Church of the Holy Spirit, Plymouth, NH

St. Marks Church, Ashland, NH

Vestry/Bishop's Committee Meeting

Sunday, July 22, 2018

Present: Rev. Kelly Sundberg Seaman, Rev. Deacon Maryan Davis, Anne Hunnewell, Barbara Brooks, Dick Osborne, Angie Criscuolo, Katie Patten, Katie Laucks, Deb Holland, Wayne Trombly, defacto treasurer, Paula Hancock, Kathy Lennox,

Absent: Lew Overaker, Kate Donahue, Shannon Inkell, Richard Bennett

Opening: The meeting opened at 11 AM in prayer.

**Renewal Works:** The program will start in the fall. It will be a spiritual life inventory of all our faith community members. There will be an extensive spiritual life inventory questionnaire online or on paper. There will be workshops and discussions with parishioners. This inventory will look at our past history, our present spiritual gifts and needs, what are we called to do or to go and how are we going to get to our new goals. Kelly, Joan and Deb will be our program leaders. It will take all of the fall to implement this program. Small lay leadership teams will be created. These teams will overlap Vestry Bishop's Committee minimally.

**Financial Report:**Wayne has simplified our monthly financial reports. He discussed the first and second quarter reports. He advised that both CHS and St. Marks has a deficit of $17,000 for the first six months of 2018. We will be receiving two grants: one for $16,000 from the Lily Grant and $10,000 from the Mission Resources grant for a total of $26,000. The grants are restricted. Wayne advises that by December 2018 both congregations will have a deficit of $8-10,000 after receipt of our restricted grants.

**Finance**Committee: Wayne Trombly, the CHS treasurer will be forming a Finance Committee. The committee will consist of 4-5 members who are experienced with finances, comfortable with numbers, and experienced with parish finances. If you know of anyone who fits this need please contact Kelly or the office.

**Stewardship Planning/Fundraising:** We will be putting fundraising on hold for the present to avoid possible burnout of our members. The Finance Committee and Wayne Trombly will create a preliminary budget for discussion as early as August. This budget will give the Stewardship Planners more information concerning the income and expenses for the parish looking at multiple years.

**Worship:** We will hold our last Saturday Eucharist at CLC service on Saturday, July 28. Kelly and Josh Hill from Holderness School will discuss how the need for “church” to those who find it difficult to come to Sunday morning worship can be better met. They will consider location, time and day of service and determine the group(s) who will best benefit from this service.

Rev. Kelly will not be with us on August 5 and August 12. Bishop Griswold will be our preacher and celebrant for these dates. He will celebrate and preach at both our 8 AM and 9:30 services.

Rev. Maryan will be forming a small group of visitors to visit our members who are unable to come to church. This group will work on a rotating basis. This will be a lay/priest pastoral care ministry.

**Bishop's Visitation:** August 25-26: The Bishop will make his annual Visitation to CHS/St. Mark's on Sunday August 26 for confirmation, baptism, people received from other faith communities. He will celebrate and preach at both the 8 and 9:30 services. He will meet with the Vestry/Bishop's Committee following the 9:30 service. There is a plan for the Bishop to meet with the Vestry/Bishop's Committee over dinner on Saturday, August 25. The plan for August 25 is still under discussion.

**Senior Warden Report**

**Joan Bowers**

The Spiritual Practices Program is going very well. Joan is a member of a new subcommittee of the Commission on Ministry. The subcommittee will discuss Lay Formation and Lay Ministries and their meaning. It has just begun so Joan is interested in what will be happen as it moves forward

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**Deb Holland**

There will be free haircuts on Sunday August 19 after the 9:30 service. St. Mark's will have a float in the July 28 150th Celebration Parade at 2 PM. Jean is creating stained glass windows with the kids for the float. The church will be open for tours on July 28 as part of the 150th Celebration.

For three days a week for the summer there are 2 children from Ashland who are meeting in Sherrill Hall with three ESL teachers from the Derry area. These teachers will continue to teach these children English for the summer. The children are legal refugees from the Congo. They will be enrolled in the Ashland school system in the fall.

**Junior Warden Report**

**Katie Laucks St. Marks**

The elevator at Sherrill Hall is now out of order. The elevator has been inspected. We dropped the maintenance contract in 2016 due to cost. We will see if we can find a State certified independent contractor to fix our elevator.

**Dick Osborne CHS**

We have a storage issue: some place to store books for the book sale and to find a proper storage area that does not exceed 70 degrees for our vestments and altar hangings. Options: to climate control one room in the attic of Griswold by putting a door on the one room. We can install an air conditioner and humidifier in the one room to climate control the room. We will need to insulate the one room. Another option is to look at a ground level storage area in the meeting room at the CLC. Kate Laucks, Dick Osborne and Anne Hunnewell will research the issue further.

Fred Gould will look at the water heater in Griswold to solve our water dripping issue. Dick will consult the builder to solve the lighting issue on the front of Griswold. Dick Osborne advises the CLC building needs to be repainted, the clapboards resealed and the windows re-caulked.

Our issue with excess books for our book sale has been temporarily resolved by taking some to the Hebron Fair and to the dump. Not all book donations need to be accepted.

**Minutes:** The minutes from the Vestry/Bishop's Committee meeting January-July, 2018 will be reviewed by the members and approved at their August 26, 2018 meeting.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 12:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Hancock