

VESTRY MINUTES
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

PRESENT: Linda Bourque, Katie Chipman-Bergsma, Nikki Clark, Bruce Lynn via Zoom, Ruth Neveu, Cal Woodard; ABSENT: None; GUESTS: J. Patrick Galey, Susan Harries, Gin Mannisto

1. **Opening:** Linda Bourque opened the meeting at 11:18 a.m. with the vestry prayer.
2. **Review Agenda:** Add the Policy and Procedures manual to New Business. Add Missioners report added to committee reports.
3. **Public Comment:** None
4. **Ministry Support Team:** Patrick Galey reported that everyone has stepped up to the plate to have services every Sunday. Morning Prayer has been offered more often due to circumstances. Pat and Hillary will be gone from January 5th to middle of March 2025. The Mutual Ministry Team has been very helpful to each other. They try to meet every two weeks, but it has been very flexible due to everyone's schedule. Gin Mannisto encouraged everyone to consider coming to the MST meetings and if anyone has any ideas, they could present them to the team or just come to the meetings and see how it all works. The next meeting of the MST is September 25th at 3:30. The following MST meeting is October 8th at 3p.m. and Steve Godfrey, Cannon to the Ordinary will be attending this meeting. He is new to this position as of 2024.
5. **Review/Approval of Vestry Minutes of August 18, 2024. Motion to approve the August 18th minutes was made by Nikki Clark seconded by Bruce Lynn. No opposition or abstentions, motion carried.**
6. **Treasurer's / Endowment / Budget Approval:** Bruce Lynn thanked Susan Harries for helping with the dedication at the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum. Then discussion of how investments are currently doing. Bruce Lynn reported the finances for August and the report will be put on file in the office. As per usual the income versus revenue there is a discrepancy. But as the budget shows we are very close to budget. He discussed the income versus expenditures. He will be working with Sandy to find the disbursement information from the Killin account for his report. The Killin Account and the Edward D. Jones Account have been doing well.
7. **Committee Reports**
 - a. **Christian Education** – none
 - b. **ECW Report** – none
 - c. **Outreach** – The community guardian has been going strong and Katie Chipman-Bergsma brought veggies to give to the congregation this week. Also, last week we had a great potluck meal after church with veggies from the garden. Also, the pumpkins are growing and maybe we could have
 - d. **Missioners Comment** – Gin Mannisto was able to sit in the congregation this week and able to talk to members. Gin Mannisto commented that this is a very caring and grace-filled community, especially with all that has been happening.
8. **Senior Warden's Report** – Linda Bourque reported that the Pancake breakfasts will be resuming in October the second Sunday of the month and the donations from the pancake breakfasts will be used as in the past at Christmas for food gift cards, etc., also bottle/can money has been used for this Christmas as well. A signup sheet is now available for coffee hour. Discussion regarding how pancake breakfast is funded by donations and for how extra funds are used. Discussion about how great a job Frank Chipman Bergsma did during the readings today.
9. **Junior Warden's Report** –
 - a. Cal Woodard did a walk through with Steve Gerrish, a local contractor regarding door renovation/replacement, door closers, sweeps and draft prevention. Steve indicated that any good carpenter should be able to do the work. He also made suggestions about which things need to be replaced and which ones need only to be

repaired. Cal Woodard asked if anyone knows of any carpenters that might be willing to do the work, please let him know.

- b. Regarding asphalt replacement he has a guy from a Beekeeping business that also does asphalt that has indicated he would do the job. Cal Woodard also thinks that replacing the whole parking lot may be needed. He will be looking in how to get the finances for this project, either by getting a loan or using the endowment funds or donations from the congregation. Somebody walked off with the cone in the parking lot marking the hole in the parking lot.
- c. Dennis Vierra has contacted Susan Harries and indicated he has not yet put in a bid for the parking lot snow plowing, but he is intending to do so.
- d. Katie Chipman-Bergsma indicated that she has been in contact with Solar Faithful. Katie Chipman-Bergsma is keeping informed about what is happening with that possible process. They might also help out with a new parking lot if solar is somehow involved.
- e. Also, there was discussion regarding boosting the internet connection in the basement, particularly the Centennial room. Cal Woodard indicated he would ask someone to help with that project.

10. Old Business: Bob Aldrich was able to attend the MST meeting. They discussed picking out the music and how the MST can participate in the choosing music, etc. Susan has also been communicating with him. Bob Aldrich indicated that he did not want to play for Morning Prayer. The MST will be working with him from week to week. They will all do the best they can at communicating and keeping everyone on the same page. Discussion followed. One of the suggestions made was that if he did feel he should not be paid he could donate the funds back to the church basically leave it up to them. **Nikki Clark made the motion to pay Bob Aldrich his current wage and the MST will work him. Bruce Lynn seconded No opposition or abstentions, motion carried.**

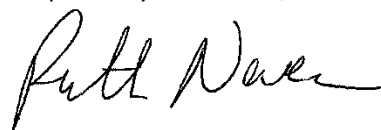
11. New Business:

- a. Discussion of purchasing an IPAD, iTunes and blue tooth stereo. Pat Galey suggested that Hilary Galey may donate her iPad and blue tooth stereo. At this time **Katie Chipman-Bergsma made the motion to purchase an iTunes card for 50.00 to purchase hymns seconded by Nikki Clark. No opposition or abstentions, motion carried.**
- b. Regarding the annual convention delegates in October at Marquette and Negaunee **Nikki Clark made a motion for Katie Chipman-Bergsma, Ruth Neveu, Susan Harries, Margaret Stiling, to go to convention as representatives of St. James Church and David Cook would be an alternate seconded by Bruce Lynn.**
- c. **Katie Chipman-Bergsma made a motion to pay for Dave and Arthur to go to Mystic and the church will pay \$100.00, 50.00 each, Ruth Neveu seconded. No opposition or abstentions, motion carried.**
- d. Katie Chipman-Bergsma passed out a rough draft of a new Policy and Procedure Manual for St. James Episcopal Church of Sault Ste. Marie discussion followed. This information provided the draft of something we can talk about 3 times before the annual meeting as that is what the previous manual indicated must be done before this can be brought up at the annual meeting. One of the goals may be to make it as flexible as possible. It was felt that this is the time to do it as it has been put off for quite a while. The last revision may have been 2007. It was requested that the rough draft be provided electronically to the MST via email if possible.
- e. **Next Vestry Meeting:** Sunday October 20, 2024.

12. Adjournment and Closing Prayers: Motion to adjourn made by Ruth Neveu with a second by Bruce Lynn. No opposition or abstentions, motion carried.

Adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ruth Neveu
Clerk of the Vestry