

## **St. George Parish Council Meeting Minutes**

**April 28, 2019**

**Time: 6:30 pm**

### **Attendees:**

Clergy: Fr. Stephen Sledesky, Fr. Ricardo

Trustees: Margot Burkle, Bill White

Members Present: Maureen Goss, Joyce Ippolito, Joe Nelly, Valerie LeShane, Dick Holland, Laurie Laterza. Maureen Fuest. Helen Pedersen. Rose Ann Kelley

Peer Ministers: Caroline Burkle

Visitors: Betty Jane Schiller, Debra Falvey, Jane Ferrell, Marcy Holland, Jim Kenefic

Absent: Deacon Bob, Diana Harris, Tony Sicignano, Elizabeth Abernathy

Opening Prayer/Reflection: Maureen Fuest

**Welcome/Acceptance of March 24th meeting minutes:** Helen Pedersen made motion to accept minutes, Maureen Fuest seconded and everyone accepted unanimously.

### **Interfaith Ride Program – Jane Ferrall**

- Organization founded in 1984 and has 1.5 employees and over 45 volunteer drivers.
- Meetings are held at St. Rita's in Hamden.
- Provides rides to persons 60 years and older to their doctor's appointments, pharmacy and hospital procedures and treatments.
- Majority who use this service are from New Haven and Hamden but serves all of Greater New Haven and the shoreline (12 towns).
- The website is [interfaith@carenewhaven.org](mailto:interfaith@carenewhaven.org) and they perform this service M-F from 8-5 and provide an average of 60 rides per week.
- The organization carries liability insurance
- Each person can only receive one roundtrip ride per week.
- They have a luncheon program and a lecture program one day per month
- They are seeking additional volunteers to drive and church and community funding.
- Durable equipment closet is opening in Hamden, similar to Charlie's Closet.

### **Peer Ministry Report:**

- There will be a fundraiser dinner dance on May 18<sup>th</sup> from 6-10 to benefit the Peer Ministry Pilgrimage.

- There will be a plant sale on Mother's Day in addition to a Tag Sale in June.
- There will be a fund raiser on June 6<sup>th</sup>, a pasta dinner given by the Men's group.

### **Love In Action Stewardship Fair**

- Will be held October 5-6, Bonnie wants to focus on just one weekend.
- Betty Jane is merging handbook categories of ministries.
- Help will be needed with layout and printing. The office can handle if it's a small number of booklets to be printed.

### **New Business**

- Leave of absence for PC member, who will be away from St. George for a year. It was decided that instead of taking a leave of absence, that she resign and apply to the council again upon her return.
- New member discernment meeting. There will be a workshop on May 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 for the selection of new members. All PC members should plan to attend as it would be nice for them to share their experiences with potential new members. Anyone unable to attend should notify Joe Nelly.
- Parish Development Divine Renovation book by Fr. James Mallon. It was suggested we revisit this next year to brainstorm ideas for our parish. Fr. Stephen will order copies for members who do not have one and for new members.
- It was asked how we could better reach out to young adult parishioners. What are they looking to get out of church? Fr. Stephen said that the 2 youngest members who left the PC council left because of issues in the broader church, not issues that we need to address as a parish. This is something that needs to happen organically, with a tie-back to the church – Jesus is the reason we do good deeds. The PC agreed to give further thought to the issue and discuss at another time.

### **Pastor's Report**

- The annual report was mailed to the parishioners. No one on the PC had any questions, though Margot said someone had asked her a specific finance question, which will be addressed at a separate finance meeting.
- A GHS student has requested to place boxes to collect feminine hygiene products for the Guilford Youth Feminine Alliance. These products are needed by people in the area who cannot afford them. The question was raised whether this might be part of the Matthew 25 collection but Fr. Stephen thinks it is better for people to donate first in order to fully understand the need for this.
- Another parishioner asked about sponsoring a viewing of the documentary *Unplanned*, possibly in conjunction with area churches. Fr. Stephen will get more info on this, but it was agreed it was a good idea.

- Kentucky Derby event to be held on May 4<sup>th</sup> to benefit ESCA at \$75 pp. Fr. Encouraged everyone to attend to support our school.
- A question was asked about security in the church. Fr. said the ushers had a meeting but there is not a lot they can do. They are prepared for health emergencies and generally keep an eye on things. Surveillance cameras have been placed in the church hall for after hours. Joe Nelly suggested that we approach the Guilford PD to see if they could patrol during both Saturday and Sunday services.

**Next Meeting is May 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30**