

Grace Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting
July 25, 2018

Present:

Lynette Baisch
Wren Blessing
Chuck Bombardier
Jane Crane

Martin Garthwaite
Jan Ringo
Patty Robinson
Deborah Schenk

Julie Shryock
Don Warkentin

Spirit

The meeting was opened at 7:00pm with Ignatian Examen, led by Wren.

Resources

The Vestry approved the minutes for the June 12, 2018 meeting without changes.

Treasurer's Report

Deborah distributed the financial reports via email. There were no additional questions or comments from Vestry members.

Deborah reported that collection of Parish contributions for the Clergy Housing Fund is almost completed.

Rector's Report

Wren reported that Diane has created a Google Drive folder, Vestry_Docs, as a repository for vestry documents, such as minutes, agendas, and any other documents that may be appropriate. Vestry members may upload files directly or can send them to Diane with a request for her to upload. An email was distributed allowing access for Vestry members. If editing permission is needed, contact Diane. Wren asked for input regarding the organization of the new folders.

Wren reported that both Grace Camp and Camp Resurrecion were very successful and good examples of the direction she envisions for Outreach at Grace: "presence and hospitality based" service opportunities.

Wren shared that she is very involved with pastoral care needs and is receiving good support from Fran and the pastoral care team.

Lindsay Masters has started working as the new Communications Director. She is currently working about eight hours/week on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Discussion followed about how Vestry and PMC members should handle communications needs for special projects that would require Lindsay to work additional hours (e.g. Annual Giving, Field&Vine). Wren and Lynette will discuss options. Any requests for additional time should be coordinated with Wren.

Diane is working 4 days/week as Parish Administrator, currently Monday through Thursday. Fran is setting up a volunteer rotation to cover the office on Fridays.

Update on Hiring Process

Valerie is currently on vacation and will be leaving her position at the end of July. A draft job description has been developed and is being finalized. Wren said that she expects the position will be for 20-30 hours/week with responsibilities for Children and Family Ministry and additional involvement in Adult Faith Formation. Wren is looking for two or three individuals to assist with the search and interviewing process and asked for input from Vestry members.

Grace is currently searching for an interim Music Director. The Music Director advisory search committee is scheduled to have an initial meeting on July 30. The goal is to have a permanent Music Director in place by early 2019. Discussion followed about establishing guidelines for the advisory search committee.

Wren opened discussion regarding possible scenarios for the various open positions. Discussion followed exploring options and strategies and the importance of considering both current and potential future needs.

Direction and Coordination

Outreach Discussion

Patty shared information about progress in the development of a new model for Outreach at Grace. The process is moving in the direction of encouraging more active Parish involvement in Outreach programs rather than focusing primarily on providing financial support.

Wren presented some ideas about her vision for Outreach at Grace. She wants the congregation to experience a different way of doing Outreach, a more “presence-based” outreach model. She recommends initially focusing on current “presence-based” programs, e.g. Streets of Seattle, Mothers Morning Retreat, Camp Resurrecion, Super Suppers along with continued involvement in International Ministries such as Kossoye and PeaceTrees Viet Nam. Wren shared that her goal is for all ministries at Grace to be transformative.

Other Business/Topics for August Vestry Meeting

Tom reported that coordinators for Field& Vine have asked Vestry members to consider offering an event to be auctioned. Vestry members should bring ideas to the August meeting.

Representatives for Mothers Morning Retreat will attend the August meeting to present an overview of their ministry and to be available for questions.

The August meeting is scheduled for August 14, 2018 at Jane Crane’s home.

The meeting ended at 9:00 pm.

Respectively submitted,
Jan Ringo, Clerk

