

## **St. Simon's On-The-Sound Episcopal Church**

February Vestry Meeting

15 February 2016

### **Clergy:**

The Rev'd Edward Harrison, Interim Rector

The Rev'd Eric Zubler, Associate Rector

### **Vestry Members:**

Rhoda Adams-Reiss (absent), Gene Correll, JoAnn Gorsuch, Cathy Halprin, Bill Hardy, Bob Hauge, Senior Warden Renee Larson, Lori Lawhorn (absent), Henry Rabby, Barbara Smith, Debbie Vaughan, Junior Warden Paul Wheelless

**Clerk:** Ellen Dodson

**Treasurer:** Mike Sheppard

- 1. Opening Prayer** by Fr. Edward at 5:30 pm.
- 2. Approval of Previous Minutes:** Bob Hauge moved to approve the January minutes as presented. After a second by JoAnn Gorsuch, the motion carried, all votes in favor.
- 3. 2015 Parochial Report** for submission to the Diocese was signed by the Rector, Clerk, and Treasurer.
- 4. Finance Report:**
  - a) Mike Sheppard reported that we have made two draws on our LOC for a total of \$69,000. Our credit line limit is \$200,000 with a fixed rate of 4.25% over five years. If we amortize the total amount over 15 years, our monthly payment will be a little over \$1,500. Due to the generosity of some parishioners, we have accumulated \$44,750 which we have placed in a designated account. The Finance Committee's plan is to draw down from this account and make monthly payments as needed on the LOC draws. Hopefully we can add to the designated account by future fund raising.
  - b) For the first month of 2016, total revenues exceeded expenditures by \$1,800, and Pledge & Plate income was fairly comparable to the past few years. We finished up 2015 strongly.
  - c) Stewardship final tally yielded 150 pledges for a total of \$485,833. Eleven pledging units from past years have continued to contribute in spite of not submitting a pledge. With this in mind, the hope is that our 2016 budget is on the conservative side.

- 5. Endowment Committee Appointment:** Per recommendation of Chairman Jack White, the Senior Warden presented the name of Kelley B. Fuller. She attends the 8:00 am. Sunday service and is the former Navarre Chamber of Commerce chairperson with marketing skills. A motion made by Bill Hardy to approve Mrs. Fuller's appointment to the Endowment Committee was seconded by Debbie Vaughan. The motion carried, all votes in favor.
- 6. Lenten Dinner February 17** is sponsored by the Vestry with JoAnn Gorsuch coordinating the arrangements. She has nine people signed up to make soup and has bought rolls with Rhoda's donation. JoAnn has dessert which was donated by the owner of a bakery in Destin. All vestry members are requested to be available Wednesday afternoon to set up and afterward for cleanup. Cost for parishioners is \$5 adults and \$2 children, all proceeds going to the Hospitality Fund.
- 7. Roofing Update:** Bill Hardy reported that the general contractor Keith Rockman said that they are expecting to finish on time; work is about 40% complete, but the hard part is yet to come. Bill took John, the foreman, around the building today for a ceiling check, and both determined that there are problems which weren't anticipated. The atrium work will be tricky.
- 8. Clergy Reports:**
  - a) Rotational Sunday School is going well with Faith Friends which is for elementary school age children. The concept is learning the same story in successive weeks using different modalities such as music, drama and art. We are thankful for JoAnne Connell and Kay Todd who are doing great jobs with the children.
  - b) We have new furniture in the Youth Room which appeared anonymously. Ansley Walker, Brice Horwell, and Judy Radeker along with Fr. Eric are using a curriculum title "Confirm Not Conform" which challenges the youth (middle & high school ages) to think about their faith as opposed to "all Episcopalians believe x, y, and z". They will have a retreat the first weekend in March at Cece Allen's lake house.
  - c) Fr. Eric and Fr. Edward are re-examining the nursery and how it functions with the hiring of Amber West as director. Amber is certified and highly qualified. Parents' Morning Out will resume in March, probably on Wednesday mornings, and Parents' Night Out has been permanently suspended.
  - d) Godly Play, for the wee ones, will begin after diocesan training which will be held soon.
  - e) Fr. Eric is brainstorming the idea of perhaps somehow connecting the nursery to the parish hall, whether it be by a door, or one-way window, or else. Stay tuned for updates.
  - f) New vestry members will need to complete the "Safeguarding God's People" curriculum via a computer program. Fr. Eric will supply website and sign-in protocol.

**9. Rector Search Update:** The committee has received five of seven responses from candidates after the second letter was sent out. Review of these responses will begin at tomorrow night's meeting and will continue in the coming weeks.

**10. New Business:**

- a) Paul Wheelless proposed that we schedule New Consecration Sunday for November 13, 2016. After discussion, vestry agreement was that Paul will email Cassidy in the parish office with the date to be placed on the church calendar.
- b) Bill Hardy met with Mr. Tucker recently, former owner of The Boat next door. Mr. Tucker would like to continue his ministry with us, that of leveling our parking area periodically with the tractor. He will attempt to arrange that with the new owners.
- c) In response to the multitude of tasks which parishioner Steve Larson has taken on in the absence of a Facilities Manager, Fr. Edward proposed that the vestry approve a dollar amount for a Steve & Renee weekend away. With Renee out of the room, Bill Hardy moved that we gift \$1,000 for a weekend package, and Bob Hauge seconded the motion. After a short discussion, the motion carried, all in favor.
- d) New vestry members are to meet Gene Correll downstairs after this meeting for a photo shoot.

**11. Closing prayer** by Bob Hauge.

**12. Adjournment** at 6:15 pm. Next vestry meeting will be held on Monday, March 21 at 5:30 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Ellen Dodson  
Clerk of the Vestry