

Vestry Meeting
Thursday, August 23, 2012 3:45 pm
Rector's study

Present: Rev. Patricia Robertson, presiding; James Clunan, Donald Graves, Arthur Keller, Linda Lewis, Jackie Lowe, Stephen Mahoney , Maude March, Nancy McCormick, Phyllis Partridge

I. Opening Prayer and Discussion

A. Reverend Robertson opened the meeting at 4:00pm with a moment of silence and a prayer.

B. Reflection on Chapter 5 of ***Leadership and Listening*** ranged widely, including a discussion of Mary Rockefeller's book on twinless twins and a discussion of how we can bond in the way twins do, and how our longing for God is central to this bonding and building of a sense of real trust. Arthur Keller highlighted 5 points that were central to him in this process:

1. Trust
2. Prayer
3. Mindful Planning
4. Listening to one another
5. Listening to God

Next month will move forward to reflection on Chapter 6 of ***Leadership and Listening***.

II. July Minutes

A. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the July 23rd meeting by Stephen Mahoney and seconded by Linda Lewis. The motion was unanimously approved by all the vestry members present.

III. Vestry Addition: The replacement of Elizabeth Carey by Jackie Lowe, by the Bylaws, will be announced for two Sundays before it will be formalized at the next Vestry meeting.

IV. Financial Report

A. A motion was made to accept the financials of the July meeting by Maude March and seconded by Nancy McCormick. The motion was unanimously approved by all the vestry members present.

V. Buildings and Grounds

A. St. Jude's Report: Arthur Keller reported on two meetings held with Sam Copeland in July and August.

1. Copeland's presentation to the St. Jude's parish was very well received. It is contemplated that the front will be built up and landscaped

with granite and native plants. The walk will be redone in asphalt and the boardwalk upgraded.

2. The three abutters to the St. Jude property have indicated that they do not object to the proposed design of the parking and landscaping plan.

a) The Iselins will use the St. Jude parking lot for access to a shed on their property.

b) James Clunan commented that he would like to see the abutters providing a written legal approval of this agreement.

3. The town completion of the sidewalk project will be the pivot point for all other activity. This will be tracked going into the Fall.

a) Sam Copeland will use this time to get 2nd and 3rd bids for the parking lot part of the project which may be presented at the 9/13/2012 Buildings & Grounds Committee prior to submittal to the vestry.

b) Fund raising was discussed, with Arthur agreeing to work with Ann Ogilby to work on a telephone and letter contact plan.

c) The parking will be the first part of the project to be completed, with landscaping following as funds are approved by the Vestry.

VI. Centennial Fund Trustee report

A. For St. Mary's, the Trustees approved the use of Centennial Fund monies for the repair of the Tower Roof at St. Mary's (\$10,045) and for the painting of the interior wood of the chapel and hallways up to the parish hall (\$5,100)

B. For the rectory, the Trustees approved the replacement of the sump pump to control drainage and minimize the accumulation of water (\$5,000).

C. For the St. Jude's parking project, the Trustees approved \$10,000 from the Centennial Fund for use in the project.

VII. Committees of the Vestry

Additions/deletions from the committees of the Vestry were made as follows:

A. Stewardship: No additions to the committee were made, but Linda Lewis and Jackie Lowe have agreed to write notes on the annual pledge letter, in addition to the committee members who will also do so.

B. Nomination: Donald Graves will be added to the Nominating Committee

C. Memorial: Jackie Lowe continues as the elected parish representative and Arthur Keller is the Vestry representative.

VIII. Mutual Ministry/Mission efforts

A. Cottage meetings Report

1. Maude reviewed the 2nd Cottage Meeting summary, held August 1st at the Beecher home in Northeast Harbor. The concepts reviewed there – changes we see, where we will be in 5 years and our mission will be carried forward into a Fall meeting.

2. A meeting of the task force will be held on September 6th at Maude's home.

B. Fundraising (ECW)

1. A second casserole sale was held on the porch of Carter's Realty.

2. Casseroles were, again, a hit and a sell out.

3. \$2,200 has been raised between the two promotions.

4. It was suggested that we provide those who participate in future casserole sales be given a standardized container to protect contents and encourage standardized portions.
- C. Strengthening our bonds with the community**
1. Phyllis reviewed the prayer shawls ministry, which continues to be both popular and affirming.
 2. The Mount Desert greenhouse project, spearheaded by Scott McFarland, was mentioned. Vestry members were encouraged to attend Scott's presentation at the library to review this project.
 3. Sea Coast Mission's coffee reception after two services in August was discussed and the possibility of supporting Scott Planting's ministry will be continued at the next meeting.
 4. DVD showing – The reaction to the Live Free or Die video was very positive. The video is scheduled to be shown again at the SWH library, by Susan Buell.
 5. The collaboration team (for MDI Episcopal Church)
 - a) Will include Stephen Mahoney and Linda Lewis.
 - b) SMSJ could provide a leadership role in facilitating the identification of opportunities for mission.
- D. Haiti partnership – no more information at this time**
- E. Lay Pastoral training – begins September 22, with a session in Ellsworth, facilitated by the Ellsworth Lutheran Church and the Episcopal Church in Blue Hill.**

IX. Rector's Report

- A.** Rev. Bill Hague will be retiring and living 9-10 months a year on MDI. Mike Wheeler will continue to serve St. Jude's in August and Don Graves will contact Mike Dennis to determine if the Wheelers can stay at their apartment in August.
- B.** Legacy reception was postponed indefinitely due to scheduling conflicts.
- C.** Stewardship consulting - 22 September 9 am to Noon
 1. Registration is on-line.
- D.** Parish Picnic – September 16 (with the MDI Episcopal Churches) 10 am (one service only)
- E.** Our pastor is leaving...just vacation – October 1 – 23 – coming up!!

X. Closing Prayer and adjournment - Patricia closed in prayer at 6:10PM

1. The next meeting will be on September 27th, at 3:45PM