

Annual Meeting of the Episcopal Church of the Prince of Peace

February 13, 2022 for the Year 2021

Call to Order, 11:40am

1. Opening Prayer: Father Steven Ellis asked Steve Buresh to open the meeting with prayer.
2. Approve Clerk for Today's Meeting: Father Steven asked Marcia Kelley and Rachel Bertoni to take minutes as Clerk Susan McNaught was unable to do so due to the death of her husband, Buddy McNaught.
3. Approve Minutes of Last Year's Meeting: Moved/Seconded/Passed
4. Interim Vicar's Report: Father Steven delivered his report as Interim Vicar.
 - a. He noted that POP had done well despite the challenges of COVID: moving to Zoom so quickly to continue worship, book group and bible study; the pastoral care we provided to each other; extensive sharing of prayers/prayer list, birthdays and thanksgivings.
 - b. He acknowledged that there is some respite in being together last summer and in holding the grief service, outside activities (yard sale, trunk-or-treat), the prayer shawl ministry and the Sunday evening bible study.
 - i. He thanked Senior Warden Mary Knutsen for her orientation to him as a new interim and for her weekly meetings with him to assist him over the past year. He also thanked: Carol for helping to orient him, serving as a sounding board and providing continuity; Massimo Brofferio (retiring as Junior Warden) for identifying POPs needs and bringing concrete proposals regarding the property; Treasurer Mary Macy for bringing our records and accounts into order and for developing procedures to make the work easier in the future; Steve Buresh (retiring from BAC) for his work in searching the archives and putting them in order; Pat Barnes and the others on Altar Guild for their quiet work with us so appreciated; and the BAC for hanging in there with two meetings a month to care for the congregation.
 - c. He provided some context for the 2022 Annual Budget: an interim vicar is placed to see a congregation through new eyes; we are in transition, taking stock of our future; our attendance is about half of what it was a decade ago; we are faithful in meeting our pledges (good morale and commitment) but our pledges are down which requires painful decisions for long term financial sustainability; we need to look ahead to hiring a new vicar (with retirement and benefits, as well as salary); BAC looked at three difficult budget options and chose the one that eliminates the parish administrator position, a decision that seemed unthinkable when our finances were different.
 - d. He proposed that the new BAC do congregation-wide listening as soon as we can be in person for us to approach our situation prayerfully and with better mutual understanding and clarity.

- e. He said POP has a fine future if we will grant where we are now and let God walk with us.
5. 2021 Financial Report: Treasurer Mary Macy presented a financial report and answered questions of the congregation.
6. 2022 Annual Budget: Treasurer Mary Macy presented the annual budget adopted by the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Feb. 2, 2022. The Congregation discussed the budget; discussion centered around the property on Brush College Road and the use of designated funds. Due to life transitions, our pledging units are down. We are faithful pledgers; what we pledge, we give.
7. Election of Delegates and Alternates:
 - a. The candidates for delegates to convention were named and there were no further nominations. Mary Macy and Mary Knutsen were by a unanimous ballot. M/S/P
 - b. There were no nominations for alternates. After discussion Ann McBride and Barbara Ross stepped forward. Ann McBride and Barbara Ross were elected by unanimous ballot. M/S/P
8. Election of Bishop's Advisory Committee:
 - a. Prior to the election of members to the Bishop's Advisory Committee Elaine Laizure withdrew her name.
 - b. A discussion ensued and Bill Dalton put his name forward since Elaine was not running. No additional nominees were identified.
 - c. A motion was made to cast a unanimous ballot. M/S/P
 - Elected to two year term: Nick Fortey and Sue Rembert
 - Elected to three year term: Bill Dalton, Marcia Kelley and Mary Macy
9. Senior Warden's Report: Senior Warden Mary Knutsen noted that transitions are always hard. There are many current challenges and she has been senior warden since 2015. She is exhausted and can't continue as senior warden. She will not leave Prince of Peace and will stay engaged. She urged us to use kindness, love and prayer.
10. Other Business:
 - a. Bill Dalton noted that the written reports sent to the congregation earlier touched him as he realized just how much we do together for our congregation and the community.
 - b. An announcement was made that the BAC would meet Wednesday, February 16.
11. Closing Prayer: the meeting was closed with a prayer by Father Steven.

Meeting concluded at 1:10pm