

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Minutes of Vestry meeting
January 26, 2019

The January 2019 Vestry meeting convened at the Creighton family farmhouse at 9:00am on Saturday, January 26, 2019. All members of the Vestry were present except Chris Ford. Also present was Margot Filipowicz, Clerk of Vestry.

Opening Devotion

Malone led the group in a Morning Prayer service.

Retreat

Malone began the meeting portion of the retreat with a Session titled "What is the Vestry?" During this session, he described the differently structured vestries he had served on in the past. He explained his hope to lead the current St. Paul's vestry class in a direction that will maintain the spiritual, administrative and fiduciary responsibilities of St. Paul's while building relationships between the vestry members. He explained slight changes he had made to vestry roles in order to attempt to relieve some of the burdens individual roles may demand. These changes involve the pairing of ministries in the following ways: Discipleship: Nursery & Children and Youth & Adults, Outreach: Ministry Partners & Community Service, Pastoral Care: Pastoral Care & Communications, and Parish Life: Newcomers & Parish Life. In conclusion, Malone expressed his desire to call upon the collective personal experiences of each vestry member as a resource for the betterment & growth of St. Paul's and the vestry members themselves.

Vestry folders were provided to each vestry member. These folders contained schedules, contact information and some basic guidance on church procedure.

After a short break, the meeting continued with a segment of "Spiritual Seeing" which included reflection and discussion of excerpts from *The Brothers Karamov*, by Fyodor Dostoyevsky, and *Everything Belongs: The Gift of Contemplative Prayer* (2nd ed. 2003) by Richard Rohr.

Treasurer Ollin Sykes joined the group for a brief review on the financial state of St. Paul's. He provided each member with a copy of the December 2018 Summary of Financial Condition as well as a listing of the Chart of Accounts. He provided an explanation of his involvement with the financial element of St. Paul's and shared the points of contact in his office for accounting and pledge questions.

After a short break, the retreat continued with the January Vestry Meeting.

Old Business

Under Old Business, Malone directed the vestry to the November vestry minutes, a copy of which was included in the vestry notebooks and opened the floor for discussion. No discussion was offered and Regan Coxe motioned to approve the November minutes. The motion was seconded by Scotty Harrell and passed unanimously.

The second item of Old Business regarded the 2020 Parish Retreat. Malone reported the 2020 retreat would be held on May 5-7, 2020 and 28 rooms would be reserved with a deposit of \$560, due on January 31, 2019. Scotty Harrell motioned to approve the payment of the deposit for the 2020 Parish Retreat and Cynthia Harding seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Continuing discussion of the Parish Retreat included a desire to make the tradition a yearly event in May. Malone indicated he would follow up on the possibility of securing space at Trinity Center in May on a yearly basis for a St. Paul's Parish Retreat.

Furthering discussion on the retreat, Malone indicated the planning of the Parish Retreat weekend was enormous and applauded Katharine Farless' effort planning the 2018 retreat weekend. He recommended future retreats should have two non-Vestry members responsible for planning the weekend. He asked Parish Life to help recruit individuals who would be interested in sharing this responsibility for the 2020 Retreat.

Malone closed the business portion of the meeting with several announcements. He reminded the vestry of their Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner responsibilities. He announced the EYC Silent Auction Fundraiser for Glory Ridge would also be held the evening of the Pancake Dinner. Malone announced Adult Confirmation Classes would begin in March and encouraged the Vestry to attend these classes (held during Christian Education hour on Sunday mornings). Finally, Malone asked the vestry to mark their calendars for April 3-6 when Baxter Kruger will visit St. Paul's.

After the conclusion of the business portion of the meeting, Malone asked the vestry for reflection on the question "What is most important for the life and health of St. Paul's at this point in history?" Points of discussion included youth, engaging the next group of pillars, expanding membership, growing personal relationships.

With no further business, Cynthia Harding closed the meeting in prayer.