

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Notes from the Vestry, January 2015
Julien Worland, Clerk

The Vestry met for the first time with Rev. Jon Stratton, Rector-Elect, who opened the meeting with a prayer.

Much of this meeting dealt with money, reviewing the year-end report from 2014 and approving a budget for 2015 that parishioners will be asked to approve at the Annual Meeting. As had been anticipated, Trinity ran a deficit last year of \$38,000, partially offset by drawing money from funds set aside for that purpose. Parishioners paid 98% of their pledges in 2014, and the parish's total income from all sources was slightly above what was budgeted. The Trinity Food Ministry's funds were strong. Costs for the South Parish Hall construction, budgeted separately, have come in below the amounts anticipated.

As to 2015, Treasurer Barbara Uhlemann walked the Vestry through the numbers in the budget. Budgeted expenditures will total \$208,000, and once again the parish anticipates a deficit equal to the deficit for 2014. Pledge income has decline due to the deaths of generous contributors. The Vestry approved that the proposed budget be presented to the congregation for its approval.

Barbara Uhlemann announced her resignation as Trinity's treasurer, and the Vestry proposed that Jeanie Frazee be appointed its new treasurer.

Mary Moore has been leading the Transition Team (Faith Sandler, Dolores Friesen, George Friesen, Ben Kiel, Barbara Uhlemann), handling many important details involved in Rev. Mark Hatch's departure and Rev. Jon Stratton's arrival. Some of the many items on their agenda include preparing Jon's office, a welcome basket for the Stratton family, fitting our vestments to Jon's stature, arranging a celebratory events, and how to help Jon become acquainted with parishioners.

Michael Haggans reported on progress of the SPH construction. The good news is that we will be able to use the SPH at the Annual Meeting pot-luck, though the kitchen may not yet be in operation. Other good news is that the project is within budget.

The Vestry discussed at length the heating situation in the sanctuary. Our boiler cracked on Christmas Eve and requires replacement. The temporary heating system is allowing Junior Warden Willie Meadows and Michael Haggans time to review the costs and benefits of various solutions. The Vestry approved costs for the temporary heating system as long as needed through the rest of this winter.

At the Annual Meeting January 25 the congregation will elect candidates to serve on the Vestry. There are more candidates than available slots. The Vestry discussed the agenda for the meeting, report presentation, and balloting.

February will be a busy month at Trinity, with the Bishop's visit (Feb. 15), Shrove Tuesday service and dinner (Feb. 17), Ash Wednesday (Feb. 18), and the Vestry retreat (Feb. 21).

Deacon Harry Leip discussed how well the TFM had managed its operations during their dislocation due to the SPH construction. The Parish will be sending a donation to Cornerstone Baptist Church as a thank-you for their support of the hot lunch program. Parishioners also generously contributed \$700 for St. John's Church to help with costs they incurred during recent demonstrations.

Assistant Warden Willie Meadows explained that he had ordered replacement glass for the lanterns at the west entrance. Replacement doors are under contract and he hoped for their installation in February.

Rev. Harry Leip mentioned the unusually high number of illnesses and losses experienced by members and their families recently and asked for support and prayers for one another.

The Vestry closed their meeting by reciting the Our Father.