

Epiphany Episcopal Church
Bishop's Committee Meeting Minutes from Nov. 21, 2023

Present: Bill Stone, Fr. Steve, Ben Bankson, Jon Morrison, Eileen Comstock, Jason Simmons, Annie Danielsen, Brewster Bird. Not present: Carolyn Jokinen.

Call to order at 5:30 pm

Opening prayer – Jon led prayer

Approval of October minutes – Jon moved to accept the minutes from October, Eileen seconded and all approved.

Treasurer's Report – Jason reviewed the treasurer's report, indicating a slight delay in posting the fair share and salaries. The monies are now all posted for the rummage sale. Eileen moved to accept, John seconded and all approved.

Annie indicated the tree trimmer will be starting the trimming tomorrow morning.

Vicar's report – Fr. Steve gave thanks to Ben for compiling the report on the Convention. He thanked Eileen for setting up discussion of the Bishop's convention talk. He stated he was grateful for the initiative but asked that any further follow up be discussed with him first. He informed the committee that he and Bill had already been discussing a day for the congregation to start discerning the way forward and wanted to ensure that we were all moving in the same direction.

In response to a question regarding the future Bps Warden, Fr Steve stated that he had initiated discussion with Bishop Michael and would communicate more as things progressed.

Fr Steve thanked all those who were involved in ministry in so many ways. He reiterated his request that he be informed of any planned initiatives in order he may have appropriate input.

Fr Steve spoke about ministries, particularly the ministry of lay preacher and reader. He informed the Bishop's committee that our bishop wanted all lay preachers and readers to be relicensed. Fr Steve informed committee that he had asked the bishop for a temporary dispensation to authorize occasional lay preaching and reading until such time as appropriate training courses were in place. The bishop had consented to the request under certain conditions.

Postulant's report – Bill indicated that he will be slowly be stepping down as warden. He will be here til the annual meeting in January. He will then be traveling to other churches.

Stewardship drive – Bill will giving the last talk on Sunday . He did send draft of stewardship letter to the BC folks. Several folks stated that they thought the letter was well constructed.

Advent - The advent schedule is as follows:

- Dec. 2 will be Quiet Day – facilitated by Parson Linda and Susan Stone – coffe @ 9a.m.
- Each Wednesday there will be Evening Prayer @ 5:30, with soup supper following. There will be discussion of previous Sunday's gospel reading and the Sunday sermon.
- Lessons and Carols – each week during advent will be at the 3 churches – Dec. 3- St. Matthews, Dec. 10 – Epiphany & Dec. 17- St. Philip's – all will begin @ 6 pm. All 3 churches will have representation in the choir at each session.
- Dec. 17th will be Stir Up Sunday.
- Christmas Eve - Morning prayer at Epiphany with greening of the church to follow. Worship service at 6:30 p.m., with caroling starting at 6 p.m.

Envisioning our future retreat – For the BC will be on January 6th, at Epiphany starting at 10:30, til 3 pm. This will be a time to discuss Where we are?, and where do we go from here at Epiphany? How do we move forward? Fr. Steve said he would like the Bishop Committee to work together with honesty and integrity with each other.

Annual meeting – 28 January, Need to discuss budget at the Dec. BC meeting

Old business – Fr. Steve would like to thank Ben for organizing the Senior luncheon on Nov. 14th – a nice event.

Next meeting will be on Dec, 19, Tuesday.
Closing prayer – Fr. Steve

Meeting adjourned at @ 6:30