

Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
January 15th, 2019

Vestry Present:

Victor Lamas
Burdette Keeland
Allison Marek
Ruth Davies
Jim Key, Sr. Warden
Jim Mercurio
Linda Sylvan
Jennifer Macia
Steven Vaughan
Rita Justice
Susannah Webb
Kristie Van Arsdel
Priscilla Plumb
Al Hergenroeder
Barbara Hass

Absent:

Clergy Present:

The Rev. Neil Willard, Rector
The Rev. Liz Parker, Associate Rector
The Rev. David Wantland, Curate

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 PM.

Opening Prayer – Steven Vaughan opened the meeting with prayer.

Prayers and Thanksgiving – Liz Parker offered thanks for all the support she received before, during and after Andy's passing. Barbara asked for prayers for Bill. Jennifer offered thanks for a great trip with the family to India.

Approval of Minutes – The December minutes were approved. Motion by Steven Vaughan, seconded by Rita Justice.

Financial Report – Jim Mercurio reviewed the most recent church financials. In the year ending 2018, revenues exceeded expenses for the first time in several years. We were 85K under budget on expenses in 2018. Open plate and unpledged offerings were about 30K below what was budgeted. Looking ahead to 2019, the prepaid pledges for 2019 were only 60K which may pose a cash flow problem in the year. Jim emphasized the need to make sure the congregation understands the importance of keeping up or ahead with their pledging. In regards to the stewardship campaign, we are still 159K short of what we need for a balanced budget.

The 2019 budget was then reviewed. It has a deficit built into it right now. A motion was made by Burdette Keeland to approve the budget, 2nd by Ruth Davies. The budget was approved with the caveat of further review and modifications as necessary once final pledges come in.

Reports and Update

Communication – Priscilla Plumb reported on various upcoming activities that the Communications Council has been overseeing. The publications calendar was reviewed. Of note was a potential update to the church directory to get current photos and contact information for all parishioners.

Evangelism – Allison Marek reported that the Evangelism Council has not met, but Pride planning is underway.

Outreach – Liz Parker reported that no action has been taken by the Outreach Council right now.

Stewardship – Linda Sylvan reported that we currently have 266 pledges for a total dollar amount of \$1.51 million. She asked that Vestry members finalize

contacts with those people who pledged previously but still hadn't pledged for 2019.

Worship – Victor Lamas reported that the Worship Council will meet next on February 7th.

Junior Warden's Report – Burdette Keeland reported that the AC system and water heaters at the Rectory will be replaced in January or early February. Progress for the new church steps are currently on hold. However plans and engineering steps are progressing so that bids can be taken for the front steps replacement project at Palmer.

Senior Warden's report – Jim Key reviewed the planned agenda for the Annual meeting. There will be a first reading of proposed changes to the Code of Procedures. The changes are mostly cosmetic and reflect a change to more modern inclusive language. Barbara asked if a necrology report could be included at the Annual Meeting to acknowledge parishioners who passed away in 2018.

Clergy Reports –

Neil Willard, Rector, reported that thank you letters for pledges will be sent soon. Several good potential events will likely be planned and scheduled with Brazos Book Store. Neil had an annual review with David Wantland and is happy to report that he will be staying on as a priest once his time as Curate is completed. As well, an e-announcement should go out soon announcing that Patrick Hall will be accepting a position at Epiphany.

Liz Parker, Associate, three people are entering Community of Hope Training. There will be a Stephen Ministry Retreat at Camp Allen soon. The 2019 Older Adults programming is set for the year. As well, there will be an Enneagram Retreat weekend after Easter led by Bob Flick.

David Wantland, Curate, noted that he is excited to stay on in a new role at Palmer. Because of this, he will be transitioning some of his roles in Youth Ministry to Davis over the coming months.

Unfinished Business – None

New Business: None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Vaughan, Clerk