

Bishop's Committee Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2025

E-mail approval of these minutes. Motion to approve: Jackie. Second: Shannon. Vote to approve: Pam, Sandy, Wendy.

Present: Rev Stacy, Wendy Arntson, Sandy Riley, Pam Heidt; on Zoom, Jackie Shock and Shannon Verbal. Absent with reason: Julie Lowery and Oliver Pung.

Agenda: Approved by acclamation.

Approval of February Minutes: approved by email.

1. **Spiritual Formation:** We discussed the Introduction to our new book, The Church Cracked Open. Stacy pointed out that we may need to read the next chapter a couple of times as it may have a different viewpoint than we are used to.
2. **Vestry Retreat:** It was agreed that we would like to hold a retreat, preferably on a Saturday in May (although the only open ones appear to be May 10 and 24). If Julie Lowery would be willing to host, we would like to do it at her house. It could run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. We would discuss business, and then practice the art of holy conversations.
3. **Staying Connected with Parishioners:** Wendy still needs to update our lists. Stacy is doing a great job of contacting some of our more homebound members. Pam would like a new birthday list, and Stacy suggested adding anniversaries to the list. A motion was made by Wendy to use some of the unrestricted funds to try an online contact app for one year; Jackie seconded; approved. Stacy will find an app she likes and sign us up.
4. **Building and Grounds:** We hope to have a paint bee to get the downstairs of the Parish Hall painted before Easter. One of the wireless access points died; Comcast came out and replaced it. Len has checked with the business office and we currently have the best available price (for two phones, three gateways, and clean scans of devices) We are still using under our maximum allowed; Len will check back in a month or so to see if there are any specials. He still has to connect with the cleaning lady. Tree work will also be done this spring to open up the front of the church.
5. **Tech update:** Len, Wendy, and Stacy met with Sarah Shock last month to discuss updating Facebook. Stacy, Jackie, Sarah, Len, Wendy, and Julie Lowery, are now able to add content. Sarah will be linking us with other pages to try to increase our exposure in the community. Len and Julie Lowery will work to update the website at a later date. On another note, Len requested we be more careful in proofing the announcements as there has been incorrect or conflicting information recently. We also discussed making sure Stacy and Teri have the birthdays and anniversaries so Stacy can include them in the prayers at the beginning of the month.
6. **Welcoming families into our worship space/Notes from the February meeting/2025 Goals:** We talked about all of these together and it was decided nothing could be implemented until people did a ranking from the input Stacy received during our Coffee Hour Conversations. She has notes to share and we should have things ranked by our next meeting. Stacy will attend the Crop Walk meeting in Chelsea tonight and let us know what she finds out. It was also suggested that we change

the time of the service on Sunday, June 1 because of the Dexter/Ann Arbor Race. The service will be at 10:30 that day.

7. **Clergy Search:** The Parish Profile is almost ready to go to the Diocese. Thank you Search Committee! (And Stacy!)
8. **Finance Committee Report:** Operating income has exceeded operating expenses by \$6,476 which is \$8,121 better than the budgeted deficit for February. Other gifts (41021) was not included in the approved budget. The YTD balance represents unrestricted gifts from a member's memorial service. Salaries have been updated per the budget approved at the Annual Meeting. New pay rates were paid retroactively to January 1 in the February payroll. Jackie made the motion to approve the report; Shannon seconded; approved. Stacy did want us to be mindful that some parishioners are concerned they may not be able to continue their pledges if changes are made to Social Security payments.
9. **Important dates:** Sandy will create a sign-up sheet for Easter Brunch. At the Worship Committee meeting, Stacy asked that we celebrate the Easter Egg Hunt after church on Sunday, April 27, the Second Sunday of Easter.

Adjourned: Wendy moved to adjourn at 3:25; Jackie, seconded. All in favor.

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 22, at 2 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Wendy Arntson, clerk