

VESTRY MINUTES

(November 11, 2021)

Meeting began at 6:30 with an opening prayer by Pam.

Present: Pastor Steve, Ann Farrell, Tom Stotz, Marilee Racine, Karen Davenport, Kris Ekert, Brooke Lau, Martha Houser, Jim Smith, Pam Sherry, Martha Hauser

I. APPROVALS:

Treasurer's report: no available

October Minutes: Reviewed and approved with the following corrections:

- A. The spelling of Brooke Lau's name is corrected to reflect the "e" at the end of her first name; and
- B. Pastor Steve is listed as an attendee.

II. UPDATES:

St. Sara's Old Catholic Church will not be coming to use our facilities as they found a place more suitable to their needs. Pastor Steve read the e-mail he received from Father Jeffrey Harris of St. Sara's.

Treasurer's position: Tish will be resigning at the annual meeting. We discussed the need to explore who might be a suitable replacement and further discussed having Marchea take over some of the data entry responsibilities and possibly dedicate one day per week to that job.

Book Reading: Tom will facilitate discussion of the book the Souls of Black folks on December 2, 16, and 30. We further discussed the possibility of doing another book entitled "The Souls of White Folks."

III. ONGOING BUSINESS

MUTUAL MINISTRY REVIEW: We next discussed things to be done in our mutual ministry review. Among those things discussed were:

- A. Enhancing communication across all modalities;
- B. Expanding Christian Education;
- C. The status of spiritual education and spiritual growth;
- D. Having the vestry prepare a regular article for the newsletter listing what was discussed, what was done, and what is proposed to be done. Ann will do this for the month of December;

- E. The expectations the vestry and congregation have of Pastor Steve and what he expects of the vestry and congregation.

A copy of a summary of notes gleaned from earlier one-on-one discussions with members and of vestry discussion regarding the Mutual Ministry Review is attached.

AGREEMENT WITH PASTOR STEVE: As the vestry have elected to name Pastor Steve as the full-time rector of Grace and as he has accepted, he will work with the Wardens to prepare a draft letter of agreement to take back to the Vestry at the December meeting.

SIGN OUT FRONT: We received 3 proposals for the sign out front. We determined that we must first determine whether we have the money to pay of a new sign. We then agreed that we would accept the bid made by Pam Shafer's company but would have to determine at the next meeting how we are going to pay for it.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:

There was a general discussion of putting a trap door in the Bell Tower. We cannot do any interior work until we determine the source of our present leak.

Finally, we discussed whether a wall has been or should be removed in the basement.

OTHER ONGOING BUSINESS:

There was some discussion about whether or not the tendency to not wear masks at coffee hour while we wear them in church is a problem and, if so, how to solve it.

NEW BUSINESS:

We approved a form for the nomination of new Vestry members and whether December 31 is a good date by which they should be returned. We also discussed the procedure generally for nominating vestry members

Next, we discussed the need for 2 people to meet with Marchae to update the website. Kris and Pam volunteered to do so.

Brooke's daughter's girl scout troop need service hours. If we need anything, let her know and she can talk to the troop about providing service time.

Brooke also told us that she is a member of a community band that will start practicing in January and that they may be able to put on a Christmas Concert for Christmas 2022.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21

Tom Stotz, Clerk

Notes from 23Aug2021 Meeting – Pre- meeting for the Mutual Ministry Review – Goal Setting

Attendees: Pam, Tom, Brooke

Information reviewed: 1:1 survey results from 2020

Goals:

1. Expand involvement in local community, beyond just outreach. Make Grace the place to be.
 - a. Event Ideas
 - i. Fun Day
 - ii. Community Forums
 - iii. Guest speakers
 - iv. Labyrinth and other Spiritual events
 - b. Continue Outreach – it's our heart and soul
2. Connect with other churches in the area and get who we are out there
 - a. Cross denominational events
 - b. Exchanges in clergy for a Sunday
 - c. Field trips to other churches on Sunday for small groups
3. Expand technology usage and streamline it.
 - a. Allows access to those who can't be in person
 - b. Connects to younger generations
4. More contemporary service at 10:30 while still keeping our traditions alive.
 - a. More with the music – Amy is great
 - b. Other ideas?

The output of these goals is growth and connection. This seemed to be the desire of the Grace community based on the 1:1 survey data. In general people are pretty happy.

Expectations for Steve:

1. Consistent Pastoral Care
2. Involvement in the above to help us grow
3. Spiritual Guide

Expectations for Grace:

1. To be there with him
2. Support him
3. Open to new ideas and healthy debate