

Parish Life Board Minutes

February 6, 2020

Attending: Frazier Crane, Linda Humphreys, Rose Dahill, Tink Shelton

Linda opened with a prayer.

Minutes from December were approved.

Rose stated that more greeters are needed. We should have one greeter at each door on Sunday mornings. Visitors are often not leaving the cards from the visitor bags, so there is a lack of follow-up. Rose will ask Father Eric to ask the vestry members to fill in as greeters. The goal of having greeters is to be sure that everyone feels welcome.

Discussion on neighborhood groups was tabled. At our March meeting, Father Eric will talk about how he sees these groups working.

Shepherding is another part of our new welcoming strategy that will be put into place soon. When a person fills out the card in the newcomers' bag, Lorraine will send a welcoming email within a week; then Father Eric will send a letter about St. Philip's Church; finally, a "shepherd" from the congregation will be found. This person will have something in common with the newcomer (living in same neighborhood, military background, moved from same part of country, leisure activities, etc.) and will be asked to help the newcomer feel comfortable in the Episcopal church, find ways to fit in at St. Philip's and, in general, to be a friend.

Parish Life will do a quarterly newcomers' event. All activities and programs directed toward newcomers will be the responsibility of the Parish Life Ministry.

One newcomers event is in the planning stages. Jan Farley has offered Cape Fear House for a happy hour type gathering. We hope to do this on Friday, March 13 from 4-6 p.m. Written invitations will be sent to those who have joined or visited with us since January 2019. Wine will be provided. Parish Life Board and Vestry members will be asked to provide finger food.

The choir breakfast will be served between services on April 12. The congregation will be asked to provide quiche, fruit, drinks, etc. A coordinator for this event is needed.

Tink and Linda gave a recap of the Ministry Chairs meeting.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting will be March 5 at 3:30 in the Parish Hall. Father Eric will speak about neighborhood groups.

Respectfully submitted,

Tink Shelton

Parish Life Communicator