

Grace Episcopal Cathedral Minutes of the Vestry Meeting – September 21, 2021

Present: Rick Backlund, Linda Ditch, Suzanne DeWeese, Brenda Kebert, Ron Langston, Dean Torey Lightcap, Lance Royer, Chris Shermoen, Susan Weber, Dennis Weikel

The meeting (held via Zoom) opened with prayer.

August Minutes: *A motion was made and seconded to accept the August 2021 vestry minutes as presented.*
Motion unanimously carried.

Treasurer's report: For the month of August, operating income was \$59,366.29 and operating expense was \$72,170.45 resulting in a negative difference of \$12,804.16. Operating income for the year to date is \$570,730.21 and operating expense for the year to date is \$538,109.33 resulting in a positive difference of \$32,620.88. Cash in the bank checking account, per books, on August 31, 2021 was \$127,481.48. Expenses in August included \$25,000 for a new chiller for Cathedral Hall.

Ministry reports

- **Adult Formation:** Rick said their committee met in September to map out Adult Education for the fall. Deacon Anne, Steve Roth, Kathy Smith and Linda Ditch will be teaching classes this fall with topics to include justice ministry, gender issues in the Bible, Advent and foods in the Bible. The dean will also offer a Sunday morning Bible study and a mid-week class.
- **Building and Grounds:** No update on the Blessing Box.
- **Finance:** Chris said a Finance Committee meeting will be held October 5 to discuss how to be better prepared for the coming year.
- **Endowment:** Barbara said investments are doing well with the Episcopal Church Fund making 11% and the Topeka Community Foundation funds making 14% as of last report. The vestry needs to decide if the 2022 contribution from the Episcopal Church Fund should be made at the end of 2021 or in 2022. Chairman Steve Page will find out why a 2021 disbursement has not been made yet and when that will happen. The issue will be revisited by the vestry in October.
- **Evangelism:** Dean Lightcap said he is hoping to have the new website up soon. Suzanne and the dean met regarding welcoming newcomers to the Cathedral, including revising visitor bags, greeters and newcomer lunches. There was further discussion on how we can make contact with those who have visited the Cathedral and encourage further attendance.
- **Hospitality:** Susan needs to find out the amount of the hospitality budget and if it's being used.
- **Outreach:** Dennis reported that the Cathedral Youth Group presented a proposal to provide hygiene products and snacks for the Topeka Mobile Access shower and laundry to the Outreach Committee and asked for a monetary donation. The committee allocated \$844 for the project.

The Outreach Ministry received the \$3000 Alleluia Grant for the Grace Blessing Bags. That ministry began the first Saturday in October.

A few more volunteers are needed for the Saturday Sack Lunch program.

Finally, the Outreach Committee has made monetary disbursements to the Grace Blessing Bags ministry, Let's Help, Doorstep, Salvation Army, and Episcopal Relief and Development.

- **Architectural glass:** Dean Lightcap shared a draft of what the new Pentecost window will look like.
- **Diversity and Inclusion:** Rick reported that the classes on St. Simon's Episcopal Church were successful.
- **Stewardship:** The annual Stewardship Dinner will be held on Saturday, November 6.

Dean's report: Dean Lightcap would like to rework the process for vestry recruitment with more discernment. He will report back after giving the idea more thought.

He plans to meet with Sylvia to begin work on the job description for organist/choirmaster.

The Blessing of the Animals will be held on Sunday afternoon, October 3, outside All Saints Hall.

With no other business, the meeting was then adjourned with a prayer. The next vestry meeting will be Tuesday, October 19, 2021, 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.

— Respectfully submitted by Connie Vosburgh, *Vestry Recorder*