

Vestry Meeting Minutes
August 18, 2015

Calvary Episcopal Church – Crook Auditorium

Vestry Present: Julie Bethell, Alison Boeving, James Dowd, Jan Gwin, Celeste Herburger, Nicky Hitching, David Leigh, Mike Nelson, Fred Piper, Donovan Smith, Leslie Atwood Smith, Raymond Spence, Terre Sullivant

Others Present: Kayla Bartosch, Hilary Chipley, Rev. Eyleen Farmer, Hall Gardner, Rev. Chris Girata, Katie Owen, Catie Thacker

Call to Order: Rev. Chris Girata called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and opened with a prayer.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the June meeting were approved.

Youth Formation Update: Kayla Bartosch and Hilary Chipley

Kayla and Hilary updated the vestry on youth formation. A new parent's manual has been created for the school year. The average youth Sunday school attendance rose 22% from last year. They reported the G2H distribution is going well and is self sustainable. The profits are going towards paying for the Emmanuel Meal gifts. They are planning two trips for next summer. One trip will be for high school students to travel to Honduras through the Lamb Institute. The other trip, a week of summer camp will be for both high school and middle school students. This year's summer camp was very successful and included service projects, ongoing discussions, and TED talks. Kayla also reports that she is actively working on the Young Adult Ministry with 12 regular attendees.

Treasurer's Report:

Katie Owen presented the income statement. The income statement is under budget on expenses, and ahead of plan on revenue. The balance sheet shows a remaining bell tower loan of about \$47,000 of which \$30,000 is still being collected in pledges. The remaining \$17,000 will be paid by the church from the net profit of this year. The treasurer's report was approved.

Working Group Reports:

Administration

Jan Gwin: Jan extended a welcome to Donovan Smith for joining the administration group to replace Chad Cunningham. Jan reported that the administration group is happy that Episcopal Church Foundation was approved by the vestry to run the capital campaign. The representative was on site Monday and Tuesday (8/17 and 8/18). The administration group plans to lean on ECF for support for the upcoming annual giving campaign as well as getting planned giving setup.

Formation

Julie Bethell: Julie and her group reported that the fall adult formation series of Believe Memphis is ready for kickoff. They are very excited for it. There will also be a bible study offering and the welcome class. Julie and her group are still working of getting some succession plans together for a few of the formation groups. The new funeral guild is progressing nicely.

Ministry

Nicky Hitching: Nicky reported that her group is making good progress in getting the ministry groups together. They are still trying to help some of the groups' identify new leaders to help with succession plans.

Warden Reports:

Leslie Atwood Smith: Leslie reported that the working groups have already met many of the goals set out for 2015. She would like the groups to think of some new goals for the remainder of the year.

Terre Sullivant: Terre reported that she and Celeste are putting together a welcome basket for Paul McLain and his wife Ruthie. They would like the vestry's help with hand written notes or emails about advice best in Memphis. Also they are taking gift card donations for the basket from local Memphis places that you would recommend to them.

Vestry Elections:

Hall Gardner: Hall is chair of the vestry nomination committee and asks that the vestry start thinking of people who might fit projects that the working groups are planning. The nominations committee is taking suggestions. The vestry election is October 25th.

Clergy Reports:

Eyleen Farmer: Eyleen reported on Friends of Thistle Farms, which is currently working on developing a business plan. Stacy is the newest member of the team. She was brought on for book keeping. The bee harvest is this coming Saturday. They have been in talks with the Memphis Botanic Gardens about setting up the garden. Eyleen has learned that Memphis Botanic Gardens' plan to rework the land for the garden is very expensive.

Eyleen gave an update on the Funeral Guild. She and Lynda Gayle are working with Laurie Monypeny and Jill Piper to get the Funeral Guild more organized. The idea is to get enough volunteers that the same people do not always have to be at the funerals. There is also a planned workshop for setting up funerals.

Eyleen also gave an update on LPS. Rob Wright the bishop of Atlanta is scheduled to speak next year. The rest of the 2016 speakers that are not booked yet will mostly be filled in with local clergy. LPS is starting to look ahead to 2017 speakers as well. The LPS has budgeted for and is in search of a part time administrator for 20 weeks for LPS.

Chris Girata:

Chris reported on the following:

1. LPS has finished raising money for the Borg Fund for next year. Marianne Borg, Marcus Borg' widow will be a speaker next year.
2. The house staff has become very well organized and creates a great event environment.

3. Calvary is working on growing our relationship with our tenants. Hilary Chipley is doing Godly Play on a weekly basis with Calvary Place. Grizzlies Prep had a school year kick off blessing at Calvary with a reception following. Calvary is looking into coordinating a few other events with Grizzlies Prep.
4. Erin, the consultant from ECF, met with several groups. Currently 6 annual giving parties are planned. Feedback will be received from those parties.
5. The next vestry meeting has been moved to September 22nd.
6. Paul McLain is very energetic about joining Calvary.
7. The Parish Breakfast will launch September 13th. Chris would like for the vestry to support by their attendance. The plan is to give it a year run to see if it is successful. There was a discussion on cost, and decided that items would remain 50 cents each as previously determined.
8. Adult Conformation will be August 30th. Nearly 40 adults will be confirmed/received, 1 baby baptism, and 1 adult baptism.
9. The Discovery class will start again in September and run 5 weeks on Wednesday nights. There is also be an unpublished Discovery class on Sunday mornings for those who wanted to attend Wednesday nights, but are unable to do so.
10. Lobsterpalooza will be October 24th. Kim Jasper is chair person. This year, it will be a small in house event, with hopes to expand in the future. It will raise money for ministries, specifically Room in the Inn this year.

Adjournment: Rev. Chris Girata adjourned the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Catie Thacker