

Vestry 3/21/2013

Meeting began at 7:10 with a prayer from Rev. Leslie.

In attendance: Rev. Leslie, Bonnie Branham, Petey Nettles, Nick Short, Sandy Short, Diane Clark, Rick Anderson, Steve Esmacher, Ken Wenzel, Karen Beck, Nikki Clowers, Tom Sykes. Not present: Ed Lewis, Karl Finley.

All Vestry members introduced themselves and gave general information about where they live, their association with Holy Trinity, work and family life.

Steve, Sandy and Diane are leaving the Vestry so Rev. Leslie asked if there is anything they wanted to say in parting. Steve said that he hopes the Vestry uses the energy of the new members to do some good work. Sandy said she's looking forward to see what the energy of the new Vestry will be going forward and hopes and prays that we move forward and hope that things carry on for another 300 years. Diane offered her help for anything if needed.

Rev. Leslie presented the three with gifts as a token of appreciation.

Meeting dates/times. The majority agreed to change the meetings to the fourth Monday of the month at 7:00pm. Next meeting date/time is Monday, April 22.

Vestry members discussed the following for "norms" at meetings:

- Keep sensitive things, sensitive. Other things that are discussed and recorded in the minutes are public and minutes will be published. Sensitive things, including things such as personnel issues, should be discussed in Executive Session.
- When Vestry decisions are made, act as a unified voice.
- Let everyone speak; give space for everyone to present their opinion if desired
- Start meetings on time
- Keep meetings on schedule
- Keep on topic
- Do Compline at end of meeting
- Keep to 90 minutes
- Respond quickly to emails that need a response
- Have a Yahoo or Google group for Vestry
- Put meetings on Calendar
- Be respectful of everyone's contribution and opinion
- Talk things out that need to be handled. If it can't be said in the Vestry, it probably shouldn't be talked about.
- Attendance
- Consider the good of the church and parishioners, not personal desires

De-brief of Annual Meeting

- There was a lot of passion around topics. There is certainly a need for more transparency from the Vestry. Major step would be to publish/post meeting minutes.
- Suggestion about future annual meetings: not hold meeting in the middle of service. Sandy saw visitors—with children—that got up and left and said that they were frustrated.

- There is disappointment about the level of distrust. Vestry needs to work to rectify.
- There was also disappointment with the congregation viewpoint regarding the Rectory.
- We felt bad for the majority of the congregation that were unaware of the undercurrent of the church and that it came out at the Annual Meeting.
- Maybe we should have a periodic Town Meeting.
- Intend to do a better job of bringing issues to resolution. Then the Vestry as a whole needs to be informed that things have been resolved.
- Be accountable for projects and seeing them through.
- Is there now fervency around raising money for Rectory?
- People are frustrated and maybe feel they're not being heard.
- Own it
- Treat everyone in a Christian manner.

Steve asked that we look at these items and not just let them die so that we are not in this position next year.

Meeting adjourned.