

Trinity Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes
Tuesday, October 24, 2023

Present:

Stewart Abbot, Senior Warden
Mark Johnson, Junior Warden
Patricia Streeeter, Clerk
Judy Gregory – term ends 2024
Bob Brunswig- term ends 2024
Linda Springer – term ends 2024
Lisa Blank – term ends 2025
Margaret Grant- term ends 2025
Jim DeMersseman – term ends 2025
Linda Haley – term ends 2026
Sean Miller – term ends 2026

Also Present:

Rachel Thompson, Trinity Bookkeeper
Julie Matt

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:22 by Stewart

Meditation offered by Judy Gregory

Visitor Recognition

Rachel Thompson – Trinity Bookkeeper

Business

Minutes of September 27. Jim moved to approve the minutes as submitted; seconded by Bob.

Motion carried.

Financial report by Rachel and Stewart

Rachel submitted a written Financial Statement and presented a narrative. Pledges have started to come in. Some substantial amounts of income have come in, consistent with rental income for the entire year from Wee Love, plus \$600 for next summer. \$2,500 was received from GCO in advance for the '23-'24 season. We are still \$93,000 down for the year.

Stewart reiterated cost-saving steps that have been taken. Brite White is still cleaning the church. The plan is to notify them and then possibly terminate the contract January 1st.

Mark made a motion to accept the financial report; seconded by Linda S. **Motion carried.**

Correspondence

Linda H. read a letter from Sandy Torres.

Stewart reported on an email from the Tekstens who have asked to have their membership ended at Trinity. Deleting them from Simple Church would result in loss of their records, thus they have been made "inactive."

Decisions:

Endowment Account discussion:

"The Vestry of Trinity Episcopal Church supports the creation of an endowment account at the Colorado Episcopal Foundation." It is recommended to move money from the restricted account into the endowment account. Lisa moved to adopt the vestry resolution, seconded by Margaret. **Motion carried.** One no vote.

The Endowment Policy as presented by Judy and Linda H. will be voted on as a bylaws change by the end of the year. Stewart would like the bylaws changes to include a decrease in the number of vestry members as well.

Lay Pastoral Leader training discussion:

Stewart left and Mark took over the chair position.

Lisa explained the process and of the Lay Pastoral Leader training program.

"The Vestry of Trinity Episcopal Church supports the candidacy of Maureen "Terrie" Abbot for entry into the Diocesan Lay Ministry Leader training program." Judy moved to adopt the resolution, seconded by Linda S. **Motion carried.**

Stewart returned.

Parish feedback

Positive feedback has been received regarding music.

No news on the grant that Stewart applied for.

Stewart will talk to Dan regarding the GCO facility use agreement.

Service plans

Sunday 10/29, will be Morning Prayer. Lisa will be the Lay Reader.

11/5 Scott Turner will return. Fr. Turner will be with us every Sunday (except December 3rd) through the end of January.

December 3rd is the first Sunday of Advent. Christmas Eve is Advent 4. There will be a service in the morning and then the Christmas Eve service in the evening. Both will have communion. Christmas Day will be the said service, maybe Morning Prayer, maybe with Bill Kindle in the chapel.

Lisa suggests an Epiphany party on January 6th, Saturday.

January 28th is the annual meeting.

February 13th is the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper,

March 31st is Easter.

May 19th is Pentecost.

May 26th is Trinity Sunday and Memorial Day weekend.

It is suggested to see how November 5th turns out before making lots of plans going forward. The November 5th baptism will have cake and coffee in the Narthex.

We are considering having a potluck on December 3rd.

Office and service helper coordination

November is filled for the office and service helpers.

The Treasurer position is still vacant.

There is a position on the Finance Committee that remains vacant.

Vestry Roundtable

Patricia thanks everyone for their friendship and the leadership of vestry.

Jim is happy with the volunteers. He has more people than spots. His biggest problem right now is he can't do a distribution list for scheduling.

Jim makes a **motion** to change the time limit in the schedule for use of the Trinity facilities, to a limit of four hours from the current two-hour limit. Seconded by Margaret.

Discussion was had.

Jim amended his motion to "four hours, or as arranged." Margaret agreed to the amendment.

Motion carried.

Bob thanks Patricia for her inspiration; and thanks Jim for juggling everything. Things have been running smoothly.

Sean believes the angst in the parish is being addressed and that Trinity is still a group that's staying strong. He thinks the community will be stronger.

Julie will be the clerk by acclimation.

Linda H. loved Sunday's service.

Judy feels like this month has been a blessing to Trinity. She is seeing people bond together and step up and out. She thinks it is simply beautiful to see the blessings we have on us. Positive, encouraged and hopeful that we're moving in the right direction.

Lisa generally thinks things are positive. It's been fun to run into people and see people in the office. The saying that "we are the church" is more real than ever before. Compliments to vestry for the transparency present. She has received lots of positive comments about Verlene playing piano and Stewart playing guitar.

Linda S. offers to take on the bylaws update for the vestry people change and for the other change as well. Linda is working part-time in November and December. When Rev. Lisa gave her resignation, David's health was an issue and Linda would like an update. Stewart reports on David's health: surgery was successful, and they are back in Colorado. Rev. Lisa had to go elsewhere for two nights, and David was alone. He's doing well.

Margaret thanks everyone for stepping up and organizing the office. She will miss Patricia and thanks Judy for the cards she passed out. Name tags are in the office and Margaret will pull them out for use by visitors.

Mark thought the service on Sunday was great. The music was great. He met with Ben from Tra Mar. The boiler startup is tomorrow. Mark is working with Ben to determine if part of the ice-melt system can be shut down. Mark thinks all four zones can be turned off which would necessitate closing the access to the northeast door outside the narthex. Mark will check with the fire department to make sure it's not an issue. Mark continues to work on this.

Stewart reports that an email came to the office at Trinity indicating that the property is due for interval carpet clean. Stewart would prefer not to do that. Consensus is to put them on an as-needed basis.

Stewart made an executive decision to use funds from the youth group ministry to send five youth to go to Quest. Half of the fees will be paid by the church.

Organ contract. We entered into an agreement for the organ repair person to put a transposer into the keyboard box which will be funded by Norm Lyster. Ray wants a maintenance agreement for the restoration guy for roughly \$1,000 per year, \$500 for transportation and then an hourly rate, but he would come out in conjunction with the work at the Cathedral who would bear most of the cost. He didn't sign an agreement. It would be obligating us to around \$1,200 per year. Linda S. suggests we wait until pledges come in so we know how much money we have. Lisa wonders if we can make sure we don't slight organ in process to get more praise music.

Stewart thanks Patricia for her years of service.

Stewart closed by reading *The Mermaid*, Ogden Nash. Meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Dates to remember:

October 29th – Holy Commotion

November 15th – Finance Committee

November 28th – Vestry Meeting

January 28th – Annual Meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Matt, Vestry Clerk