

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes
August 18, 2013

Present: Cindy Elliott, Ford Brooks, Penny Goldstein, Linda Hoffman, Jan Rose, Andy Smeltz, Marcia Warren, Tom Stouffer, David Luo, Mike Stitt, Mother Barbara, Deacon Betsy Ivey, Jennifer Morehouse, Vic Karcher, Mike Rhodes, Kristina Faber, Tom Stouffer

Excused: Ford Brooks

Opening prayer

Led by Linda Hoffman

Poverty one on ones: What would we like to see the church do to help alleviate poverty in the wider Shippensburg area?

Discussion: Jan Rose and Jen Morehouse – Jan's idea to focus on the Episcopal Home to build relationships with the residents, helping those who don't have family in the area. Mike Stitt and Tom Stouffer – More emphasis on a hand up instead of a hand out – community gardens. Teach people how to produce some of their own food. Curriculum for financial literacy (Penny Goldstein and Mike Rhodes). This would help to keep people from falling into bad situations. 50% of children in Shippensburg receive school free lunches. Could we serve a dinner a quarter for those in need? Vic Karcher – our heart is where the money is. Set an "outreach" budget first – 10% of our income and then work from there to what we want to do. How do we help people find the services that do exist in the area. Make a commitment to one or two families to help them out. A more personal connection instead of just a "concept".

Work Sessions

Lay leadership development – is this just to find Vestry slate or leaders for parish wide activities? Have a series of meetings to bring people together. Small group discussions.

Pot Lucks – Get Sue Davis to put together some type of procedure/list of responsibilities for holding a pot luck dinner. Outreach food – Linda and Kristina are going to a church currently offering a meal to see how they do it. How to involve people who work during the week – let them prepare food on the weekend to be served later. Important to have an end time for the dinner. Vestry would be the first sponsor of a pot luck dinner.

Spiritual Formation/Annual Giving – We would like to have growth – both in stewardship and spiritual practices. Canvass for annual giving – Vestry members visit people and have conversations with people. The one on one conversations are important for finding out what is important to people.

Talk to parishioners to give an additional 10% towards outreach this year – specifically dedicated to this.

Welcoming newcomers – Something to give to people, brochure, magnet. Remind people to welcome people who are visiting or new. Another newcomer welcome lunch or dinner.

Approved meeting minutes from last month. Moved my Tom, seconded by Jan.

September Vestry meeting – September 22nd.

Parish reflection – Barbara – a lot of people coming to worship during the summer.

October potluck? What date? October 13th with pumpkin patch.

Where has God been present with you this month? Linda Hoffman – giving blood. Conversation with friend about feeding the homeless.

Mike Rhodes has been timing the service.

Cindy Elliott with provide prayer for next Vestry Meeting.

Linda Hoffman led our dismissal prayer.

Meeting adjourned 1:14pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcia Warren