

## **St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting**

Nov. 17, 2015, 7 p.m.  
Farmer Hall

**Vestry Members in Attendance:** Gary Naegel, John Armstrong, Kristen Garnett, Cathy Golden, Louise Beecher,, Rebecca Rastetter.

**Absent:** .Alan Miller, Mark Auletta, Rev. Jennings Matheson, Colleen McHugh.

**Late due to Transition Meeting:** Art Criddle, Lucinda Embersits.

The absence of so many members prompted votes on the minutes and treasurer's report until Art Criddle and Lucinda Embersits, who had been attending a Transition Team meeting upstairs, could join the group. Vestry Warden Gary Naegel reported that the Rev. Jennings Matheson was unable to attend due to illness.

### **1. Committee Updates**

- **Building and Grounds: Kitchen Renovation**

This report was presented by Gary Naegel, in the absence of Alan Miller, who has supervised the redesign and reconstruction of Farmer Hall's kitchen. Naegel reported that it was hoped that the appliances could be installed Monday. The one sticking point was the special hood that needs to be installed over the stove. It needed to be slightly redesigned and the redesign approved by the town's Fire Warden. Naegel said he hoped the review by the town would be approved by Wednesday. If so, the hood could be shipped next week.

- **Stewardship**

John Armstrong reported that those attending services Sunday (Nov. 22) would be invited to place their pledge cards in a basket when they went to communion. It was noted that Nov. 22 would also be celebrated as St. Andrew's Sunday.

- **Nominating Committee**

Kristin Garnett reported that the committee charged with finding candidates to serve on the Vestry and to serve as delegates to the diocesan convention had met the previous Wednesday (Nov. 11). Candidates had been found for two Vestry slots, but the search was still underway for someone to serve a three-year term. She said the committee hoped to have a full-slate of candidates to present at December's Vestry meeting.

- **Sunday School/Youth Groups**

Plans are underway to organize a party for parents new to the church school.

## **2. Interim Rector's Report**

Vestry Warden Gary Naegel spoke on behalf of Interim Rector Jennings Matheson, who was unable to attend the meeting due to illness. He said she had noticed while driving on Route 79 that the outside of the church was not illuminated. He said she thought lighting should be installed both for safety and marketing purposes.

This led to a discussion about the need for a more actively engaged Building and Grounds Committee. Treasurer Cathy Golden said there was a huge backlog of projects that needed to be addressed.

The need to light the rear parking lot was also discussed. It was decided that Sexton David Mikus would be directed to inquire about having a street light installed.

Art Criddle reported that Matheson was also concerned with the lack of organizational structure regarding the church's committees. For instance, there is no formal way for someone to leave a committee. Criddle suggested that the church adopt a system in which committee's would report to the Vestry. Such a change would also help build community, he said.

## **3. Calendar**

- **Advent Services**

There will be Advent programs on three successive Wednesday nights in December. The first, on Dec. 2, will be a Taize service. All programs will start at 7 p.m. and last about 45 minutes. There will be a light meal at 6:30 p.m. prior to the Dec. 9 and 16 programs.

- **Christmas Pageant**

John Armstrong reported that St. Andrew's pre-school will take the lead in organizing the Christmas pageant. The pageant will be presented at 4 p.m. December 20.

- **Christmas Services**

There will be two services Christmas Eve – one at 5 p.m. and another at 10 p.m. The sole service Christmas morning will be at 10 a.m.

## **4. Goals and Norms**

The Vestry reviewed the progress that had been made during the past year in meeting the congregation's goals and norms. Although much has been accomplished, Vestry Warden Gary Naegel said that the goals had to be a living document, so the subject will be on the agenda again in December. The Vestry will consider the norms for 2016 at its February meeting.

## **5. Minutes**

The minutes of the Oct. 20 meeting were approved as amended. The motion was made by the John Armstrong and seconded by Cathy Golden.

## **6. Treasurer's report.**

The October treasurer's report was approved. The motion was made by Kristin Garnet and seconded by Rebecca Rastetter.

## **7. Adjournment**

Louise Beecher moved to adjourn; Gary Naegel seconded.

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