

Vestry's purpose is to:

- Receive reports from the Rector, Wardens, and Committees, including the Balance Sheet from previous year
- Approve the Parish Council-supported Budget for the coming year
- Appoint and Elect positions to Parish Council
- Establish priorities and direction for Parish Council

Parish Council

Consists of:

- Rector
- Rector's Warden, Henry Troup (appointed by Rev. Kerri)
- People's Warden, Michelle Kay (re-elected)
- * Synod Representatives, Michaela McConnell, Michelle Kay, and LeeAnn Lyons as Alternate (re-elected)
- 3 members at large, Kirk Hanson, Roger O'Connor, Bonnie McConnell, and Gerd Lohman* (elected)

* Because Michelle Kay serves as a Warden & Synod Rep, Vestry agreed to open an additional member at large position

- Treasurer, Lois Lohmann, is a position appointed by the Wardens

Parish Council Meetings

- Parish Council is open to anyone to attend
- Voting rests with appointed and elected members
- At the last Parish Council Meeting prior to Vestry, the following dates were set for Parish Council
 - April 24
 - June 26
 - August 28
 - October 23
 - January 22, 2019
- Additional meetings can be set as Council deems necessary to address the business at hand
- The Chair has agreed to provide a draft agenda two Sundays in advance of the meeting so the congregation has an opportunity to add to the agenda, and know what is planned
- Every effort will be made to provide a summary of Council the Sunday following a meeting

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Summary of Priorities from Vestry, February 25, 2018

Two exercises were led on Sunday, February 25 to help us establish several priorities for the next one-to-three years.

1. Anglican Identity

Led during the sermon time, parishioners were invited to move between posters with the following statements written on them:

- Embracing a world-affirming stance and an earthly, enfleshed spiritual practice in that God became flesh
- Living a healthy, balanced life with God and in relation to others
- Exploring beauty as a doorway to God
- Encountering and feeding on the Bible in liturgy, study, and other forms of prayer
- Enacting God's compassion, peace, and justice in civic life and society
- Being in community with God and with others
- Loving the questions and helping others love the questions about God, spiritual life, and life itself
- Giving ourselves over to joy, wonder, and awe
- Experiencing and protecting God's creation
- Giving ourselves over to a step-by-step journey with God in Christ
- Living richly and prayerfully in the creative tension between opposites (mind:body / sacred:secular / transcendence:intimate closeness)
- Learning from and drawing on the gifts of the Church's history and heritage

People were invited to stand at the statement:

- You most identify with,
- You identify with the least,
- You believe the Parish as a whole is currently most drawn to, and
- You feel the Parish might need / want to direct some energy toward.

The purpose of the exercise was to:

1. Recognize that each of the statements represent a mark of Anglican identity;
2. Gain personal awareness of the part of our Anglican identity we are most drawn to;
3. Unveil the communal identities that exist in our congregation;
4. Gain insight into the areas we might not currently be focused as a congregation, but that we see potential for developing in / improving on.

What we noticed at the congregation level:

- Right now, we see the parish as most strongly identifying with;
 - Giving ourselves over to joy, wonder, and awe;
 - Living richly and prayerfully in the creative tension between opposites; and
 - Being in Community with God and with others
- In the future, we see value in attending to:
 - Living a healthy, balanced life with God and in relation to others

2. Led during the official Vestry proceedings, we worked a process to identify which ministries and programs we currently provide and where we see areas or holes to be filled.

The five major projects noted from the discussion:

- i) **Communication and Pastoral Contact to Extended Parish Community** - A committee was created with Rev. Kerri to review and consolidate a complete, central parish list. Concerns have been raised over the last couple years about those members of our wider community who we do not see regularly but who we understand to still be connected to our Parish. This effort will increase our ability to connect to those individuals (via accurate, current contact information), which can lead to intentional reaching out (by way invitation, inquiry of needs, desire to have a visit with the priest, or to be removed from our parish listing). Maggie Thorsell, Roger O'Connor, Henry Troup, Colin Price, and Lois Lohmann agreed to meet to begin this process.
 - ii) **Stewardship of Property** – As regards the responsible stewardship of our people, money, buildings, creation, and time, it was noted we ought to investigate what options we have available for our four buildings (the current church, the old heritage-status church, the rectory, and St Augustine's, Prospect). Rev. Kerri indicated she will invite two or three individuals to join Corporation in exploring this. The Committee has the option to invite the Diocesan Property and Finance Committee into the consultation when it feels ready. Rev. Kerri will announce these Committee members as soon as possible. The Committee will report to Parish Council.
 - iii) **Stewardship of Money** – The Parish finances are tight—our expenses exceeding our income last year by approximately \$3000. The time for an emphasis on the stewardship of our money, through targeted invites to re-evaluate givings, is before us. Corporation will work with Lois Lohmann (Treasurer) to present a proposal to Parish Council as soon as possible.
 - iv) **Accessibility** – As a pastoral response to the needs of an aging congregation, we will explore the feasibility of installing a lift on the stairs from the sanctuary to the parish hall. The Property Committee, Corporation and Parish Council will work collaboratively on this matter.
 - v) **Relationship Building** – In discussing how we build healthy community, respectful, loving relationships even in times of challenge, Vestry expressed concern over, and a desire to address the manner in which we engage with, and respond to each other.
3. **Other ideas** generated during the meeting included:
 - a) Interest in small group development
 - b) Workshops or retreat days on Prayer, Meditation, Labyrinth
 - c) The creation of a calendar of events to be advertised significantly in advance and updated regularly, including not only our own Parish, but also the Team and Diocesan events, and Lay Leadership training.
 - d) Exploring collaboration with the High School(s) about using their space for cooking / dinners
 - e) Hosting a community dinner that is not a fundraiser, but an community and relationship-building outreach