**Grace Church in the Mountains**

**Vestry Minutes**

**2/19/2019 at 6:10 PM**

**Approved**

Present: Crystal Clary, Linda Deeb, Mary Hartmann (Jr. Warden), Dale McDonald, Kenneth Ratcliffe, The Rev. Joslyn Ogden Schaefer, Cathy Simons, Lauri SoJourner, Rob Viau, Paula Welling (Sr. Warden)

Guests: Sandy Curtis (Asst. Treasurer), Fred Deeb (Treasurer)

Devotion was led by Kenneth, and book study was led by Joslyn.

**Connecting With Our Community**

* Vestry members were assigned to make phone calls to newcomers and folks who’ve been missing recently.

**Missional Priorities**

The following SMART goals were adopted. Motion: Kenneth / Cathy. Approved unanimously.

1. To steward God’s creation faithfully: Host two “get to know the kitchen” tours with instructions about the new dishwasher and encouragement to eliminate single-use plastics. Lead: Parish Life
2. To develop a vibrant ministry for children, youth, and young adults: Plan and personally call to invite families with children to Ash Wednesday Family Service and Good Friday Stations of the Cross. Lead: Education.
3. To enhance our ministries to meet the needs of seniors: Host focus group and other feedback opportunities to brainstorm accessibility improvements. Lead: Buildings & Grounds and Parish Life. Homebound Ministry will design questions.

**Old Business**

Karen Morris has been appointed as the clerk for Vestry and will begin in March.

A motion was made to appoint Nancy Armstrong to the Education Committee and Linda Sexton to the Outreach Committee. Motion: Mary / Rob. Approved unanimously.

Fred reviewed the December financial report.

* A motion was made to accept the December financial statement. Motion: Cathy / Rob. Approved unanimously.
* A motion was made to spend $1379.29 (10% of the 2018 surplus) from the Vestry Reserve Fund on outreach as deemed appropriate by the Outreach Committee.

Mary, Crystal, Dale, and Paula will review, refresh, and electronically index the policies and procedures.

**New Business**

Fred reviewed the January financial report.

* A motion was made to accept the January financial statement. Motion: Lauri / Rob. The motion was approved unanimously.
* Fred shared that the Finance Committee recommends that we make extra payments to the debt because interest rates will be going up.

Room Requests

* A motion was made to allow the Daily Living School for Visually Impaired People to use Thatcher Hall with Library as a back-up after the icons exhibit arrives Tuesdays in March and April from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM. Motion: Lauri / Cathy. The motion was approved unanimously.
* A motion was made to allow Seek Healing to use the Community Room (or other room) during a weekend once every two months. Motion: Mary / Dale. The motion was approved unanimously.

The 2018 Parochial Report was reviewed and endorsed by the Vestry.

Gift / Grant Approvals

A motion was made to accept the following gifts/grants. Motion: Mary / Kenneth. The motion was approved unanimously.

* Wax Paschal Candle for Easter 2019 from Maureen Hunt.
* 150 Chrismon ornaments from Betty Harrison’s friend.
* $1000 grant from the Haywood TDA for publicity expenses for the icons exhibit.

Standing Committee Reports - minutes were distributed.

* Parish Life
	+ A motion was made to allow donation requests at special events by way of a free will offering basket put out on a table with no suggested donation amount. Motion: Lauri / Cathy. The motion was approved unanimously.
* Finance Committee
	+ The Finance Committee would like to remove the budget line specific to the Cold Mountain Music Festival and combine it with the other outreach line. Vestry rejected this request because those funds were designated by Vestry.
	+ A motion was made for the bookkeeper to set up a memorial income/expense line for gifts given from outside of Grace through Vanco (online). Motion: Rob / Dale. The motion was passed unanimously.
* Outreach
	+ The Outreach Committee is looking into writing grants to purchase for eggs for the pantry.
	+ The Vestry rejected a request for Vestry to volunteer as a group at Pathways because each Vestry members is called to serve in different ways and can’t serve at every project as a group.
* Buildings and Grounds
	+ Reminder to make sure doors are locked when building is empty. Joslyn+ will publicize this reminder through eNews and be in touch with groups who use the church to remind them to lock up.
	+ A request was granted to prepare permanent concrete holes in front of the church to hold the banner posts.
* Education Committee
	+ No special requests.

A proposal has been received from the Diocese to host a Curate at Grace.

**Upcoming Dates**

Quarterly Congregational Meetings

* May 5
* August 5
* November 17 (introduce Vestry candidates)

Annual Meeting

* December 1

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauri SoJourner