

VESTRY MEETING August 13, 2024

Present: Rev. Cn Melinda Artman, Alice Bennett, Bruce Carpenter, Margaret Cole, Mitzi Mohn, Betsy Schumacher, Diane Siebecker, Jeff Watson

Absent: Glenn Murrelle

Treasurer: Bruce Carpenter

Chairperson: Rev. Cn Melinda Artman

Lectio Divina: Matthew 12:13-17

Agenda: Motion to accept the draft agenda made by Alice, seconded by Jeff. Additions to agenda include Parish Park Fair, Advertising Community Supper, Copier issue, Combined Worship, and Coffee Time. Motion carries with additions.

Minutes: Motion to accept the June 11, 2024 minutes made by Bruce, seconded by Jeff. Motion carries.

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept the June and July Treasurer's Reports made by Margaret, seconded by Jeff. Bruce reported corrections to the Stained Glass Windows Project reports for April, May, and June, and the Capital Funds Account totals. Information provided to Vestry. Motion carries with corrections as above.

Highlights:

- Revenue and Expense Summary provided for the Parish Park Fair held June 1, 2024. Net Proceeds: \$2,978.46
- The DIT Quarterly Draw Procedure for the Conklin Account #348 reviewed. Discussion: Do we set aside for Capital Projects and/or do we support Operating Expenses from this account. Plan to formulate a policy for drawing quarterly funds from this account. Of note, we can change the amount drawn at any time, however it suits our needs.
- Supply Clergy and Travel Expenses: Bruce made a motion to move funds from Line #5310 Priest Salary Expense to #5317 Travel Allowance Expense (\$1,500) and #5319 Supply Priests Expense (\$3,000). Motion seconded by Melinda. Motion carries.
- At this time, we do not have Supply Clergy coverage for October through December. Canon Melinda's time is shared between the Diocese, SJLC, and Redeemer.

Senior Warden's Report:

- The Community Garden has been abundant and we have shared with the Weight Loss Center and the local Food Pantry.

Junior Warden's Report:

- The Boiler Project has been completed. Jeff Paul will provide Jeff Watson with training for the system. Jeff Watson would like to train people in its use after that. Will ask Glenn Murrelle, Scott Johnson, and Tyler Rhodes if they would be interested in learning the system.
- The AC in the Office Wing is not working and a new system is needed. Presently looking at options and getting a quote from Jeff Paul. Anticipated cost \$10,000-15,000.
- The sidewalk project is completed.
- Looking ahead at the next big project: tar and chip the parking lot. This would extend the life of the blacktop 3-5 years. Consider this project for 2025.
- Vestry thanked Jeff for all you do.

Rector's Report:

- Combined Summer Worship began on 6/1. Worship at SJLC 6/1-7/14. Worship at Redeemer 7/21-9/1.
- **Pastoral Care:** Pastor Scott's last Sunday was 6/23. Pastor Scott was able to visit some homebound parishioners before leaving the area. Information on other parishioner's provided.
- Vacation Bible School was 7/8-7/11. This was a group effort between Sayre Christian Church, SJLC, and Church of the Redeemer. Everyone tried to work well together and the event was successful. 22 kids registered. An anonymous donor provided free ice cream from Johnny D's on opening night – which meant a change in the usual registration procedure. We used the parlor, the church itself, and the downstairs. Operationally it was somewhat different. Although I anticipated a cooperative, team approach to VBS, it was more our church folk were in charge and everyone else more or less did their own thing. It may be that this was the better way. The event was held “St. John's week” which was problematic with the Garrity/Schumacher schedule. It will be interesting to see how it works if we collaborate again next year and where we will have it. For my part, I love working with Betsy on the stories. I did not enjoy managing multiple needs and the resulting emotional tensions.
- Community Supper held June 27 and July 25.
- Blood Drive at SJLC July 17. Ice cream gift certificates provided.
- Emily Garrity – key: Emily has not provided proof of a background check nor has she completed *Safeguarding God's Children* courses. While she is a valuable Sunday School team member, we cannot allow her to participate in Sunday School until these requirements are met. Additionally, she has given her key to her Co-Scout leader (Kristen) and the key has not been returned.
- As Jeff notes – Boiler Project completed, need for A/C for office wing, and Concrete Project completed.
- Community Garden up and flourishing
- Prayer Warriors continue
- Hazel supplied for me on July 24

- Our church is part of the Bradford County History Tour 10:45 am until 11:30 am on Saturday, August 24
- Plaster falling at the rear of the Nave. Need to consider re-plastering
- Betsy continues to report that the ceiling in the Undercroft is falling. This is where Sunday School stores their materials.
- Purchased grocery gift cards from Aldi's from the Discretionary Fund (I had a bad ATM card – used own account and reimbursed by the Fund).
- Convocation 1 delegates meeting with the Bishop on 9/26 at 1:00 pm St. Mark's, New Milford.
- A new drum for the copier was located and installed.
- *“Walking the Mourner's Path”* is an upcoming program at SJLC beginning the 4th week of September & will be through the week of Thanksgiving.
- Anticipate a fall Bible Study (4 weeks duration)
- Diocese Convention is in October at State College
- **Diocesan Activities:**
 - Managing 5 active transitions (6+ inactive)
 - Visited St. Clements/St. Peters W-B; St. Andrew's Nanticoke, and St. Luke's Scranton on June 9; Trinity W. Pittston and Prince of Peace Dallas on July 14
 - Convocation III meets every 2nd Saturday in or near Scranton (takes 6+ hours of my day)
 - Convocation II met July 24 in Mountain Top; Convocation picnic August 18
 - Support staff to Commission on Ministry
 - Assisting 2 priests to find new calls

Other Reports:

- Parish Park Fair: In 2023 we donated \$250 to SJLC for their participation with the Fair. Alice made a motion to donate \$250 to SJLC again this year and for the remaining proceeds to go to Capital Projects. Margaret seconded the motion. Motion carries.
- Sunday School will begin in September

Old Business:

- Conklin DIT: discussed in the Treasurer's Report

New Business:

- Diane brought up a “missed opportunity”: Our Community Supper is not being advertised in the local paper, specifically The Community Calendar of Events. Diane would like to see this advertised (as the other churches do) even if we do not know the menu. This information also was not on the outdoor Bulletin Board in July (this was an omission). After discussion, we decided to place a paid advertisement in the local paper for the rest of the year.
- “Coffee Time”: Margaret wondered if this could be restarted. After discussion, we decided to hold this the first Sunday of the month 30 minutes before worship -

starting in October in conjunction with Empty Your Pockets for the Bridge. Will have cider and donuts for October.

- **Save the Dates:**
Friday, September 13th - Tribute Quartet at the Valley Presbyterian Church
Friday, September 27th – Simple Gifts at SJLC
- Beginning the conversation – for joint worship year round. A big fear is losing our individual identities.

Compline

Adjourn: Bruce made a motion to adjourn, Jeff seconded the motion. Motion carries – 8:53 pm

Next meeting is Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Siebecker
Clerk of Vestry