

Holy Nativity Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes - October 22, 2024

Attending:

Father Tommy Townsend
Jenny Gregory – Sr Warden
Robert Cooper
Maggie Glennon
Sue Miller
John Hartland – Finance
Dave Alexander – Building Committee

Absent:

Rangeley Turner
Karen Williams

The Opening Prayer was provided by Robert Cooper.

A brief check-in with Vestry members was conducted.

The minutes of the September meeting were unanimously approved as presented following a motion by Maggie and a second by Sue.

Building Committee

Dave Alexander presented the building plan which was revised to focus on more meeting space and efficiency in the placement of offices.

The 60th Anniversary Capital Campaign got off to a soft start in October with John Byrne reaching out to members who would like to take advantage of a four-year pledge arrangement. The major campaign will begin in January by which time a brochure will be available.

The committee is working with two reputable builders and should have their bids within 10 days. The bids will determine the size of the capital campaign and how much money will be borrowed. The note will be paid off by the end of the three years.

On a motion by Maggie and a second by Sue, a motion was passed to move up to \$85,000 from the Raymond James account into a separate pocket earmarked for building and to place all future building fund donations into that account.

Finance

John Hartland presented the financial report. Our September pledge was \$625.00 over and the open offering beat budgeted income by \$4,111.00. Year to date, our open offering is up \$12,798.00 and pledge is up by \$19,379.00. The overall income has exceeded budgeted income, year to date, by \$31,653.00 which is a 19% increase to budget on income.

Our year to date expenses are in line, exceeding the budget by \$3,000.000 which is due to items approved by the Vestry.

Our investment balance is at an all-time high, exceeding the ½ million mark.

Jenny reported on pledges to date in comparison with last year. In 2024, 135 pledge cards were sent out resulting in 59 replies totaling \$208,864.00. This year, 130 pledge cards were sent out and, so far, 28 have been returned with a total pledge of \$125,560.00. We have two weeks left in the campaign.

It is time to build the budget for 2025. There will be increases in the diocesan tithes and insurance. Father Tommy will work up some numbers for John. Vestry members are to look over the budget and send their thoughts to Father Tommy and Jenny. Possible COLA's and wage increases for staff were mentioned and will be discussed in more detail on November.

Vestry AOR Reports

- Spirituality and Worship: Jamie continues in her formation for the Diaconate
- In-Reach: The Prayer Garden and pet memorial are completed. We will need to develop guidelines for the pet memorial area. H&H is bringing a large screen TV into the Sanctuary for the Bishop's Investiture on November 2nd. We plan to provide light refreshments in the Garden beforehand.
- Outreach: Swag ends on October 27th. Rangeley is planning an Angel Tree for 40 children.
- Personnel: Sue had nothing new to report
- Physical Property: Robert is planning to install two new signs, one for the village and one for the corner. This was unanimously approved on a motion by Maggie and a second by Sue.

Bishop's Visit

Father Tommy will discuss the timetable for the visit with the bishop tomorrow. It is likely that the Prayer Garden will be blessed before the service. The Brunswick News is sending a reporter and photographer.

2025 Vestry

Several names were mentioned, and Vestry members will follow up to ascertain who might be interested in serving.

Holy Nativity 60th Birthday

This will be on Christmas Eve. Father Tommy has a recipe for communion bread that he will bake.

Internet

Live Oak has given us a quote for internet and one phone line that will save us \$600.00 annually.

Bishop Curry's Retirement

We agreed to send \$500.00 to the Protestant Episcopal Church USA in honor of the retirement of The Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, our Presiding Bishop.

Father Tommy closed the meeting with prayer.