

St. John's Episcopal Church
Sharon, PA
Vestry Minutes
May 8, 2017

Present: Al Seladi, Tracy Schliep, Matt Ciszek, Robert Barletta, Adam Trambley, Keith Rowlands, Madge Tamber, Nick Baron, and Barb Lipinski.

Absent: Linda Houk.

Evening Prayer: Vestry met in All Saints' Chapel for Evening Prayer at 7:00 pm.

Business Meeting: Vestry reconvened in the Upstairs Dining Room at 7:23 pm.

Review of Minutes: The May 8, 2017 minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Schliep to approve and seconded by Barletta. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's Report was reviewed and discussed. The balance sheets for April 2017 were reviewed. We are on track for meeting the budget this year with favorable income. Rowlands had a question about Plant Expenses listed in the balance sheets. Fr. Trambley will check with Tina on what is included there and report back. Rowlands and Baron went to PNC Bank to sign signature card. There are now 5 signatories on the account. Ciszek made a motion to approve the report and balance sheets, seconded by Barletta. Approved unanimously.

The Alms Fund has not been moved from PNC Bank to Huntington Bank yet. Fr. Trambley will report when this is done.

An update was provided on our new financial software, Realm. It is currently being setup and training is planned for May 26, 2017. A handout with new licensing rates was distributed. There is a \$298 setup fee, and a monthly charge of \$108 for the software. Lipinski asked what type of online giving can be done with Realm, and Fr. Trambley explained the benefits of allowing parishioners and others to pay pledges, pay for rental fees, or make donations by credit card.

We plan to switch over to the payroll processor at the end of June to match the end-of-quarter in the fiscal year.

Conflict Resolution Plan: Fr. Trambley distributed the updated Plan in the brochure version for distribution to the parish on Pentecost Sunday.

Mother's Day ECW Recognition: ECW will distribute gifts for mothers in the parish on Mother's Day. The Vestry assisted in packing the gift bags before the Vestry Meeting.

Pew Movement: Fr. Trambley began a discussion of moving the "handicapped accessible" pew from the back of the church to the front, possibly by removing a pew or two on the left side. The consensus was that we should poll the parishioners who might use this pew and ascertain their preferences. Fr. Trambley will talk to those who may need this and report back.

Strategic Planning: Fr. Trambley distributed the book *The Myth of the 200 Barrier: How to Lead through Transitional Growth* which we will use to frame some of our strategic planning discussions. He asks that we read the first 4 chapters by next month's Vestry Meeting and come prepared to discuss the chapters.

Fr. Trambley has talked with Ed Palansky about facilitating our strategic planning discussions. He's agreeable to this, but would like to know more about what we would like him to do. Fr. Trambley also

spoke with Dave Dauber, a church growth coach that he had worked with about the possibilities of his assisting us with strategic planning as well. He will report back on these ongoing conversations.

The discussion turned to the formation of a strategic planning committee and who should be on this. Since we had decided to begin this in the early Fall/late Summer, we should be thinking of names for who we will suggest for membership on this committee.

Rector's Updates: Fr. Trambley provided some updates, including:

- What was the feedback on Holy Week services this year? The overall discussion was very positive, especially for the joint service (with procession and donkey) with First Baptist and First Methodist. Tamber noted that she missed people bringing bells to ring when the curtain dropped during the Easter Vigil. We may need to remind people to bring them next year.
- Fr. Trambley will be at Virginia Theological Seminary for his D. Min residency June 19-July 8, 2017. Pastor Martin Roth will officiate at the June 25 service, and Dcn. Herald will officiate at a Morning Prayer service without Communion on July 2.
- Fr. Trambley will also be away from July 21-29, 2017 on a mission trip to the Dominican Republic. Jason Shank will officiate on Sunday July 23.

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:45 made by Baron, and seconded by Barletta. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted on June 12, 2017 by Matthew Ciszek, Clerk.