

VESTRY MINUTES
SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2025

PRESENT: Linda Bourque, Katie Chipman-Bergsma, Nikki Clark, Bruce Lynn, Ruth Neveu, Cal Woodard;
ABSENT: Gin Mannisto; **GUEST:** None.

1. **Opening:** Linda Bourque opened the meeting at 11:37 a.m. with the vestry prayer.

2. **Review Agenda:** None

3. **Public Comment:** None

4. **Ministry Support Team:** There will be a Visioning and Dreaming session by the diocese which is a third round of this process for the diocese. The congregation made out Christmas cards that went to Freighter View and McKinley Manor. Susan Harries, Katie, Maeby and Frank Chipman-Bergsma were able to go shopping for Christmas purchasing toys, groceries and gift cards that were given to the Salvation Army for our outreach. A call has come from the diocese to make quilt squares for quilts that may go out to survivors from the residential/boarding schools or others that may need the quilts.

5. **Review/Approval of Vestry Minutes.** Corrections - Nikki Clark did not make the motion to adjourn as she was absent Linda Bourque made the motion. **Motion to approve the corrected December minutes was made by Linda Bourque, seconded by Bruce Lynn with corrections No opposition or abstentions, motion carried.**

6. **Treasurer's / Endowment / Budget Approval:** Bruce Lynn reported on the financial statements and they will be placed on file in the office. Discussion followed regarding how the Killan Trust disbursements are determined.

7. **Committee Reports**

- a. **Christian Education** – Ethics formation class. Katie is looking at going to seminary and has contacted a couple of different seminaries to see which one
- b. **Outreach** – Information is in the MST report
- c. **Missioners Comment** – None

8. **Senior Warden's Report** – Linda Bourque would like a permanent sound system that would operate from the both the right and left side of the altar. Discussion followed: Cal Woodard pointed out that when they read the gospel from the center aisle a remote sound system would be needed for that area of the church. Cal Woodard indicated he would look into other possible pieces to enhance our current sound system. It is felt that we need a rechargeable system with multiple headsets possibly. Also it may be that we need a recurring maintenance program for the sound system. People are frustrated that we cannot always hear the service and at times there is some distortion(clicking noises), they would like to see a solution. Therefore, Cal Woodard indicated he would be talking to Joe Jazz to see what the possibilities are for a solution. It was suggested that more than one person meet with Joe Jazz to see how a new system would work.

9. **Junior Warden' Report** – Cal Woodard has been in contact with Steve Mulder from Solar Faithful. Cal was given us a proposal for s Solar System. The next step would be to approve the proposal, with intent

to proceed. The key issue is financing. There are three options regarding various payment plans: Cost of the project would be \$24,108.75, through the Inflation Reduction Act there is currently a 40% rebate available. If we were to get a bank loan it would be more versus a direct pay. A direct purchase would cost \$14,465.00. A loan with a 7% interest would be \$21,795.00 or 4% interest would be \$18,220.00. If the vestry/congregation proceeds to the design phase a site visit will be scheduled. From the proposal through the contract signing the church will not incur any cost. Some things to consider are will a solar array affect our historic site status. Also it is possible a rider may be needed on the church insurance policy. Lastly the roofing of the church may need to be replaced where the solar panels would be placed. The proposal would be to install a 6.1 solar array on the southern roof above the chapel. The array would provide 92% of the electrical energy consumed annually. Given the cost of electricity for the church January to December 2024 of \$2,284.29 x 92% return a savings of \$2,101.64 would be realized with an annual bill of \$182.74. The system would be interfaced with the electrical grid allowing Cloverland to buy back our solar energy. Since we would compete with Cloverland they may or may not give the church credit? Cal Woodard is proposing that we take the next step and schedule a meeting with Solar Faithful to see what are the possibilities for such a project. Discussion followed including concerns regarding aesthetics, interfacing with Cloverland Electric, the fact that we may need a new roof anyway, electrical storage batteries, and maintenance. Positives might be that like minded individuals (environmentally concerned people) may be interested in checking out what is happening/our philosophy, etc. in our congregation.

Discussion regarding the current state of the church roof and if it is time for a new roof followed.

10. Old Business: Preliminary Budget Report for 2025 to be presented at the annual meeting was discussed.

11. New Business:

12. Next Vestry Meeting: Sunday January 26th 2025 is the Annual meeting. February 16, 2025

13. Adjournment and Closing Prayers: Motion to adjourn made by Katie Chipman-Bergsma and seconded by Bruce Lynn. No opposition or abstentions, motion carried.

Adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ruth Neveu
Clerk of the Vestry