St. Paul’s Episcopal Church – Columbus, IN

Vestry Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, November, 2023 5:30 PM

1. Opening Prayer:

*Draw your Church together, O God,  
into one great company of disciples,  
together following our Lord Jesus Christ  
into every walk of life,  
together serving him in his mission to the world,  
and together witnessing to his love  
on every continent and island.*

2. Procedural Business

a. Attendance and confirmation of a quorum.

b. Approve the October vestry minutes.

3. Reports: Reports are as submitted unless it’s an action or discussion item that was

    submitted in advance.

a. Clergy Report – Aelred (excused absence)

b. Finance Report – Frank

c. Senior Warden Report – Barb - *None*

d. Junior Warden Report – Don

e. Marketing – Steve

f. Parish Life – Nancy A. – *Submitted*

g. Worship – Kelli - *Submitted*

h. Welcoming – Nancy M. - *Submitted*

i. Formation – Andrew - *Submitted*

j. Outreach – Barb - *Submitted*

4. Action Items: No Items Up for a Vote.

a. The following is an action item that doesn’t require any votes. If any of the commissions are requesting funding for 2024, please submit your budget to Cindy Overmyer or Barb Parker.

b. Vestry candidates for Class 2024.

5. Discussion Items

a. Basement Update – *See Don’s Report*

b. Conference Room Update - Frank

c. Mobile Phone Update - Steve

d. Summer Reading Camp – No report unless Aelred sends an update

e. Electrical update in vestibule and choir loft. – *See Andrew’s Report*

f. Lock Updates for rented rooms and sacristy – *See Don’s Report*

g. Sealing the parking lot.

h. Property line & tree trimming. – *See Andrew’s Report*

6. Back Burner Items:

a. Aelred & Barb to create a mutual ministry review document.

b. Ask Kelli to lead a coffee hour discussion and write up an article for *The Venite* regarding the AED.

c. Two instructed Eucharists for the new people coming to St. Paul’s.

7. Adjournment

​**Closing Prayer**

*Lord,  
it is night.*

*The night is for stillness.  
Let us be still in the presence of God.*

*It is night after a long day.  
What has been done has been done;  
what has not been done has not been done;  
let it be.*

*The night is dark.  
Let our fears of the darkness of the world and of our own lives rest in you.*

*The night is quiet.  
Let the quietness of your peace enfold us,  
all dear to us,  
and all who have no peace.*

*The night heralds the dawn.  
Let us look expectantly to a new day,  
new joys,  
new possibilities.*

*In your name we pray.*

**Amen.**

**Submitted Reports:**

1. Clergy Report – Aelred - absent
2. Finance Report – As sent by Cindy – Frank will discuss
3. Marketing – Steve Talbert:
4. Parish Life – Nancy Ardizone: The Parish Life Committee will be meeting Saturday, December 16, to assemble the Christmas Baskets for our shut ins. This is always a festive time for the committee and a wonderful time of fellowship and giving.
5. Welcoming – Nancy McKinney - no action
6. Formation – Andrew Goldsmid: The Formation Commission met and decided to use the Film Series 'Embodying Advent' for a series of Advent Forums. There will be 4 topics: Hope, Faith, Peace, and Joy.

The *My Love Chapel Forums* planned for the advent season will be rescheduled. The presenter, Ed Booth, is not in good health.

Committee Members will review the website *The Work of the People* for next year’s Lenten study.

Bible Study continues via Zoom every Thursday morning from 10:00 to 11:00am.

1. Outreach – Barb Parker: Love Chapel’s Christmas Feast Give-away (formerly known as the Christmas Pantry) will continue with the month-long give-away which was started last year. Pantry guests will pick up their Christmas basket at the pantry over a 4-week period (November 27 – December 22). St. Paul’s will once again be providing money to purchase the cans of green beans for the baskets.

Love Chapel’s Blue Christmas – If you're dreading the upcoming holidays because of a recent (or even not so recent) loss, you are not alone. The season is certainly difficult. Love Chapel has a service for anyone who has experienced loss of any kind: a loved one, health, ability, career, financial stability, or job. Mark your calendars now to join us on Friday evening, December 1 at 7pm upstairs at Columbus Commons for the community event .

Schmitt Trunk or Treat - Andrew Goldsmid and Barb Parker had a grand time handing out candy at the Schmitt Trunk or Treat. Once again, we made good use of the seasonal fall flowers borrowed from the memorial garden. The weather was perfect for this fun event, and Schmitt saw a record crowd. We ran out of pencils after an hour, but our candy lasted the entire event!

Hoosier Action Town Hall - The Bartholomew County chapter of Hoosier Action hosted a town hall at St. Paul’s with a dozen local candidates and about 100 community members attending. Candidates for city office in the Nov. 7 election talked about their views on affordable housing, substance abuse, homelessness, well-paying jobs, and transparency.

1. Worship – Kelli Thompson: Important Dates for Advent:

Dec. 2nd 10:00 am Organ is being tuned.  No one should be in sanctuary during this time.

Dec. 3rd Decorate ahead of the concert after the 10:15 am service.  Soup lunch for volunteers.

Dec. 10th Concert

Dec. 17th Full Greening of the church after the 10:15 am service. Lunch for volunteers.

Dec. 24th 10:15 am service

3:00 pm Children’s service

7:00 pm Evening service

Dec. 25th No service

1. Buildings & Grounds – Don Wools: Duke Energy has confirmed to me that we will soon get a check for $1,701 representing their promised rebate toward the cost of our air condition system.

As soon as we have confirmation of our Wi-Fi system we will have Loesch’s make sure we are logged in to our thermostats for digital adjustments. Otherwise, I have heard no issues. The thermostats changed themselves when Daylight Saving time ended last weekend.

I asked Andrew to interact with the electricians for the choir area light upgrades. I think that has been done with some minor adjustments forthcoming. Andrew has asked for assistance to paint the choir loft walls.

The programmable security lock for the Sacristy was installed by Nick and Andrew. Needs some modification before it’s ready for use.

The junk TV downstairs has been removed by volunteers.

I have the name of someone who would be willing to take the 60+ year old Sanctuary lights to put them to good use if the Vestry will approve (with no money involved)

We then will have a ping pong table, junk air hockey table, bookcases, a cross, chalk board, and a lot of junk to get rid of in the basement. I’m near to the point of saying “let’s bring a truck to the back door and finish it”, with Vestry approval.

Andrew Goldsmid: Planning/ input for the meeting:

* Tree trimming on California Street - The Boyers, our neighbors to the North, would like us to trim the Honey Locust Trees so they don't overhang the street or their yard. One of the limbs they complained about has recently been trimmed (presumably by their tree guy).
* No plans for pin oaks and flowering pears on the South and East. The pin oaks have several dead limbs low and high up. I'm not sure if all 3 trees will survive long term.
* The back parking lot will be partially redeveloped to accommodate a ramp to the basement and that could impact the 5 Bettys and 2 old flowering pears.
* John Delap and I have talked about clearing the bed between the parking area. Perhaps a Saturday project?
* Tracy Moses (Electrician) is looking for square can LEDs to improve the lighting at the back of the nave. Brighter bulbs don't do enough, as the fixtures do not do a good job dispersing the light. I will call Tracy in a few days to check on progress and the quote.
* We need to paint the stairwell and choir loft. Any volunteers?  Paint would be the same color as the parish hall and meeting rooms.  We purchased a gallon of this paint from Neil Paint and Wallpaper and used a little to 'touch up' the empty nurse's room.
* Planning to use the temporary sign to announce the Christmas concert and Christmas Services and should be able to re-use last year's banners.

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