

Grace Episcopal Cathedral

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting – September 20, 2022

Present: Rick Backlund, Linda Ditch, John Finch, Vanessa Hill, Alan Johnson, Brenda Kebert, Cynthia Sheppard Langston, Dean Torey Lightcap, Lance Royer, Marilyn Trubey, Susan Weber, Dennis Weikel

The meeting opened with prayer.

August Minutes: *A motion was made and seconded to accept the August 2022 vestry minutes as presented. Motion unanimously carried.*

Treasurer's report:

For the month of August, operating income was \$102,961.02 and operating expense was \$71,001.95, resulting in a positive difference of \$31,959.07. Operating income for the year to date is \$615,512.91 and operating expense for the year to date is \$556,042.54 resulting in a positive difference of \$59,470.37.

Cash in the bank checking account, per books, on August 31, 2022, was \$226,681.42.

Lance said some checking account funds may need to be moved to an interest-bearing account next month.

Natural gas provider: Lance provided an update on switching the Cathedral's natural gas provider. A notice of termination has been acknowledged by the former company and the new company, Wood River, should be able to provide service by the end of October.

Ivan Greuter: Dean Lightcap updated the vestry on the current process with respect to Ivan's desire to become an ordained minister in the Episcopal Church.

Ministry reports

- **Adult Education:** Rick reported that the committee has been working on finalizing an Adult Forum schedule through the end of December.
- **Stewardship:** Marilyn attended a webinar on stewardship campaigns. The theme for this year will be "More Than Enough." There will be weekly bulletin inserts as well as letters sent to the congregation from Marilyn, the dean and the wardens. A stewardship dinner will be held this fall with pledge cards to be returned in mid-November.
- **Youth/Children:** Brenda reported that a Worlds of Fun trip with youth from the Cathedral, First Presbyterian Church and First United Methodist Church will be held on October 22. Trunk or Treat is scheduled for October 30 and a St. Nicholas Party and gift collection will take place December 4. Torey added that a year-long process for youth confirmation is also in the works.
- **Endowment:** Alan will submit the Endowment Trustees' semi-annual report to the vestry via email.
- **Outreach:** Dennis reported that outreach funds have been allocated to Topeka High School's special needs collection and also for the purchase of socks and blankets that will be given out on Saturday mornings. Several new volunteers signed up to help with the Sandwich Ministry at the Ministry Fair.
- **Ministry of deacons:** Vestry leaders are starting a dialogue on the following points: the most important expectations of deacons in our parish, what their focus should be, and how the parish can support the needs of the deacons. This is a follow up to what Archdeacon Anne brought to the vestry from the diocese at the June meeting.
- **Blessing Box:** Rick reported that Tami Smith would like to move forward on the proposal for a Blessing Box on the Cathedral grounds, a proposal that has previously been approved by the vestry. After some discussion with the diocese, it was agreed to install the box on the south side of the diocese/parish hall building.
- **Diversity:** Linda said their committee is considering some involvement in future LGBTQ festivals in Topeka, highlighting Cathedral ministries and inviting them to attend.

Dean's report:

- A meeting was held involving leaders of the Facebook compline service. Three new ministers will begin leading the daily offering.
- Morning Prayer will be held at both services this coming weekend due to the annual Diocesan Gathering of Clergy in Wichita.
- Tower restoration: Lardner monuments is almost finished making the new cross that will sit between the towers and then they will construct the pinnacles that were damaged in the lightning strike. They hope to get those installed sometime in October, depending on the availability of the lift needed to install the stones as well as the weather.
- Due to some delays, it now looks like next May for the installation of the new stained glass windows.
- World Communion Sunday will be a joint celebration at 10:30, October 2, at Everyy Plaza with the Cathedral, First United Methodist Church, First Presbyterian Church and St. John AME Church.
- A Bites and Beverages (formerly Wine and Cheese tasting) fellowship gathering has been scheduled for next February.
- The dean has been in conversation with the Center for Organizational Development at Wichita State University, specifically the Community Engagement Institute, to develop a long-range plan for strategic development.
- The dean sees the need for clergy assistance as well as a volunteer/ministry coordinator to assist the current staff.

The vestry meeting ended with prayer and then adjourned. The next vestry meeting will be Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 5:30 p.m., via Zoom.

— Respectfully submitted by Connie Vosburgh, *Vestry Recorder*