

Vestry Minutes
Christ Episcopal Church
June 13, 2017

Present

Wardens: Judy Pauley, Sue Bauer

Vestry: Dave DeYoung, Patti Dickinson, Rick Few, Sue Heschke, Sue Miller, Cindy Theurer

Absent: Heidi U'Ren, Rick Rucci

Clergy: The Rev. Thomas Mitchell, The Rev. Joe Kozlowski, The Rev. Martha Farone

Treasurer: Barb McHenry (excused)

Judy Pauley called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm. We started with prayer by Fr. Mitchell.

Minutes

There were no corrections to either the April or May minutes, so Sue Heschke moved that the minutes for both months be accepted. Cindy Theurer seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Barb McHenry was excused tonight, and Sue Bauer passed on Barb's report. The investment report hasn't arrived because the meeting is earlier than usual this month. All bills are paid and there is about \$10,000 in the checking account. Barb delivered the 2016 records to the accountant and expects the audit to be complete in August. Sue Heschke moved that we accept both the May and June Treasurer's reports. Sue Miller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

From the May Meeting

Judy Pauley reread Lisa Michaelson's letter. Lisa needs to resign due to family responsibilities which keep her from doing as much as she would like for the church. Judy Pauley moved that we accept Lisa's resignation with regret and with thanks for her service. Sue Heschke seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

In May Martha requested \$50 for tuition for a class on pastoral care at Roswell Park. We didn't have a quorum, so the request was postponed. Sue Heschke moved we approve the request and Sue Miller seconded the motion, which passed. Martha reported it was an excellent course.

Clergy Reports

Fr. Thomas Mitchell: Safe Church was attended by 8-10 people including Fr. Thomas, CindyTheurer and Sue Miller. Everyone on Vestry needs to do the class, either in person or online, as required by our insurance. Thanks for all everyone did to support Joyce Collingwood recently – it's been a difficult time.

Fr. Joe Kozlowski: He is back to West Seneca just as the summer is beginning. He'll be there until they find a new rector.

Deacon Martha Farone: Martha's deaconate is about providing food and clothing for those in need. She is storing stuff here that will eventually go to other groups who need clothing, linen, etc. We need to make an effort to keep stuff moving and not just let it build up – it needs to benefit those who need the items. Martha will write an article for the Harvest looking for someone to chair the distribution of items Martha brings from her job.

Warden's Report

- The air conditioning is on and the heat is off – please keep the doors closed.
- Pat Few put some great pictures from recent services on the website and Facebook page.
- Sheriff's crew will be here June 22nd. They will be putting down mulch. Sue Lerch is currently trimming bushes. We need help with lunch – Cindy Theurer and Sue Heschke will do it. The meal will consist of barbecued chicken, baked beans & strawberry shortcakes.
- Strawberry Festival: The North Park Select Choir has 70 kids. They will be singing from 6-6:30. There is concern about how to feed all these kids and parents late in the festival. Tim McQueen has offered to buy them all desserts.
- Thanks to Betsy Ersing for arranging a nice dinner this month for the women.
- Thanks to Debbie Bronschilde and Paula Shears for their Outreach leadership. Since the last meeting they have been accumulating the monthly food collection on the altar, where it will be blessed each month. The improved visibility and announcements are generating more contributions.
- People are not washing their dirty dishes at coffee hour and other times – they are just left in the sink. We need to encourage everyone to clean up after themselves rather than leave it for the coffee hour hosts. Judy will be writing an article for the Harvest.
- Finger Lakes Migrants will use our facility for their dental clinic from noon to 9:00 pm on a Wednesday and Thursday; one week in each August, September and October. It is not yet known which week it will be in each of those months.
- The Backpack Collection of school supplies started June 11th and continues through August 6th. This year the supplies will be given to Youth Mentoring in eastern Niagara County. The need is greater in these areas than in Lockport.

Buildings and Grounds

Because of other responsibilities during the last few weeks, work was slow on the Commemorative Walk and security system for the church. The requirements for the security system have changed after a water bottle was stuffed with napkins and set on fire up against the wooden siding of the parish hall. Fortunately, the fire put itself out and no damage was done to the building. We have a contractor coming to tomorrow to give us an estimate on putting windows in interior doors so that we will be safe church compliant.

Committee Reports

Pastoral Care (CindyTheurer): A meeting was planned, but with so many with serious health issues recently they were very busy doing pastoral care instead of meeting to talk about it and the meeting was cancelled. Gloriann Hutchins sends hello cards to shut-ins regularly, and all the people who receive them love getting the mail from Christ Church. Fr. Thomas needs a list of who visits and who they are visiting.

Parish Life (Dave DeYoung): There was a meeting last Sunday. There will be a Church Picnic after the 10:30 service on August 6th at Tim McQueen's. There will also be an evening out for all adults on July 23rd at Willowbrook. The next meeting will be August 20th – place to be determined.

Men's Group (Dave DeYoung): \$400 from the profits of the Chicken Barbecue was given to Niagara County Hospice and Chicken was given to Lockport Cares.

Old Business

- Eaton Camp will be July 10th through August 11th at Grace Church in Lockport. Registration is now open, and volunteers (adults and teens) are needed. Volunteers need Safe Church training. Judy Pauley has the information and applications Eaton Camp. Call the Diocese for Safe Church training.

New Business

- There is so much conversation and noise during both the prelude and postlude that it is difficult for the organist to play. These are intended to be quiet times of meditation and prayer.

Other Comments and Concerns

- The signs (restrooms, elevator, office, etc.) around our church need to be updated. This was approved three years ago.
- Proposal for consideration/reflection: Fr. Thomas asked us to consider no longer using Styrofoam – rather we should aim for biodegradable or recyclable.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm and closed with a Celtic prayer from Iona read by Deacon Martha.

Next Meeting: August 15, 2017

There is typically no Vestry meeting in July. However, if something urgent comes up we will call a meeting or canvass members by email.

Reports for August:

Card Ministry – Patti Dickinson
Emergency Food Ministry – Sue Miller
Coffee Hour, Prayer List – Sue Heschke
Church School & Kids – Rick Rucci

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Bauer
Clerk Pro Tem