

## VESTRY MEETING DECEMBER 10, 2024

**Present:** Rev. Cn Melinda Artman, Alice Bennett, Bruce Carpenter, Margaret Cole, Mitzi Mohn, Betsy Schumacher, Diane Siebecker, Jeff Watson

**Absent:** Glenn Murrelle

**Treasurer:** Bruce Carpenter

**Chairperson:** Rev. Cn Melinda Artman

**Lectio Divina:** Matthew 2:7-12

**Agenda:** Motion to accept the agenda by made by Alice, seconded by Jeff. Motion carries.

### **New Business:**

- Bruce presented changes to the 2025 draft budget (primarily based on actuals through 11/30/24). Also, a three percent raise is included for Jerry, Maria, and Marcella. Motion to approve the 2025 Budget made by Betsy, seconded by Jeff. Motion carries.
- Discussion on potential candidates for Vestry. Betsy and Jeff end their terms and Diane is eligible for re-election.
- Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 26, 2025 at 12:00 pm. This will include a potluck lunch. Snow date will be February 2, 2025.
- The bulk of the January Vestry meeting will be devoted to the Conklin Trust.
- A Plaque honoring Linda Murrelle for her years of service preparing and serving meals for the Community Supper will be presented at the upcoming Annual Meeting. Alice is planning on getting the Plaque.
- On our To Do list for 2025 is to prepare a list of Donors for the Stained Glass Window Project.
- Christmas gifts for Jerry, Maria, and Marcella will be a Gift Card.

**Minutes:** Motion to accept the November 19, 2024 minutes made by Margaret, seconded by Jeff. Motion carries.

**Treasurer's Report:** Motion to accept the November Treasurer's Report made by Diane, seconded by Betsy. Motion carries.

### **Highlights:**

- The Capital Campaign for the Stained Glass Window Project is completed. All pledges have been received in full. All of the windows have not been adopted and that's okay.
- Our Diocesan Loan continues with a 3 percent interest rate.
- Our 2025 Pledge Campaign "Walk in Love": Twenty pledge cards have been returned thus far. We expect that about 30% of our pledges will come from those who did not complete a pledge card.

**Senior Warden's Report:**

The Conklin Tombstone has been cleaned.

**Junior Warden's Report:**

- The Boiler is operating as it should except for the Sacristy – Jeff Paul will check this out this week.
- Reminder: Leave the Thermostat at 68 degrees. If it is necessary to turn it up, be sure to turn it back to 68.
- Jeff is interested in cost savings with the new boiler system.
- The sign out front was damaged from high winds. Jeff will repair.
- The pilot lights on our stove go out constantly. Jeff will attempt to repair.

**Rector's Report:**

- On my mind:

I suggest that our Annual Meeting occur on **Sunday, January 26, 2025** immediately after worship (I am going to suggest the same date to SJLC Council but that would be at an earlier time). I'd love to have a potluck as part of the meeting. Think about a "table topic" or other item of interest that should be part of the meeting.

Betsy, Jeff, and Diane's term conclude at the Annual Meeting. Only Diane is eligible for re-election. Please be thinking about who good candidates might be to serve on the Vestry. In the same way that Betsy has a near lifelong commitment to Sunday School and VBS, Jeff is head of Building and Grounds for at least as long as I am rector.

I will be away at a retreat 12/13-12/15. Prayers will be led by Alice on 12/15 and there will be no communion that day.

Sunday School will have a Play 12/22 at 9:30 am. All are invited. Greening of the church will occur after worship on 12/22. Breakfast pizza and cookies/coffee will be provided and all are welcome to join us in preparing the church for the Christmas season.

We are not having an Angel Tree this year. Opportunities to participate are Angel Trees at the Hospital, Athens and Sayre Libraries. The Sayre Salvation Army Toy Drive is on 12/14 outside the Sayre Theatre and contributions are encouraged.

- Stewardship: Stewardship letters by Alice, Bruce, and myself were sent to our mailing list. Five weeks of "Walk in Love" articles were featured in the eBlast. Ingathering of pledges occurred 12/8.

**Other:**

Youth Group is underway. A few kids and more than a few adults staffed the “Sleep Out” on November 29 from 6-7 pm. We enjoyed the parade. The kids were not shy asking for contributions to The Bridge.

Bible Study concluded November 21. The next Bible Study “The Parables” is planned to begin March 13, 2025.

A Baptism is scheduled for 12/29 and on 1/12/25.

Baby Bob is home from the hospital.

John Anderson’s Memorial Service was well-attended and Joyce was pleased.

I am hoping to have a service of Lessons and Carols (plus communion) on January 5, 2025 with Sunday School participation.

**Old Business:**

Are we able to send a token amount of money to the Diocese for the 6 months of clergy expenses that we did not have to pay? A motion was made by Alice, seconded by Jeff that we reimburse the Diocese \$5,000. Motion carries.

**Other Business:**

Payments to the church (flowers, etc.) may be made with use of the QR code or PayPal.

It is brought to our attention that the child height table in the parish hall needs to be replaced. The present table needs to be moved regularly and it is quite heavy. Vestry agreed it should be replaced at a cost of approximately \$80. The child height round table in the lower Chapel does not need replacement.

**Compline**

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn made by Alice, seconded by Jeff. Motion carries – 8:31 pm

Next meeting is Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Siebecker  
Clerk of Vestry