

Regular Meeting of the Vestry
THE NEVIL MEMORIAL CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE, ARDMORE, PA
Tuesday, February 7, 2017

ATTENDANCE

Present: Andrew Coonradt, Chris Butto, Paul Joslin, Stephen Krouse, Susan LaBrake, Rob McGarvey, Janet Reddin, Catherine Stuart, The Very Rev. Ryan Whitley

Absent: Joan Cesare

Invited Guest: Derron LaBrake

Supplemental Documents:

a) December 2016 Financial Report

The meeting convened at 7:18 p.m, upon conclusion of the annual Stated Meeting.

OPENING BUSINESS

- Approval of the December 2016 Minutes
A **MOTION** was made by Chris Butto to approve the minutes for the December 2016 meeting.
The motion was seconded by Paul Joslin.
It passed unanimously.
- Action Item follow-up: Fr. Ryan reported that Kelly contacted Instant Church Directory, providers of our online directory, to ask why parishioners are no longer able to update their own photographs. She was told this is no longer a function that they offer, particularly disappointing because it was one of the selling points for this vendor. Kelly will start putting rolling announcements in the E-Tale encouraging all parishioners to send/update their contact info and send her a recent photo for inclusion in the directory. It was suggested that a booth to register new parishioners in the directory be included in the Ministry Fair.
- GUEST SPEAKER: Derron LaBrake spoke to the Vestry about the plan to replace the 3 toilets in the men's and women's restrooms. The new toilets, by Gerber, will be chair height and have elongated seats. Derron has volunteered to do the installations but he recommended that, given the age of the plumbing, we should have a plumber on call in case of trouble. The suggestion was made to start by replacing the right-hand toilet in the women's restroom because it is the one whose absence would have the least impact.

SOCIAL, OUTREACH, CALENDAR AND COMMUNICATIONS

- Upcoming events:
 - Good Works Work Day – Saturday, February 11, 7:45 AM to 3 PM in Phoenixville. Organizer: Eileen Kammerer.
 - Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner – Tuesday, February 28, 6 to 8 PM in the Rectory.
 - Ash Wednesday services – Wednesday, March 1 at noon and 7:30.
 - Lenten Quiet Day – Saturday, March 4, 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM.
 - 2nd Kitchen Work Day – Saturday, March 11, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.
 - Easter Bunny Lunch – Saturday, April 8, 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Organizer: Sam Soldan.
 - Designer Bag Bingo – Friday, April 21, 6 PM. Organizer: Bryn Smythe.
 - Kentucky Derby Event – Saturday, May 6 at 2 PM. Organizers: Donna DiPaulo, Joan Cesare, Liz Havens.

- Good Works Work Day – Saturday, May 13, 7:45 to 3PM. Organizer: Eileen Kammerer.
- Chicken BBQ – Saturday, May 20. Organizers: Andy Coonradt and Chad Strickland.
- Fr. Ryan commented on the difficulty that Toneh had in finding dates for her Lenten project-related events (in support of her ministry to veterans) because of the number of social events on the calendar. He suggested adopting an approach that was expressed in a resolution by the deacons in the Diocese: that every church event start with the question: “How does what we do here affect people who live in poverty?” An answer might be to ask all participants in a social event like the Kentucky Derby party to bring food items to donate to the Ardmore Food Pantry.
- Outreach Report – 150 bag lunches with peanut butter and jelly sandwiches were prepared on Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Collection of cereal boxes for the Ardmore Food Pantry will continue through February.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

- Paul reported that Ed Brocklesby has ordered the wood to repair the Rectory porch beam from Beatty Lumber.
- Ed also did a preliminary inspection of the Tudor façade of the Rectory and said it is either fine or a major problem. He will investigate further to determine which.
- New quartz bulbs for the triangular St. George sign on the corner have been purchased, but the lights currently aren't working. Paul will confirm with Mark whether the new bulbs have been installed yet.
- It is time to begin planning for roofing work, to identify several contractors and get them scheduled to come out and look the place over. This needs to happen soon because The Children's Ark recently reported new water damage in the infant room.

STEWARDSHIP

- Chris reported that the final tally for the 2016 Stewardship campaign is 80 pledges totaling \$167,000, which is \$1,200 less than last year. The average pledge is \$11 more. There were three new pledges, which means that four pledges are missing compared with last year.
- Chris commented that getting the online directory in shape by encouraging updates also will assist the Stewardship Committee.

FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION and WORSHIP

Accounting Warden's Report

- Rob presented the December financial report.
A **MOTION** was made by Steve Krouse to receive the financial report.
The motion was seconded by Susan LaBrake.
It passed unanimously.
- Rob reported that the Haverford Guild of Craftsmen will be returning to St. George's for their spring show on April 28-29 (plus setup on Thursday, April 27), for a total of 22 hours rental. They plan to hire Mark Alston to assist them with setup/takedown.

Rector's Report

- The Vestry discussed their impressions of the [Invite, Welcome, Connect](#) website, which contains many resources for assessing and improving newcomer ministry. Comments were positive, especially about the checklists, templates and step-by-step instructions that the site provides. Fr. Ryan reported that after his announcement at the Annual Meeting soliciting volunteers to lead a newcomer ministry, several people did approach him about serving in the more administrative, data-tracking leadership position. However no one has volunteered to serve as the “cheerleader” who directly interacts with newcomers so he will try directly asking some candidates.
- The Vestry received copies of the proposed amendment to the original lease agreement from AT&T to install a cell antenna in the bell tower. After discussion,
A **MOTION** was made by Catherine Stuart that the Vestry approve the AT&T cell antenna lease agreement pending confirmation: (1) that Doug Stuart has read through and signed off on the original lease agreement wording (not just the amendment) and (2) that the amendment to the lease has been amended to update the starting rent listed in the original lease agreement to match the current rate we receive from T-Mobile.
The motion was seconded by Steve Krouse.
It passed unanimously.
- Ardmore Presbyterian is looking for partner congregations to assist them in a refugee ministry. They have been working with [Bethany Christian Services](#) to identify a refugee family, who will probably come from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. After the State Department does the vetting process, Bethany partners with other non-profits to provide services once the refugees arrive. St. George parishioners could assist a family to resettle in countless ways: helping register children for school, demonstrating how to use SEPTA, taking them grocery shopping or to open a bank account, teaching English, etc. Ardmore Presbyterian has located an apartment to house the family but now needs help furnishing it. The Vestry agreed to invite a representative from Ardmore Presbyterian to come and conduct an informational meeting at St. George for interested parishioners. [N.B. this meeting took place on February 19.]
- Vestry members received copies of the book *Being Disciples* by Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury. The theme for this year's vestry retreat in April will be discipleship so the Vestry was asked to read this book beforehand. Vestry members also were asked to bring their \$125 dues to next month's meeting.
- Fr. Ryan reported that attendance for Bishop Gutierrez's visitation on January 29 was excellent. There were about 150 people at the 10 o'clock service and more than 30 at 8 o'clock.
- Because the kitchen is under renovation Fr. Ryan and Elise will host this year's Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner in the Rectory.
- The 2016 parish audit is still unfinished. Fr. Ryan recently received an inquiry from Christ Church, Ithan who are looking to swap auditors with another congregation. However they need audits performed for both 2015 and 2016. This would require two or three people to spend approximately four Saturdays performing the audit and then writing a report about the results. After discussion it was decided to approach several parishioners to see whether they would be willing to serve in this capacity.
- The Floral Guild and Coffee Hour Hosts need additional participants. For Coffee Hour Hosts, it was decided that Kelly will create a schedule where the current participants are scheduled only twice a year. Then gaps in the schedule will be publicized to the parish. If no one steps forward the lack of coffee and snacks will clearly communicate the need for additional volunteers. The Floral Guild currently has six participants who arrange flowers for the weeks that flowers have been paid for. Fr. Ryan suggested the goal

Class of 2018
Chris Butto
Susan LaBrake
Catherine Stuart, *Rector's Warden*

Class of 2019
Joan Cesare
Stephen Krouse
Janet Reddin, *Secretary*

Class of 2020
Andrew Coonradt
Paul Joslin
Robert McGarvey, *Accounting Warden*

should be to recruit six more volunteers in order to create teams that pair experienced volunteers with new people. Receiving an assurance that they wouldn't be on their own might encourage more participants.

Rector's Warden's Report

- The kitchen work day on Saturday, February 4th was a great success. There were many participants and all tasks were accomplished by 1 PM. The kitchen renovation committee is now asking whether the Vestry is willing to commit to covering the additional cost of extending the new floor and ceiling into the Dining Hall. The estimated additional cost is ~\$7,000, however the overall project is currently well under budget so there may be little to no additional expense. The Vestry agreed to cover the additional \$7,000 if necessary.

SHEEP CONCERNS

AFFIRMATIONS

To Janice Capoferri and Mary Hobart for setting up an ad hoc reception for the Deanery concert and then cleaning up afterwards.

ADJOURNMENT

A **MOTION** was made by Steve Krouse to adjourn the meeting.
The motion was seconded by Chris Butto.
It passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Reddin, Secretary