

# St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

## Vestry Meeting

Oct. 20, 2015, 7 p.m.  
Farmer Hall

**Vestry Members in Attendance:** Gary Naegel, John Armstrong, Kristen Garnett, Cathy Golden, Louise Beecher, Alan Miller, Art Criddle, Cathy Golden, Mark Auletta, the Rev. Jennings Matheson, Colleen McHugh, Rebecca Rastetter, Lucinda Embersits..

**Absent:** Amanda Hayward.

### Opening Prayer

### Time for Reflection

The Rev. Jennings Matheson led an exercise in which she asked the assembled vestry members to reflect upon and then share responses the following:

- *“Describe a time when you experienced Christ’s presence while gathered with others.”*
- *“What are your expectations of vestry?”*
- *“What about the vestry’s work have you, or do you, find fulfilling?”*

### 1. Minutes

The minutes of the Sept. 22 meeting were approved. The motion was made by the Rev. Jennings Matheson and seconded by Kristin Garnett.

### 2. Treasurer’s report.

The June treasurer’s report was approved. The motion was made by Mark Auletta and seconded by Rebecca Rastetter.

Treasurer Cathy Golden reported that she had transferred \$25,000 out of the Endowment fund into the operating fund. She reported that income from pledges was about was \$17,500 below what was expected by this time. She said a second reminder note would be sent to pledgers who had fallen behind.

### 3. Committee Updates

- **Building and Grounds: Kitchen Renovation**

Alan Miller, who is heading the project to renew Farmer Hall, reported that work was progressing nicely and that the cabinetry and the special hood that will go over the new stove were being shipped.

Miller recommended the creation of guides for using the new space and equipment, No one had the overall responsibility for the maintenance of the old kitchen, he said, and as a result its condition deteriorated. The new kitchen presents an opportunity for the congregation as an organization.

- **Stewardship**

Letters asking congregation members for an estimate of giving during 2016 have been prepared and will be mailed to parishioners in preparation for Stewardship (Giving) Sunday Nov. 22.

The need to acknowledge new members was discussed. Kristin Garnett said a dinner for new members had been held over a year ago, but not since then.

John Armstrong said that the church's message should be how it changes people's lives. He noted that the teens who went on service trips to the Dominican Republic and Niagara Falls this past summer would be speaking at the Nov. 1 service to discuss how those experiences had impacted their lives.

- **Sunday School/Youth Groups**

The vestry approved dividing the responsibility for St. Andrew's Christian formation program into two positions: that of a church school director who would be paid \$25 an hour for a 15-hour week, and that of a youth ministry director who would be paid \$25 an hour for a 10-hour week. The church school director position is being filled by Shelby Auletta, while Mary Merkle-Scotland is managing the youth ministry program that serves middle and high school students.

The motion was made by the Rev. Jennings Matheson and seconded by Vestry Warden Gary Naegel. Mark Auletta abstained from voting as Shelby is his wife.

It was noted during the discussion that earlier plans to hire a youth minister who would serve seven shoreline parishes had never come to fruition.

- **Welcoming**

Kristin Garnett said a rotating list of volunteers was now greeting visitors Sunday morning in the narthex with the words "I don't believe we have met before." John Armstrong suggested that the committee consider also serve as resources for new members.

#### **4. Old and New Business**

- **Manpower**

John Armstrong reported that the system of lining up lectors for the 8 and 9:30 a.m. Sunday services had been experiencing difficulties as volunteers who were unable to attend their scheduled services had to find replacements on their own. This frequently meant that the name that appeared in the Sunday bulletin did not reflect who would actually be doing the reading. This posed difficulties for the verger, who then had no way of knowing if there was a replacement for the scheduled reader, or who that replacement was.

A shorter, three-month schedule has been put in place, he reported, and monthly reminders to volunteers are being sent out. "We have to reinforce that this is a very important ministry," Armstrong said.

- **Church Events Calendar**

Vestry Warden Gary Naegel reported that Chris Abbott had taken over the responsibility for maintaining the church calendar. An up-to-date, detailed calendar of all church activities is essential for getting people engaged and involved, he said. Major events such as the spring Spaghetti Dinner should be on the calendar now, he said, as should all committee meetings. A scheduling meeting was set for 6:30 p.m. December 2.

- **Annual Meeting/Vestry Membership**

The vestry discussed the need for a list of terms of office for current vestry members. Nominees will have to be lined up for any members who wish to step down when their terms expire, but no one could immediately say at the meeting whose terms would expire in 2016.

**Minutes respectfully submitted Louise Beecher, Vestry Clerk**