

St. Andrew's by the Lake Episcopal Church
Bishop's Committee Minutes
Sunday, February 16, 2014

Present: Aron Kramer, Vicar, Roberta Cline, Sr. Warden, JC Curtis, Cameron Hubley, J Laundergan, Karen Nichols, Ken Oliver, Kinnan Stauber, Jean Laundergan (Clerk).

Absent: Mary Anderson, Jr. Warden

Call to Order/Opening Prayer

Aron Kramer opened the meeting at 11:10 a.m. with a prayer.

NEMA Report

Sandy and Gene Carlson are the St. Andrew's Representatives to NEMA. Sandy distributed copies of the summary of the meeting held on February 8, 2014 at St. Paul's in Duluth. She elaborated on some of the topics:

- 1) Mission opportunity for 2014 is "Engaging God's Children in Our Neighborhood".
- 2) 2014 NE Mission Area dues are due. Last year St. Andrew's sent \$20 (\$50 previously). The amount is determined at 10 cents per member of the congregation.
- 3) There is a restricted grants fund in the amount of \$1900.00 for the NE Mission Area to be used for middle school age children. A "Labyrinth Spirituality Workshop for Youth" at the Arrowhead Juvenile Center was proposed by The Rev. Cheryl Harder. The proposal was approved unanimously (\$1900). Copies of the proposal details were distributed to BC members.

The next meeting will be held at St. James in Hibbing on May 17th.

St. Andrew's Newsletter – "Grains of Sand"

Sandy Carlson met with Aron Kramer and they have decided to try a bi-monthly newsletter for a year (rather than monthly). The first issue will be March/April. I-Contact will be used for important announcements and information when needed.

Welcome to New Members

Cameron Hubley and J Laundergan were welcomed as new members of the Bishop's Committee. Jean Laundergan is the new Clerk, replacing Cindy Hendrickson.

Orientation

A half-sheet describing the Role of each BC member was distributed. This includes: Three Primary Responsibilities: take care of parish finances; take care of parish building; collaborate with Vicar to appoint congregation members to leadership positions. Mission Area Responsibilities: support/resource assigned mission area; check in once a month with Chairs of Mission Area; report to Bishop's Committee each meeting. Other Ministries: welcoming people to Church on Sunday; seeding and watering St. Andrew's hospitality; communicate with parishioners about concerns and joys; communicate with Vicar on a regular basis; make a pledge to the Stewardship campaign; have fun, be playful and hope filled.

Aron distributed copies of "Good Morning! Welcome to St. Andrew's! This is a new approach to beginning our morning worship service. Each month a member of the Bishop's Committee will volunteer to be the person who welcomes everyone to the service and explains the details of the service (bulletin, worship booklet, hymnals, Eucharist, healing prayer, etc.) Ken Oliver is doing the month of February.

Aron plans to meet with each member of the Bishop's Committee monthly throughout the year. Also, he has a book which deals with being on the Vestry, if anyone would like to borrow it.

Minutes

The minutes for the Bishop's Committee meeting held on January 12th and the Annual Meeting held on January 26th are not available at this time. Cindy H. was ill and plans to have the minutes ready soon.

Treasurer's Report

Kinnan distributed copies of the 3-page January 31, 2014 report: Balance Sheet, Profit & Loss, Profit & Loss Budget Performance. A stock, valued at more than \$13,400 (which was a gift to St. Andrew's) has been cashed in and applied to the mortgage. St. Andrew's is paying interest on the \$250,000 loan from the Diocese. The Memorial Fund is at \$22,026.66; some of that money has specific designations. The Affordable Housing Fund is at \$1,332.01 – uncertain what that fund is specifically for. Total liabilities and equity = \$531,930.48. Total Income: \$9437.03; Total Expense: \$10,161.09. Difference = -\$724.06.

There is a new form, located in the Sacristy, which is to be used for personal expense reimbursement. This must be completed, a receipt attached, signed by an authorized person, and submitted to Shannon. Also, the question was asked about having an expense credited to a person's annual pledge and the answer was yes, this can be done. The Bishop's Committee members went to the Sacristy for a brief orientation.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Sr. Warden's Report

Roberta said that she was told by the Altar Guild that new red altar hangings are needed. The current hangings are very worn and should be replaced. The Altar Guild will be asked to write a proposal for an amount under \$2000.00.

CHUM is conducting a fund raising campaign for affordable housing and a family shelter in memory of Steve O'Neill – a long time advocate for this project. The goal is a \$750,000 commitment/endowment. An adult forum is being planned with Lee Stuart, the new director at CHUM. They are asking member churches to contribute to the endowment. This is part of our "Mission". Ideas will be put together when the Mission Groups meet on Saturday, March 15th. St. Andrew's has a long history of involvement with CHUM – bag lunches once a month, preparing a dinner periodically, monetary donations, volunteering, food shelf donations, etc.

Vicar's Report

Aron distributed copies of his BC report dated July 10, 2013. It includes:

Personal:

Summer schedule/vacation – he will miss one Sunday when he and Eliot & Naomi take a trip to South Dakota. He will have his children Monday-Friday each week.

Driving – the travel to/from the Twin Cities is going well.

Soccer – he plays Monday night in the Twin Cities; in Blaine on Wednesday during the summer; and in winter he plays indoors at the DECC.

MBA/MAM – His graduate studies at the College of St. Scholastica are going well. He's taking a writing class. And, he's wondering "what's next?"

Vicar's Report, cont.

St. Andrew's:

Annual Meeting – good.

Epiphany Adult Education – going well

Lent/Easter Adult Education – will try something new this year, environment/ecology

Ash Wednesday is March 5th

Holy Week Planning – will happen soon

Episcopal Church in Minnesota:

Great Northern TEC, March 28-30 in Hibbing. Aron will be a Spiritual Director.
Reaffirmation of Ordination Vows at St. Paul's, Duluth, March 14th
Clergy Conference April 29-May 1 (Aron will be gone for that)

Community:

Aron didn't have any meetings with community members this month.

Year One: July 1, 2013 to July 1, 2014

Strategic Plan – Bishop's Committee & Vicar
Strengthen Church Structure and Organization – Bishop's Committee
Community Relationships – Vicar

Aron's Main Responsibilities: Pastoral Care, Preaching/Liturgy, Family Ministry, Lay Leadership Development.

Old Business

1) "Welcome" at Sunday worship services – Karen Nichols volunteered to do this for March. Another member of the B.C. could be asked to substitute if needed.

2) The "Share the Love Concert" is on Saturday, February 22nd at 6:30 (desserts, etc.); the concert begins at 7:00.

3) First Mission Saturday – March 15th. There was discussion about time and lunch. It was decided that the meeting will be from 1:00-4:00 p.m. and lunch will not be served.

There will be a one-hour orientation, gather together, marketplace.

Areas: Community Engagement – J Laudergeran, Chair

Management – Roberta Cline, Chair

Spirituality – Cameron Hubley, Chair

Environment – Kinnan Stauber, Chair; Ken Oliver, Resource

Mission – Karen Nichols, Chair

Liturgy – JC Curtis, Chair

Aron, Mary Anderson, and Roberta will be "free agents"

New Business

There was no new business for this meeting.

Call for Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m. and a closing prayer was given by Aron.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jean Laudergeran, Clerk