

Grace Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting
October 17, 2018

Present:

Lynette Baisch
Wren Blessing (via
telephone)
Chuck Bombardier

Martin Garthwaite
Patty Robinson
Jan Ringo
Deborah Schenk

Julie Shryock
Tom Tyner
Don Warkentin

Absent:

Jane Crane

Spirit

The meeting was opened with prayer at 7:00pm.

Resources

The Vestry approved the minutes for the September 2018 meeting without changes.

Rector's Report

Wren distributed her report via email prior to the meeting. She clarified that the dates for Camp Resurrecion will be July 14-19, 2019 and that Grace Camp will be held the week before that.

Treasurer's Report

Deborah presented information outlining concerns about a possible budget deficit for 2018. Although the Financial Report indicates a surplus, this is misleading because of several anticipated outstanding expenses. Pledges, plate income, fund raising and rentals are all running behind. Expenses for copying, telephones and the new internet set-up are greater than expected. There may be some savings in staff expenses.

For a variety of reasons, no statements of pledge status have been sent to members for 2018. There was discussion about how best to accomplish this at this time. It was decided that a mailing focusing on pledge status would be best. Deborah will work to get this sent out next week. Vestry members offered to help with crafting an accompanying message and with folding and stuffing letters.

Wren is in the process of developing a newcomer packet which will include information about how pledges work toward the financial support of the church.

Deborah stated that even if pledges are all up to date, it is likely that there will be a budget shortfall at year end. In that case, Vestry will have to discuss options.

Annual Giving Update

Julie stated that 63 pledges totaling \$226,465 have been received, representing 38% of the goal of \$592,000. Julie requested the assistance of Vestry members on All Saint's Sunday, November 4. She will have postcards to be filled out requesting pledges from all members who have previously pledged but have not yet responded for 2019 Annual Giving. Two phone campaigns are being organized by Wendy Tyner.

Direction and Coordination

Leadership-

Don reported that there are several open positions. He is working closely with Wren and current leaders to identify potential candidates.

2008 Capital Campaign Background/Discussion

Don outlined the primary question to be addressed: does the Vestry consider this to be the correct time to address how Grace should handle the remaining unspent funds from the 2008 Capital Campaign?

Extensive discussion followed. Wren suggested that this decision should be paired with the development of a strategic plan for Grace. Consensus was reached, concluding that the Vestry has a responsibility to begin to address this issue. The plan is to outline possible next steps, including pros and cons, during the November 28, 2018 Vestry meeting.

Other Business/Topics for November Vestry Meeting

November Vestry meeting will be held Wednesday, November 28, 2018.

Martin announced that Grace has been asked to be a participant in Bainbridge Island emergency response planning. A presentation for the Vestry about the proposal will take place early in 2019.

The meeting ended at 9:00 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Jan Ringo, Clerk

