

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting
March 18, 2025

In Attendance: Jack Chaney, Gail Fleming, Pat Kent, Sue Montgomery, Lois Vestuto, Greg Walter, Carole Wollard, Mother Sharon Voelker

On Zoom: Emily Hack, Pat Sasse, Judy Rowcliffe

Mother Sharon called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. Pat Sasse offered an opening prayer.

There were no additions to the agenda. Minutes of the February 22nd Vestry retreat were reviewed and accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Judy Rowcliffe pointed out that the actual amount in the checkbook for expenses is \$32,043.43, and building insurance is due in March. Pledge income is about \$3500 below the budgeted amount, partly due to snowbirds being away. Greg moved to accept the Treasurer's report, Gail seconded. The motion passed.

Interim Priest in Charge Message: Mother Sharon reported on the Diocesan Clergy Conference that she attended. She also commented on the annual Shrove Tuesday pancake supper, and the Ash Wednesday services. Lent Madness, a fun study of some of the saints, takes place on Thursday at noon (BYO sack lunch).

The church office will be closed the week after Easter (April 21st to April 26th). The 8:00 AM Sunday service will resume after Easter, on April 27th.

Senior Warden: Jack mentioned that he and Greg want to go to Kettering High School to talk to the Music Director, offering them the use of the pavilion for performances. He might also speak to the Drama Department about using the space for something like one-act plays. We would not charge them to use the pavilion.

Junior Warden: Jack and Greg took the fire extinguishers to Madison Heights to be serviced. They also got a new fire extinguisher for the shed.

Greg purchased new card tables from Ollie's for about \$23 each.

The lens on the women's restroom light fell off and broke, and Greg needs to find a replacement.

Search Committee Update: Carole reported that the Search Committee has not received any names from the Diocese yet. The search has been changed from a Part-Time Rector to a Part-Time Priest in Charge.

Safe Church: On-site Safe Church Training will take place at St. Andrew's tomorrow, March 19th from 1:00 to 5:00 PM. There are 18 people signed up.

The April Vestry Meeting will be moved up to April 8th, otherwise it would fall during the very busy Holy Week.

We will soon have a QR code in the bulletin, which people can use to make contributions.

The Vestry recently voted on the purchase of a playscape. Seven were in favor, two did not respond. Greg said the area is about 30' x 40', and suggested that we want a playscape that is attractive. It was also pointed out that we might want to get one before any tariffs go into effect, since the wood is coming from Canada.

AmVets have asked if they could put a bin to collect donations of clothing and shoes in our parking lot. They would pay St. Andrew's \$40 each time they empty the bin.

Projects

Fire pit move will take place at the end of July.

Boulders for the trail will be added once the ground dries.

The Euchre Night in February only had 8 players. The next one will be on Saturday, March 28th .

There will be a craft show/bake sale/plant exchange in the pavilion on Saturday, May 31st. The event will be called 'Make It/Bake It/Sew It/Grow It'. We will need volunteers to bring plant starts from their yards, bring baked goods, sew items, or craft treasures that people will want to buy. We also need people to be at the pavilion on the day of the event. It is important that we have publicity for this event. It was suggested that we have a pet adoption day on the same day. We will have to contact an animal shelter.

The Landscape Committee met on March 8th. We will be asking Bordine's for suggestions of plants for the half-circle beds near the pavilion, as well as hardy trees for our area. We want to promote 'Adopt-a-tree' to the congregation.

Lois reported that the Waterford Chamber of Commerce held a State of the Township breakfast in February. The Senior Center now belongs to the Township. Oakland Community College has closed the Highland Lakes Campus; the South campus will become a multi-generational community center, while the North campus will go to Hess-Hathaway Park.

New Plans

-Greg is interested in sponsoring a chess tournament in the pavilion.

-Jack is going to look into forming a "Guitar Army", which would be a group of musicians meeting at the pavilion to play music for each other and any spectators who choose to attend.

Events

Holy Week will include Maundy Thursday (4/17), Good Friday Stations of the Cross (4/18), Easter Vigil (4/19), and Easter Sunday 4/20) services.

The Easter Brunch Potluck will take place immediately following the Easter Sunday service. A sign up sheet will be posted in the Richardson Room.

Sue Montgomery asked if we are going to participate in the township Earth Day clean-up, which will be help on Saturday April 26th . Last year, several members walked to Canterbury on the Lake, picking up trash along the way.

Applications are being accepted for the Andrew William Hartke Memorial Scholarship. Candidates must be enrolled at least half-time in a post-secondary college, university or trade school. Priority will be given to family of active members.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM. Greg offered a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Joelle Chaney
Clerk of the Vestry