

St Paul's Episcopal Church (Fellowship Hall)  
March Vestry Minutes  
Tuesday, March 19, 2019  
7:03 p.m.

**Present:** Father Patrick, Deb Lamb, Mary Vanier, Phil Ryan, Landon Leiker (online), Marian Fuller, Katie Dempsey, Candie White, Joe Barbercheck and Rebecca Burton.

**Absent:** Betsy Barrett

Father Patrick opened the meeting by welcoming the new vestry members. Then he proceeded with the on-boarding and orientation process, which included an overview of each meeting format in the future. He also spent a few minutes detailing the different vestry roles. After a round of introductions, Father Patrick explained that the Vestry is a Corporate Board of the Episcopal Church,

- Which includes members with varying views of the Parish.
- That meetings are open to the Parish except for Special Board meetings.
- Share ideas that have worked on other Boards.
- Encouraged the vestry members to be active to be on committees that interest them.
- Reminded them that they are invested in St Paul's and as such should be involved in the various activities.
- That it is important to focus on the "Big Picture"
- Informed them about the availability of the Vestry Handbook which will be available at the Vestry Retreat on April 27, 2019.

After this, the meeting continued with the items on the agenda.

**Approval of Minutes** - January meeting minutes were passed around. Mary Vanier moved to approve the minute which was seconded by Candie. It passed unanimously.

**Rector's Report** - Father Patrick reviewed his monthly report which can be found in Google Docs.

**New Meeting Structure** - Father Patrick and Senior Warden Deb Lamb, will sort the vestry members into 3 groups: Administrative, Building & Grounds (Property), and Mission /Ministry. Each member filled out a slip to indicate their area of interest. This will be experimented with the goal of having the sub-committee bring forth ideas and decisions to the vestry in a consent calendar format.

**New Vestry Process Timeline** - Father Patrick, Deb and Joe will be responsible each month for uploading documents onto Google Drive before each vestry meeting.

**Book Study Orientation** - The Vestry will be exploring the book, "*Joining God, Remaking the Church, Changing the World: The New Shape of the Church in our time*" by Alan J. Roxburgh. This book focuses on the mission of the church; its theology; why certain demographics are

exiting the church and how we can rethink church. The Vestry will discuss the first 57 pages of the book at the Vestry Retreat on April 27, which will be from 9:00 -3:00 p.m.

**Junior Warden** - Presently, the role of Junior Warden is still vacant. Father explained that this was a position that was created out of necessity to take care of the temporal affairs of the church. He suggested that this role could be fulfilled by a group of people, working on various tasks to address issues related to the building and grounds, instead of it being the sole responsibility of one person. Various suggestions were made on how to resolve this concern.

**Invite, Welcome, Connect** - Fr. Patrick reviewed the conversations the congregation had during adult education. Further discussion will return once the Roxburgh book is discussed.

**Sabbatical Review** - Father Patrick's Sabbatical proposal details are available on Google Drive. Fr. Patrick will submit a proposal to the Lilly Foundation grant for Clergy Renewal, the decision on funding will come in August. It will be 14 weeks long from February 23 – June 14, 2020. Questions arose about the effect on the congregation during this time. Father Patrick assured the Vestry that all the services have already been addressed by visiting clergy and informed them that approximately \$5,000 will be needed for clergy help if the sabbatical is not funded by the Lilly program. Besides that, Father Patrick will continue to receive his regular salary in addition to the sabbatical funding. Father Patrick hopes to return with ideas for reconciliation, synthesis of growth as well as learning from the mission. He also shared that, if the sabbatical is funded by the Lilly Endowment program, there is an expectation that the pastor continue to serve the sending congregation for at least another year.

Father Patrick also passed out copies of the **Annual Parochial Report** that has been submitted to the Diocese of Kansas.

**Treasurer's Report** – Joe informed the Vestry that the pledged payments and plate offerings are incoming ahead for the year and the church finances look encouraging. Using a Balance Sheet, and Executive Summary of the 2018 Audit, he shared the details of the Church Finances. He also noted that the Church had not been audited for over 10 years. Final results of the audit will be communicated at the next vestry meeting as well as a “budget process review”.

**Holy Cow** - This survey will be sent out to the parishioners shortly and the results will be ready by the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting for discussion.

The meeting concluded at 9:15 p.m. with Compline.