St Andrew's Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes
4/12/26

Present: Father Kevin Lowe, Sandy Elion, Ned Searles (clerk), Regina Weyer, Troy Williamson, Cathy Habegger, Loren Gustafson, Linda Swan, Jo-Ann Pacenta (treasurer), Rob Hontz, Jon Frey.

Meeting begins: 11:40 am

Opening Prayer

It was pointed out that there is no blue door. The clerk incorrectly wrote "blue door" instead of "back door" to the sanctuary. Clerk agreed to correct error.

That was the only error identified in the minutes.

Vestry approves March minutes.

Reports

Rector Report

It was mentioned by a Vestry member that the Vestry is really excited about the "awesome" attendance that occurred during all the Holy Week services.

It was noted that more than 100 people attended the Easter Sunday service, and this hasn't happened in a long time.

Warden Reports

SW: Silent prayer is now going to happen on Thursdays at 11 am.

The Diaper Bank Ministry received three large financial contributions (grants); thanks to Maggie Chappen for seeking contributions/grant opportunities like these.

JW: There are some pastoral care concerns we can discuss later in the meeting.

Many people showed up for the church clean up yesterday.

Treasurer Report

Heating expenses are really high (over $2000 more than budgeted), a cost that cannot be controlled

Income from pledges was lower than budgeted, but the treasurer stated that difference typically recovers as pledges come in.

A vestry member asked about a discrepancy in a line item that is different in the condensed budget than how it is indicated in the detailed version budget.

Treasurer and Father Kevin will look into that.

Repairing the elevator has been really expensive.

The Property Committee needs the account balance from the Treasurer to know how much can be spent.

The Treasurer asked if the vestry wanted the treasurer's report earlier in the week so that questions can be directed and answered by the treasurer

Committee/Ministry Reports

Nursery committee:

Bonnie is now working in the nursery again. She can now start receiving a paycheck; it won't affect her benefits.

We need someone to replace Tessa for the summer (to accompany Bonnie).

The Property Committee:

The garden will be mulched and edged beginning in May.

Still considering the shed situation; do we need a second shed?

House numbers have been installed on both the rectory and church.

Two cushions have been ordered for the pews. It will take several weeks for them to arrive.

Will start getting bids for an automatic door opener for the back door (north door) leading into the sanctuary.

Blinking red lights on the elevator do not denote impending disaster. They are normal.

Will consult with a Pittsburgh tree expert to decide what to do with the Pine tree in St. Francis Garden.

We have a donor for a new dishwasher in the Rectory.

It was mentioned that the two cedars covering the front cross at the front of the church may need to be trimmed so as not to cover the cross at night.

Community Harvest: St. Andrew's parishioners did well in preparing the meal. It's a very well-organized operation. St. Andrew's will keep preparing meals the first Monday of the month.

Calling and Caring Committee: Maggie, Claudia, and Linda visited 10 people--the folks who can't be here--an Easter visit.

Pastoral Care Concerns

New Business

1) There was a pick-up game in the soccer fields opposite the parking lot on Friday and a group of children entered the church to use the bathrooms. The students were respectful and did not leave a mess.

If the bathroom gets over used or vandalized, we may have to consider a plan to limit access.

But it was pointed out that it's nice to provide a place for people to use a bathroom especially since there aren't many public toilets around.

2) Scheduling Vestry retreat: A Saturday -- 9 to 1 pm or 10 to 2 pm. A little dedicated time to do some more long-range visioning.

FK will start an email chain to find a good day. How about May 30? We would conclude the retreat with lunch.

It was mentioned that a personal invitation from FK to attend the Holy Week services was much appreciated.

Closing Prayer and Blessing

Meeting adjourned at 12:47 pm.