

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Vestry meeting Sunday, Sept. 16
MINUTES

Present: Barb Sajna, George Hughes, Carol Ann Osinski, Steve Elliott, Ralph Blankenburg, Betsy Rogers, Karen Malzahn. Ray Osinski also attended.

Barb began the meeting with a meditation from *Forward Day by Day*.

The agenda and August minutes were approved.

John Hauser Discernment Committee report: John Hauser, aspirant for holy orders, appeared before the vestry, which had received the report of his discernment committee recommending his nomination. Betsy Rogers moved that he be nominated, and Barb Sajna seconded; the vote was unanimous in favor. John accepted the nomination.

Rector's report:

Barb announced that former parishioner Marty Lash had died. A memorial service will be held for him. A funeral service for Jean Swanson will take place Oct. 13.

Barb discussed two community initiatives with which she hopes St. Luke's will be involved:

1. "We welcome all" — a new effort at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. We will post a door sign with this statement on our front door. Barb will offer a similar sign to Pipka for her shop. She will contribute \$50 from her discretionary fund to the UUF for ongoing "We welcome all" activities. Carol Ann mentioned some compelling signs posted at Hope UCC in Sturgeon Bay; Ralph will check to make sure village ordinances permit these signs, and Betsy will look for suppliers on line. A beautiful poster incorporating a Maya Angelou quote in art might be available; Barb will inquire.
2. Income inequality — this ongoing program plans several speakers in October with the theme of "Focus on Fairness"
 - Economist Dylan Fitz from Lawrence University will speak at 7 pm Oct. 16 at the Kress Center, Egg Harbor
 - Chuck Collins, senior scholar at the Institute for Policy Studies, Washington, DC, will speak at St. Luke's the afternoon of Oct. 24 and at 7 pm that evening at the Door County Auditorium
 - Roberta Thelen, Joel Kitchens, Caleb Frostman, and candidates for Door County sheriff will appear at a candidates' forum at 7 pm Oct. 27 at the Kress Center

Barb noted that 50% of the Door County population falls below the poverty line.

The vestry discussed Joanne Skidmore's report from our July retreat. Karen suggested that we take a month to digest this material and consider how we'd like to act on it. Betsy said she hoped we would discuss a range of possible community outreach initiatives, and that vestry members with ideas for such programs would do some research so we'd have the information needed to consider them. Karen suggested exploring how we might build on existing programs. Ralph proposed challenging parishioners to donate food regularly to the Door of Life food pantry. We discussed sending welcome notes to those who sign our guest book. We will meet Friday, Oct. 19, to move this discussion forward.

The Bishop will be here for his visitation in late September. He will meet with parishioners after church and then with the vestry. We will outline these plans to him when he meets with the vestry. We will also ask him for best practices from around the wider church that might be appropriate for us and our context. Barb will order sandwiches for lunch.

Meanwhile, Barb has been accumulating a list of our community involvement activities, which include Canterbury Cinema, Kathy Blankenburg's Scandia ministry (coordinating social activities at Woodview), Barb's articles in the *Advocate*, Clearing classes, work with other churches, Midsummer Music concerts, fundraising concerts, volunteer involvement at Bargains and elsewhere.

In this connection, Diana has learned that the Baptist Church will host a Thanksgiving dinner and will welcome volunteers. Barb will get more information.

Ralph noted that as of November we will need to find a new way to transport Ruth Dallman to church. He will take the training to drive the Scand van; Ray Osinski and Karen also offered to help.

Junior Warden's report: George Hughes presented this report for Doug Schwartz.

- The wall to the left of the main door is deteriorating. Doug is in touch with Forestville Builders; they will evaluate and recommend corrective measures.
- The shed will come down within two weeks.
- The flagpoles will be re-erected and flags flown.
- The sign lights have been successfully adjusted, and the sign project is now complete.

Treasurer's report: As there were no questions about the report, it will be filed for audit. There will be no diocesan on-site audit this year. The vestry reviewed the credit card statement.

Carpet: Carol Ann will call Carpet One to check on the installation date for the Canterbury Room carpet. George will organize a crew to move furniture if necessary.

Old business: none

New business: none

The vestry adjourned at 1:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Rogers

Clerk pro tem