

Vestry Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2019
Calvary Episcopal Church
Crook Auditorium,

Vestry Attending: Sarah Ball, Les Smith, Madge Deacon, Kim Kitterman, Heidi Rupke, John Webb, James Aldinger, Lisa Buckner, Bailey Fountain, Nancy Manire, Ginny Strubing

Clergy: Rev. Scott Walters, Rev. Paul McLain, Rev. Amber Carswell

Absent: Peg Wahl, Hank Word, Gail Harrell, Ed Thorpe

Others: Christine Todd

Scott Walters called the meeting to order at 6:07 and opened with a prayer.

Outreach Report: Christine Todd

“The best way to find yourself is in the service of others.”

Christine presented a Power Point report on all of Calvary’s outreach ministries, emphasizing the long legacy of outreach at Calvary. Many of our ministries are on Calvary’s block: Grizzlies Prep Lunch Buddies; The Hospitality Hub, which is looking for board members; Work Local, which provides job access and blight reduction in our city; Community Breakfast (Sundays) and Breakfast Prep (Saturdays), which serves 175 every Sunday; Waffle Shop and Lenten Preaching Series; Room in the Inn; Community Clothes Closet; Lives Worth Saving; Soup Sunday; Emmanuel Meal (December 16, 2019), Calvary Neighborhood Cleanup (February 24, 2019).

Other ministries: Special Friends; Pride Parade Hugs (September 28, 2019); Emmanuel Center (its carnival will be on April 13, 2019); MIFA; Refugees; Thistle and Bee; Friends of Mental Health Court; MICAH; Giving Tree-Baby Clothes; Honduras Lamb Institute; Food Pantry at GSL (during Easter Season).

Christine encouraged vestry members to get involved in some of these ministries, and all vestry members are asked to work at Room in the Inn on Sunday, **March 17**.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the January Vestry Retreat were approved. The motion was made by Kim Kitterman and seconded by Les Smith.

Treasurer’s Report: Scott Walters

Scott reported that it is too early in the year to see any trends. Accruals are still coming in from December. The report was approved. Ginny Strubing made the motion and Kim Kitterman seconded.

Rector’s Report: Scott Walters

Scott reported that our by-laws need updating and have been reviewed by Al Harvey. It was discovered that some past vestry work did not make it into the by-laws, and some Diocesan canons regarding vestries no longer exist. The last update to our by-laws was in 2006. The current proposed edits are posted on basecamp, and the vestry is asked to review these before the March meeting.

These pertain to the parish annual meetings and vestry nominations/elections. A discussion followed concerning nominating committees and when to convene them. More discussion on this topic will be in March, when Al Harvey will be invited to the vestry meeting and a vote on the by-laws will take place.

A new parish administrator for finance and operations has been hired. Steve Smith, who will replace Katie Owen, has recently moved back to Memphis from New Orleans where he worked as operations manager and finance director for two museums. He was also the verger at the Cathedral there and served on the vestry. Steve will begin Friday, March 1.

Charles Shipp and David Lusk are helping to preparing a master plan for Calvary's buildings. They will first meet with staff and then the vestry, as well as with all aspects of the congregation to obtain opinions on what is needed in the building. They vestry was urged to think about our use of space and give its input.

A mutual ministries review will be discussed at the next vestry meeting. Among the issues will be what the process should entail and core vocations.

Retreat next steps: Heidi Rupke spoke about the shared values that were agreed to at the vestry retreat – caring for all, vibrancy, courage, heritage – and how to put these ideas into practice. Things that energize us were identified as worship, music, fellowship and children. She encouraged the vestry to think about ways to thank and support persons at Calvary. Areas of improvement that were noted are security, building, and ministries review (discernment for new ministries and old).

Upcoming Events:

- Parish Pre-Lent Clean-up Day - Sunday, Feb. 24
- Evensong - Sunday, March 3
- Fat Tuesday Gumbo Cookoff - Tuesday, March 5
- Ash Wednesday - March 6
- LPS & Waffle Shop begin - March 7

Les Smith presented a short devotional and closed the meeting with a prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.