

Vestry Minutes
Christ Episcopal Church
May 16, 2017

Present

Wardens: Judy Pauley, Sue Bauer

Vestry: Patti Dickinson, Sue Heschke, Cindy Theurer (late), Heidi U'Ren

Clergy: The Rev. Joe Kozlowski, The Rev. Martha Farone (late)

Treasurer: Barb McHenry

Excused: Dave DeYoung, Rick Few, Rick Rucci

Absent: Sue Miller

Guests: Debbie Bronschilde, Paula Shears

Judy Pauley called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm. We started with prayer by Fr. Joe Koslowski. There was not a quorum, so the meeting proceeded with no votes. Several people who were going to be late or unable to attend submitted reports – these reports are attached.

Minutes

See Martha's report (attached) for details – "Cares" should be changed to "The Chapel".

Treasurer's Report

Barb McHenry reported that she received the investment reports for March and April. There is a slight gain which is due to April activity. So far we are about \$1,000 ahead for the Chicken Barbecue and there is still a lot of frozen chicken that is available for \$6 for two halves or \$11 for four halves. Barb has the records ready for our annual audit – she'll drop the records at the auditor's office 5/25 and hopes the audit will be done by August. We are again having problems with UPS deliveries. They aren't able to deliver to Church during Joyce's hours. Barb is working with UPS to resolve the problem, but in the meantime, if possible, orders should be delivered to a home address.

Clergy Reports

Fr. Joe Kozlowski: May 21st will be his last weekend at Christ Church and then he'll be back at West Seneca for the rest of their search process. They are looking for someone who will be very part-time and there is no housing. Fr. Sam Toothaker has been hired for 5 years at Grace. His goal is to start a private school, starting with kindergarten this year and adding a grade each school year.

Deacon Martha Farone: see attached report. Because there wasn't a quorum, we couldn't approve the request for \$50 for tuition, and recommended that Martha talk to Fr. Thomas Mitchell about an advance until the request can be approved at the June meeting.

Warden's Report

- Judy Pauley thanked everyone who was involved with the Chicken Barbecue. Special thanks to Dave DeYoung and Bill Few, who chaired the event. See Dave's report (attached) for more info.
- Judy reported that Lisa Michalesen submitted her resignation. Because of all that is happening in her life at the moment Lisa finds she is unable to contribute her time and attention as she would like to, and she needs to take care of her family at this time.
- Judy reported that as we met, Jonathan Steen, the Acolyte at the 8:00 service, was being recognized by the Niagara County Legislature. Jonathan volunteers a lot of time at a nursing home. He is the first young person to be recognized. A number of people from Christ Church were there to support him, including Martha and Cindy.

- Judy reported that Laurie Monaco has reached a new stage of life. She needs to cut back on some of her commitments, and will no longer be able to manage the Christmas Store (part of our Christmas outreach). Sue Heschke announced that she will also not be available to work on it this year. Martha added that last year's Christmas Store was the best ever. Martha will find new leaders and let us know at the June meeting what the new arrangements will be.
- Judy reminded everyone that for every new project we need to fill out a form and get Vestry approval.
- Judy reported that baked goods are needed for the Father's Day breakfast and asked that everyone bring something. Judy said the Strawberry Festival committee will be calling – they need baked goods and workers.
- Judy thanked Bill Bohneberg because he has donated 300 placemats to the church.

Outreach Report

Debbie Bronschilde and Paula Shears reported that contributions are down. This is a concern because people are counting on the food we provide each year. In addition, we are getting requests that we meet the needs of Brother's Keeper when they can't do it themselves. Debbie and Paula are putting together a monthly calendar of needed food and items for the Christmas Outreach. Some outreach envelopes come in and that money along with existing funds will be used to purchase food, but we still need the monthly contributions of food, etc.

Jean Taylor is now managing the Lockport Cares meals. They call with the number of residents (typically 10 – 15) each time we are delivering a meal. There is a signup sheet or call Jean if you would like to help out. Lockport cares was given Chicken Barbecue dinners.

This year the back to school collection will start in June and go to rural schools where the need is greater than in Lockport. The hope is that people who attend the Strawberry Festival will be more aware of what we do and may even want to contribute also.

Discussion that followed Debbie's report, concluded that Debbie and Paula need to focus their efforts on our Christmas Outreach (it's a great program and we have a lot of families counting on us). In an effort to increase awareness and participation, we will be gathering the monthly food items by the altar where they will be blessed. As other projects are suggested for Outreach, Debbie and Paula will not be called upon to do the work – they need to focus on the Christmas Outreach. The outreach to people in the military is an example of how other programs should be done: Bonnie Kephart raised a need, volunteered, and she does the work while keeping Debbie and Paula aware of what is happening

Committee Reports

Coffee Hour (Sue Heschke) – we're good until summer, and Sue hopes to get the open summer slots filled soon.

Parish Life (Dave DeYoung) – see attached report. The Game Night was lots of fun and cost only \$7.79 – we'll be having another one soon.

Worship Planning (Robin Kozlowski) – see attached report. Services at Brookside Chapel will be Wednesdays at 7:00 pm July 5th through August 30th.

Old Business

Meeting at Christ Church is working well for Narcotics Anonymous.

New Business

Safe Church: The training will be June 3rd at Christ Church from 9:00 – 4:00. We will provide coffee and snacks in the morning and lunch.

Other Comments and Concerns

Barb Scott asked Sue Heschke to report that Barb wants us to spray the lawn to be good neighbors and get rid of all the dandelions. Due to the cost, at this point we don't feel we can do that.

The next Ladies Night Out will be June 7th at Gordy Harper's. Betsy Ersing is arranging the evening.

Buildings and Grounds

Sue Bauer reported that

- NYSEG will be putting in a new gas line to Christ Church May 17th from 8:30 – 10:30. It will be in the lawn, but will not affect the parking lot. After the line is connected they will need access so they can restart our boilers, stove and water heater.
- The main sump pump in the boiler room failed and was replaced. There were 3 inches of water in the boiler room when the problem was discovered. The secondary sump pump was temporarily disabled because a mouse was caught in it. We now have both pumps working.
- This morning the two locust trees by the driveway were trimmed (there were a lot of very large dead limbs that were a safety risk), the ash tree by the garage was removed, the toppled apple tree by the sign was removed and twenty stumps were ground up.
- I have found some landscapers who are interested in our Commemorative Walk project. I am trying to arrange meetings with them to discuss what we want, but because of the rainy spring, they are very far behind on their work at the moment.
- I have found some security system companies and will be getting estimates as soon as possible.

Judy Pauley adjourned the meeting at 8:25 pm, and Martha did the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Bauer
Clerk Pro Tem

Approvals and Acceptances Needed at the June Vestry Meeting

Because there was no quorum at the May meeting, the following items need to be held over to the June meeting:

- Approve April Minutes
- Approve Treasurer's Report
- Accept resignation of Lisa Michaelsen
- Approval of Martha's request for \$50 tuition for a class at Roswell Park's Pastoral Care Department

Reports for June

Cindy Theurer: Pastoral Care & Shut-ins

Heidi U'Ren: Mary Hunt Guild

Rich Few: Safe Church

Next Vestry Meeting: June 13, 2017

This is a change from June 20th when we will be getting ready for the Strawberry Festival

Attached Reports

Martha Farone

In case I'm later than expected or reports/remarks have been done, these are things to include:

Minutes correction- included in Thursday's LCTV/Fam Focus taping is The Chapel, not CARES; each group has 7 minutes to discuss programs in their parish/congregation.

Due to a mix up in communication, the Girl Scouts did not do an activity at Brairwood on May 2.

I'm requesting \$50 from Continuing Ed for the registration fee for a June 9th day-long seminar through Roswell Park's Pastoral Care Department.

On May 21st, I'll be officiating Reserved Sacrament at Amberleigh Assisted Living Facility at 2 pm.

As a member of Family Focus, I'll be helping with their backpack drive at various times during the month of August-distribution on Aug. 29th.

I will be away September 28-Oct. 4, 2017.

Thanks,
Martha

Dave DeYoung

Parish Life had a meeting in March to try and get things going again. This meeting was headed up by Pat and Bill Few with a luncheon after church. A game night was mentioned as a event they wanted to do and Bob and Cindy Theurer, who weren't at the meeting, said they would it head up. It was agreed that a game night would be run by Bob and Cindy at their convenience. That event was set up and run May 5, with about 20 people in attendance. The attendees were all adults no youth attended which was what we wanted to happen. Sometime during this meeting a Mead tasting was mentioned, I personally missed that discussion, but it is set to be held in Medina this Saturday evening with a dinner to follow also in Medina. Next parish Life meeting is set for June 11 to be run by me. If anyone has any idea's please let me know?

Respectfully submitted,
David DeYoung

Men's Club Report.

Men's Club has been meeting and as you know held our annual chicken BBQ last Sunday. I know my morning began at 4 am and was a long day. I have been told the chicken was outstanding? Thank you for the complements. Outside cooks were my son Andrew, who was with me from the start, Joe Myrosinski and 85 yrs old, and Ron Winter. Inside was run by Bill Few. I know his help came from Bill Bohneberg who helped cook the beans, Rick Few, Jim Erswing, Paula Shears helped cook salt potatoes, Kevin and Meg Wager, Rick, if he's at the meeting can tell you better who else was serving. A BIG THANK YOU has to go out to Pat and Linda Few who were with us till the end of clean up, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!! I finished cooking at 4:15 and stayed to help finish clean up till 7:45. We did give 10 meals to Lockport Care's. Bill told me Sunday we sold in the neighborhood of 270 meals, all the bills were paid and we are in the good for over \$1000 with frozen chickens in the freezer to be sold. Niagara Hospice will be receiving 1/3rd of our profit.

On behalf of the Men's Club thank you to all who helped to make this event a success. We need some younger men to step up and help our core group is getting older and tired. Our next meeting is June 7, 6:30 at Willow Brook golf course restaurant.

Respectfully submitted,
David DeYoung

Robin Kozlowski

WORSHIP PLANNING GROUP REPORT TO VESTRY – MAY 16, 2017

LENT/HOLY WEEK/EASTER:

Feedback received by WPG:

- Stations at beginning of services – well received; liked gradual telling of the story over the course of five weeks; also liked involving so many people in reading the Stations
- Book Club was very meaningful for the participants
- Lenten Program (the “Conversation”) was well attended
- Palm Sunday – discussion for next year as to how to make the procession more organized & synced w/music
- Maundy Thursday – washing & drying of each other’s hands is powerful symbol
- There was a good flow from Maundy Thursday to the Stations at Noon on Good Friday to the Solemn Service in the evening.
- For those who miss/prefer Tenebrae on Good Friday, discuss for next year placing candles on Altar at Solemn Service and extinguishing them one-by-one throughout the reading of the Gospel. Tenebrae is not a liturgical service and is intended for Wednesday evening of Holy Week.
- Two families attended Blessing of Food Baskets on Holy Saturday. Fr. Thomas said he will continue with this next year.
- Decided that The Great Vigil of Easter should be celebrated each year, rotating among the area parishes.
- Lockport has a Community Walk during Holy Week – 7 churches/7 last words of Christ. Grace is one of the churches. Encourage our congregation to participate next year.
- Readers, clergy could be heard when all were “mic’d”; turning away from congregation resulted in more difficulty hearing what was said.

UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES:

- May 14 – Mother’s Day (children’s handbells; special blessing for women; \$100 gift to YWCA/Carolyn’s House made from WPG budget in honor of all women of Christ Church)
- June 4 – Pentecost (children’s handbells; children involved in service; special music & banner)

- June 18 – Dads & Grads (special blessing for men & grads; \$100 gift to organization TBD made from WPG budget in honor of all men of Christ Church)
- Brookside Chapel – Wednesday evening services July 5 through August 30, 7 pm. WPG will sponsor coffee hour after one of the services in August.
- Service details to be planned for following dates:
- September 10 – Fresh Start Sunday (children’s handbells; blessing of backpacks)
- October 1 or 8 – All Creatures Great & Small; date depends on whether pet blessing will take place apart from All Creatures service this year; looking into possibly having pet blessing at a community event in late Sept/early Oct. If pet blessing IS connected to All Creatures Sunday, the date will be October 1.
- November 5 – All Saints’ remembrance
- November 12 – Veterans’ Day remembrance
- November 22 – Thanksgiving Eve (at Christ Church)
- December 3 – First Sunday of Advent

ON-GOING DISCUSSION:

- Children’s Service/Family Service/”Teaching” Service
- Christmas Pageant/Adult Volunteers to organize it
- Unity Sunday – one joint service followed by meal; to be together as a faith community
- Combined choir festival

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Kozlowski, Coordinator