

VESTRY MINUTES
SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 2024

PRESENT: Linda Bourque, Nikki Clark, Bruce Lynn, Ruth Neveu, Cal Woodard; ABSENT: Katie Chipman-Bergsma; GUEST: Susan Harries, Gin Mannisto

1. Opening Prayer - Linda Bourque opened the meeting at 11:18 a.m. with the vestry prayer.
2. Review Agenda - No additions or deletions.
3. Public Comment - None
4. Ministry Support Team
 - a. Gin Mannisto wanted to know how the music was at this morning's service. Discussion about how fast the batteries go through for the sound system. This will be checked as to why this may happen. There was discussion regarding the service and the music today as far as sound levels, and how music is chosen. Bob Aldrich may be available for some Sundays in the future, which is yet to be determined. There was discussion about an organist by the name of Sean Ley who Bruce is acquainted with who might want to practice on the organ just to keep it working. At this time, the MST will be talking over the music choices with input from the congregation, etc. The MST may be asking for an IPAD sometime in the future as they determine what would be the best way to go. Cal indicated Joe Jazz may be available to help with figuring out how to connect an IPAD up to our current system. Perhaps an iTunes card will need to be purchased for purchasing various tunes for the services. Nikki asked exactly who is on the MST team. Gin indicated anyone is welcome to join the MST anytime. Gin indicated that we will be working on the discernment process in the future.
 - b. MST has been notified that Lorrie Gillhooley is requesting a graveside service on August 29, 2024, for her mother, Joyce Gilhooley. Susan Harries has agreed to do the service and has left messages with Lorrie but has not heard back as of today.
 - c. They will be doing Eucharistic Prayer C September 1 through the beginning of Advent. We will have a "Blessing of the Animals" service as usual.
 - d. Thea Morning Prayer services have been all worked out until November 24. Gin Mannisto will be asking Sandy Deplonty if she wants to be on that calendar.
 - e. Question Persuade and Refer (QPR) training will be held at the health department at August 30 at 10:30 a.m. This has to do with suicide training. Gin will be forwarding an email to Pam Briglio so she can share the information on the website, Facebook, via email, etc. There will be a suicide prevention awareness walk held in Bay Mills and Sault Ste. Marie. The Sault Ste. Marie walk will be Friday September 13 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. There will be information tables, etc. Discussion about what is happening at other congregations.
 - f. Gin Mannisto reported on a visit by David Hartwell who is interested in Churches named St. James. He would like to exchange ideas. He is from Gross Ile and wants to see beautiful churches named St. James. He will be at St. James on August. 22 Pam Briglio, Ruth Neveu and Susan Harries have indicated they will be available to meet with him. Discussion about the 100-year History of St. James Church compiled by Mildred Harris Armstrong and if it can be uploaded. There was a discussion of making a video of the church.
 - g. Gin would like to come over four times in September to create a discernment team for our congregation. The vestry and perhaps Susan Harries would be on the team. Bruce asked what is involved in this process. Gin indicated that we would determine what gifts are needed and whom might have those ministerial gifts and then have meetings to discern and then send out invitations to see if they are interested. Perhaps one of the meetings would be via zoom. The process hopefully helps us see gifts in people and offer them possibilities and see if they are interested. They can always say no.

5. Review/Approval of Vestry Minutes of July 14, 2024. **Motion to approve the July 14 minutes made by Nikki Clark seconded by Bruce Lynn seconded. No opposition or abstentions, motion carried.**

6. Treasurer's / Endowment / Budget Approval: Bruce Lynn reported the finances for July and the report will be put on file in the office. As per usual the income versus revenue there is a discrepancy. But as the budget shows we are very close to budget. He discussed the income versus expenditures. He will be working with Sandy to find the disbursement information from the Killin account for his report. The Killin Account and the Edward D. Jones Account have been doing well.

7. Committee Reports

- a. Christian Education – None
- b. ECW Report – None
- c. Outreach – None

8. Senior Warden's Report - Linda Bourque brought up the policy manual and Katie Bergsma-Chipman's request to make changes to the manual with the help of a committee. Discussions were held about how much work it is to write a policy manual, etc. The new policies need to be made flexible and workable for the size of the current congregation.

9. Junior Warden's Report - Cal Woodard reported that all the electronic items that could be recycled have been picked up by Reina Recycling. It only cost \$5.00 for one screen to be recycled. A new faucet has been installed in the sacristy and an under-sink valve installed. They also replaced valves under the lady's room sink at a total cost of \$833.67.

Cal will be doing a walk through with Steve Gerrish, a local contractor, regarding door renovation / replacement, door closers, sweeps, and draft prevention on August 21 at 1 p.m.

Small battery recycling is available at Reina Recycling. Cal has indicated he and Pam will be working together to put out a box out for people to drop off batteries.

Bruce Lynn made a motion to pay Great Lakes Services for the plumbing at a cost of \$833.67 seconded by Nikki Clark. No opposition or abstentions, motion carried.

10. Old Business - None

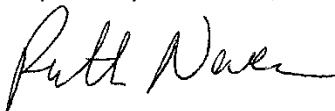
11. New Business

- a. Bob Aldrich Sabbatical – Discussion regarding what is a Sabbatical. It was decided that the term 'Leave of Absence' might be more appropriate. Based on the various conversations - **Linda Bourque made a motion to grant Bob Aldrich a leave of absence without pay for 60 days and it will be reassessed no later than the October meeting after conversations with Bob Aldrich and members of the MST and the vestry seconded by Bruce Lynn. No opposition or abstentions, motion carried.**
- b. Next Vestry Meeting – Sunday, September 15, 2024. The vestry is looking into having a vestry meeting at the VFW with breakfast.

13. Adjournment and Closing Prayers - **Motion to adjourn made by Ruth Neveu with a second by Bruce Lynn. No opposition or abstentions, motion carried.**

Adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ruth Neveu
Clerk of the Vestry