve the Treasurer's Report.
6. Warden's Report. Cindy Louter followed up with the Diocese on a number of issues, including reimbursement to the capital fund for the fabrication of the cross (outstanding since August 2015); a decision on the annual grant from the mission fund (usually announced in March); referral to an outside auditor to perform the 2015 audit of FEC; and to request access to the Corp Sole audits as promised at the Diocesan Convention in December 2015. Cindy will follow up with Kirby Smith for referrals to an outside auditor. The internal audit for 2014 is pending. Cindy presented the Parochial Report she and Janet Chisholm prepared. They will ask the Diocese for a copy of the report submitted for 2014 for our files. Janet verified all of the information for the report by reviewing all documentation for the year; she prepared a spreadsheet to support all the recordkeeping that will be necessary for the 2016 report. A motion was made, seconded and carried to approve the Parochial Report as corrected (noting that clergy are all "supply").

7. Task Items.

- A) Safety Security Report. No report.
- B) Building & Maintenance. Geof Farnsworth reported that ballasts and/or bulbs are required for all the chandeliers; estimated cost as high as \$1,000. Upgrading to LED bulbs may be cost prohibitive if rewiring of all fixtures would be required. Geof will try to replace the bulbs.
- C) Church Usage. Tabled until next meeting.
- D) Welcoming Lead. No volunteers have stepped forward for this position that will schedule and train greeters and see to the welcoming character of the church and walkway. It was suggested that the focus of children's formation through the summer might focus on the theme of harvest, and involve growing vegetables and herbs in the container garden along the front walkway. This suggestion was referred to the Liturgy Committee for consideration. Cindy will approach a prospective Welcoming Lead candidate.

8. New Business.

- A) Godly Play. Lisa Pickford and Nancy Davis will research the inventory for Godly Play for the next quarter and propose a budget to Cindy Louter.
- B) Fundraising Events. Both the wine auction and chili cook-off fundraisers may be more successful if they can promote a specific purpose for the use of the funds. Once she receives a budget proposal for Godly Play and a clarification of the balance remaining of the \$2,000 in Jim Rankin tribute gifts allocated for support of the music program, Cindy Louter will poll the Bishop's Committee by email the week of March 21 for consensus on how to allocate the proceeds of the wine auction. The proposal to increase the music budget to retain Tom Moore's services beyond the Rankin gift funds was discussed.

9. Closing Prayer. Rev. Valerie Hart closed the meeting with a prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Next meeting: retreat April 9, 2016

Respectfully submitted by Kathleen Costello

Minutes approved April 9, 2016