

Saint Nicholas Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting
February 26, 2017

Attending: Bill Caudill, Rebecca Crowley, Martha Dimon, Sue Halmrast, Bob Hamilton, Jennifer Milton, Steve Morse, Phebe Robertson, Jeff Jackson, Nick Simpson and Patty Hamilton

Absent: Drucye Cox, sick; Wyatt Poe

Nick Simpson, treasurer, reported that he had been notified that according to diocesan guidelines, churches must pay into the pension plan for any lay employee working more than 1020 hours per year. Our parish administrator meets this criteria so a payment of \$780.00 will be sent to the diocese. Nick will check on Wyatt's hours as well.

Copies of current Profit and Loss statements and Balance sheet were presented.

Noelle Huling and Ashley Taylor presented plans for a SNICK fundraiser. A breakfast is planned for March 19. Funds will go to Mary's Meals, a program that feeds hungry children. A video of the program will play during the breakfast. Five dollars will be charged for breakfast. Martha made a motion that the fundraiser be approved. Rebecca seconded and the motion carried.

Ashley and Noelle also reported that the SNICK program is growing. Younger children are involved which bodes well for future growth. They also expressed the need for meals and suggested that Hot Pockets, frozen pizza and taquitos are always welcome to stock the freezer.

Jeff updated the vestry on the county homeless coalition. The coalition has grown and now includes a better representation of the county. A couple of possible solutions for homeless children have been identified. One involves a grant to the owners of rental property who would house the homeless. Another, more short term program comes from Twin Cedars called Safe Families for Children. This program offers temporary shelter and is intended to keep children out of foster care. The coalition will see a presentation on March 7.

The vestry retreat will be held March 24-26 at Kanuga.

Father Jeff asked that the vestry participate in 40acts, a generosity program for Lent.

Martha reported on the January Blessings to Go which was awarded to the Humane Society of Harris County. Five dog bed replacement covers will be presented to the Society.

February's Blessings to Go will be a visit to the Harris County jail on Ash Wednesday. Ashes to Go will be offered to inmates.

Bill Caudill reported that the cost of operating a light near the playground will be \$38.00 per month. The vestry agreed to table the decision for now.

Bill also presented a solution for the drainage problem on the north side of the church. The project will have to be done by hand. Bill is seeking the vestry's approval of having Valley Rescue men help with free labor. Steve Morse moved to approve. Bob seconded and the motion carried. St. Nicholas will furnish drinks and food for laborers.

Details of Bluegrass Sunday were discussed. The date is May 7, 2017. One service at 10:00 will be held.

Ashley Taylor and Kathy McMurtry were named Stewards of the Month for their work at SNICK.

The March meeting will be held during the vestry retreat. Father Jeff ended the meeting with prayer.

Submitted by Patty Hamilton, Clerk