

## TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Notes from the Vestry

June, 2015

Julien Worland, Clerk

**Rev. Jon Stratton** opened the Vestry meeting with a prayer. The Vestry approved the May minutes, and Treasurer **Jeanie Frazee's** discussed the financial reports through May prepared by Administrator **Bill Ader**. The Parish has still not made its final payment on rebuilding the South Parish Hall, as HOF Construction still has some very small items to provide. The total will come to more than \$800,000, including amounts for decoration.

The Vestry approved the appointments of **Kate Haggans** and **Jesse Todd** as Trinity's delegates to the Diocesan Convention this year. The congregation will elect new representatives at our Annual Meeting.

More planned redecoration work is getting completed, as reported by Junior Warden **Jan Parker**. Redecoration of the former nursery has converted it into office space, and new NPH nursery is awaiting carpet to be laid this week. The new furnace is not completely finished, as Matheny is awaiting a final, small part. She and Matheny will be planning the heating and cooling of the Narthex and choir office. Trinity has donated used furniture to Habitat for Humanity, and the old pew in the NPH has found a new home as well. **Joyce Daughaday** reported on SPH decoration. Sun shades and new pews were installed. A diaper-changing table, a bulletin board, and coat racks are coming soon.

Senior Warden **Barbara Uhlemann** has been working with the "Lay Weeders," the Landscaping Committee. They planted dogwoods and 61 boxwoods. To sustain them during their first summer, Barbara enlisted a squad of volunteers to water, some but not all from our congregation. The Landscaping Committee will be adding vegetable gardens on either side of the drive leading from Washington Ave. to the east parking lot.

The Vestry approved extra funds for hiring a **Sexton** jointly with Holy Communion parish. The Sexton will be Trinity's employee but Holy Communion will sub-contract for 10 hours per week. Fr. Jon said he had three excellent candidates for the position but still needed to work out details with Holy Communion. He expects the new Sexton to begin in July.

Parish Life Committee chair **Hazel Kirk** proposed that we hold our future picnics in a park, and the Vestry actively considered using Fountain Park. That's a desirable choice because it would help link Trinity with its neighborhood. Fountain Park also has the advantages of being nearby and well-shaded, plus having ample parking. The idea could bear more thought, including how to secure a temporary use permit and how to be thoughtful about the park's neighbors, but the Vestry seemed eager to pursue the idea.

Fr. Jon said he was gradually increasing the number of days that the Eucharist is celebrated at Trinity, currently four. Together with Holy Communion and St.

John's, Trinity will celebrate **Mass on the Grass** in Tower Grove Park on Saturday, June 27, at the alternate Gay Pride Festival. Other parish activities include the many new small groups, on-going Morning Prayer, and bi-weekly Tuesday evening Eucharists through the summer. Fr. Jon is working with new member and musician **Mike Clark** to further develop the Children's Service. Fr. Jon said he is on-track to meet individually with all parishioners before year's end.

Fr. Jon is now **Eighteenth Ward Captain** for the campaign to raise St. Louis's minimum wage to \$15 per hour. He reported that Trinitarians had canvassed our neighborhood collecting petition signatures last Saturday and would be canvassing twice more this month.

For the Arts Committee, **Julien Worland** reported that the Humans of Trinity project was up and running with 6 photographers and 2 interviewers, who together have created 9 portraits with comments, out of the 40 expected by Labor Day. We will present these on our Facebook page and in a display at Trinity.

A shortage of parking spaces at Trinity during the weeks appears to have eased somewhat, though members of the Vestry were not sure why. Fr. Jon and Barbara Uhlemann discussed parking issues with neighbors **Jim and Nicki Dwyer** with whom Trinity has an agreement to share some parking access.

Fr. Jon and the Vestry were pleased about the recent **reception of new members**, and he said that the congregation would recognize four additional new members at the end of June.

Vestry concluded its meeting with recitation of the Our Father.