

HOLY FAMILY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
VESTRY MEETING MINUTES – December 15, 2021

Attending: Tom Clines, Bob Murray, Betty Bogeman, Jolene Johnston, Fr. Bruce Gray, Stephen Beard, Katie Hamon, Tina Vawter, Carol Bruns, Ruth Everett

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. with prayer led by Father Bruce.

Old & New Business

- Father Bruce reported that the new roof, exterior repairs, and painting have been completed.
- Father Bruce explained that there is a need in the parish for connecting ministries with new parishioner participants. He noted that there have been opportunities recently with Brotherhood of St. Andrew and the new partnership with Fishers Elementary. Perhaps it could be a regular part of ministry meeting agendas to consider how a newcomer could get involved. Jolene wondered about the possibility of restarting the Newcomer Lunches; Father Bruce agreed. He also shared an idea that was proposed at Adult Forum which is to offer a survey for church attendees to get a better understanding of the needs and perspectives of our congregation.

Vestry Working Groups Reports for December

- *Regathering*: Father Bruce reported that COVID numbers are greatly increasing in Hamilton County, but vaccines will keep Holy Family open.
- *Stewardship*: Betty stated that we have 30 pledges as of today totaling approximately \$118,000. This is down significantly. Bob reminded of the importance of personal contact with people who haven't pledged. Father Bruce asked if Betty could produce a list of people who pledged in the past who have not yet pledged that he could check over and work with Tina and Vestry members to make contact. Betty said that the problem is that even if we get those people to pledge, we are still not coming close to meeting our expenses. She wondered if we could create something graphically to show people to help address the reality of the situation. Father Bruce offered encouragement in that

the diocese will possibly offer support in some way. He noted that the consultants from the Church Buildings for Collaborative Partnerships are producing a lengthy document to present to the diocese that portrays Holy Family as a model for the diocese in the way our congregation functions and the ministries we provide. Bob questioned whether we do enough to help parishioners realize all that Holy Family does and what the pledges are used for. He also encouraged us to have a budget available for the Annual Meeting in January; however, Betty and Father Bruce responded that it would be highly unlikely to have it ready before the meeting.

- *Evangelism:* Bob noted that the Adult Forums on Everyday Evangelism were very productive. Nametags will be reintroduced soon.
- *Building & Grounds:* Betty wants to check with Lorri to find out if we still have an outstanding balance for the repairs. Father Bruce believes we did not spend all the insurance money but will confirm with Lorri.
- *Christian Formation:* Ruth reported that she has been in contact with our partners in Tennessee from a few years ago about the possibility of joining a mission trip there in July. If that falls through, the West Virginia Episcopal conference center that she had connected with before the pandemic could be a possibility.
- *Worship:* Father Bruce explained that Christmas Eve services will be back to normal at 5:00 and 11:00 pm. There will be Christmas Day Jammy Church at 10:00 am, and December 26 will offer the usual 8:00 and 10:00 worship.
- *Missional Outreach:* Father Bruce shared that handmade cards were given to every teacher at Fishers Elementary School along with coffee in the teachers' lounge. The Angel Tree Christmas gifts were delivered to Fishers Elementary, and they were very appreciative.
- *Racial Reconciliation:* Bob reported that the "Movies with a Social Conscience" program for 2022 will start January 26 with *Hidden Figures*. The movies should be viewed at home, and the meeting at church will be for discussion.

Review and Approval of November Minutes

An amendment was made regarding the electrical panel work. Bob motioned to approve the minutes; Carol seconded. The minutes were approved.

Rector's Report

- Father Bruce shared that the Diocesan "Church Buildings for Collaborative Partnerships" consultants were impressed by their visit to Holy Family on December 10, and he is encouraged about grant possibilities.
- He noted that the Adult Forum in January and February will be on "Compassionate Living in Troubled Times."

Additional Staff reports

- Jolene shared that bookmarks have been created with QR codes that will allow people to easily access the website, newsletter, online giving, etc. They will be available for youth to put out at the Greening of the Church. Bob recommended including upcoming events to be shared with others.
- Bob shared that the Diocesan Convention took place last month; there wasn't much noteworthy news, but he offered to type up a summary of the convention.
- The Bishop will visit Holy Family on Sunday, February 6th.

The meeting concluded with the Lord's Prayer and was dismissed at 8:10 p.m.

Next Vestry Meeting: Wednesday, January 19