

# St James Episcopal Church

## Minutes of Vestry Meeting

January 18, 2023

Present: Alan White, Linda Sanders, Terry Kline, Jim Wallis, Mary Lu Gunn, Dick Metzger, Pam Clemmons, Bethany Weisser, Chris Adams, John Templeton and Father Sam Buice.

Call to Order: Alan called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

Formation: Linda shared a reading from Forward Day by Day. The Confession of St Peter Acts 4:13 reminding us that should be able to be recognized as companions of Christ, how we can help others see Him.

### Information:

- Membership: Dick stated attendance was declining even prior to the pandemic. Membership is 110. We have had 5 deaths, 6 transferred and 1 moved. We are good at being very welcoming, we must get better at inviting people to attend.
- Stewardship: Linda reported to date through the "More Than Enough" pledge campaign that we have \$189,760 in pledge compared to \$191,000 last year. She is going to remind people that we are still accepting pledges.
- Junior Warden report: Terry cut the water well during hard freeze to avoid issues. Upstairs lock was said to have a problem but whenever Terry tried it is working. The first door has been completed now the other will need to be sanded and painted when it gets warmer.
- Worship Committee: Mary Lu- We will have a Shrove Tuesday Dinner for all at Rusty Bike on February 21. Cost is \$8.00 per person plus tax and tip. Going to ask Jack Ball to play banjo. Decorations are here so we will need help decorating and serving as well as clean up. Worship Committee met on 01/11/2023. There will be 5 Lenten Soup Luncheons after Lectionary.

Next meeting will be 02/13/2023 at 4:15

- Search Committee: John Templeton- Spoke of creating the parish profile, reached out to all dioceses. Placed ads in Episcopal News Service. Currently, it is the unanimous recommendation of the Search Committee that we hire an interim priest.

Discussion: Father Sam Buice will be offered the position if approved. The salary will be based on a letter received from the Diocese. Costs will be for three Sundays and most of the day each Wednesday.

When Alan asked for questions, Father Sam spoke up about how important it was the INTERIM be emphasized when talking to the congregation so that their expectations are met. John said that he wants all the congregation to know that Father Sam is interim clergy and that the Search Committee are still hard at work looking for a part time priest in charge.

- Treasurer Report - A year end summary of 2022 as well as a spreadsheet were presented by Jim Wallis. This is a cash basis report. Expenses are under budget as well as income so only a \$2500.00 difference. A decision was made to use designated funds for some of the 2023 expenses and Jim presented the budget and a spreadsheet showing how that would work. Mary Lu asked if media specialist funds could be used to update WiFi. No update on endowment, end of year reports are not available but due to Bond and Stock Market a loss is expected. Jim also reminded us that we were under budget due to not having a priest in charge and hopefully that would change.
- Annual Meeting will be held on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Reports will be available online and some printed will be available at meeting. Agenda, Minutes, Info about Vestry candidates and budget will be available to all.
- Bishop's Visit- Alan was contacted about a visit on February 5<sup>th</sup> by Bishop Wright. There will be one Service at 10:30 and an enhanced coffee hour following. There will be an opportunity to be received or reaffirmed at the Service.

Mary Lu made a motion to approve the December Minutes. Linda seconded. Passed unanimously.

Dick made a motion to receive the Treasurer Report for 2022. Terry seconded. Passed unanimously.

Mary Lu made a motion to approve the 2023 Budget. Pam seconded. Passed unanimously.

Mary Lu made a motion that Vestry sign the Letter of Agreement for Interim Priest and forward to Bishop's Office for his signature. Terry seconded. Passed unanimously.

VPOD will continue making announcements.

Formation will be Alan in February.

Dick wanted to make a point that he felt that the formation of the Search Committee was a very good move by Vestry as well as navigating through the pandemic.

Pam moved to adjourn and seconded by Dick.

The February Vestry Meeting will be February 15th at 1:00 p.m.

Meeting closed with a prayer at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathleen Johnson

