

Vestry Meeting November 19, 2017

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

Present: Rev. Susie Comer, Janna Hammett, Paul Wilborn, Wade Wooten, Sue Faulkner, Mary Black Davis, Dr. David Harshaw, Carol Brown.....visitor: Richard Hammett

Absent: Linda Joseph, Robert Oliver

Rev. Susie opened the meeting at 11:30 a.m. with a prayer for the parish family.

The minutes of the October meeting were read and approved as amended.

Treasurer Bunny Johnson is out of town. Her report shows \$84,859.27 in Savings; \$11,115.02 in the Memorial Fund; \$28,317.37 in Checking. Rev. Susie gave an update on the Stewardship Campaign. There are a few more pledges to come in, but there is potentially a significant increase in the 2018 budget.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Committee for Funding the Northeast Corner of Sanctuary:** They have not met.

**Fencing the eastern side of the playground:** Paul Wilborn has met with Pete Henniger and talked over the changes the Vestry would like. The original bid was for \$1300. Paul and Wade Wooten have volunteered to split that amount between them. With the addition of double gates, the cost will be about \$1400, and Robert Oliver has said he will pay the amount over the \$1300 original bid. Paul hopes to have the work done by the end of December.

**Organist contract:** Rev. Susie and Sue Faulkner are still working on the contract for the organist. \$3000 has been set aside to pay for her services. She has indicated she would like to work most of the summer. Thus the amount would need to be increased. The Vestry is amenable to that increase.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Report from Chief of Police:** Rev. Susie talked with Sammie Bailey about handling a shooting event such as happened in South Texas recently. She suggested a Safety

Committee of people who could be outside during a service and communicate with someone inside the church so that the doors could be locked and braced. She urged us to befriend a stranger who comes in. That can often disarm ill intentions. Let the Police Department know of any member of our community who is troubled or alienated and would potentially act out. They also want to know of any special services we have so they can swing by and check on us. We will send people to the meeting the Police Chief is planning for the community.

**Junior Warden's report:** Paul Wilborn has reported on the fence matter. About the dying tree on our lot, Paul will wait and see what it looks like next spring. He will take care of the dead tree on Fifth Street.

**Senior Warden's report:** Robert Oliver is in Oxford, Mississippi for the A&M game.

**Priest's report:** Bobbye Behlau is in the hospital with pneumonia. Ann Richardson is recovering at home from ankle surgery. Birdi Dabney will have knee replacement surgery the Monday after Thanksgiving.

**Appreciation:** Rev. Susie wants to express her appreciation to the ECW for putting on the Taco Soup Luncheon, with special thanks to Susan Browder and Jane Westerfield for their planning of the event and to the Wilborns for being the welcoming committee at the curb. Janna Hammett expressed her appreciation for the way Paul Wilborn gets things done quickly. And Rev. Susie thanked Carol Brown for her services as scribe.

Rev. Susie closed the meeting at 12:25 p.m. with a prayer for our enemies.