

## St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

### Vestry Retreat – Discerning the Pathway to Heaven on Earth

February 10-11, 2024

**Present:** Cannon Fr. John Spicer, Paul Wurth, Steve Miller, Deacon Adam James, Jewel Scott, Christina Santiago-Turner, Jason Anglian, Susan Paynter, Stephanie Henson, Jean Kiene, Sara Welch, Tim Cranor, Janet Kelley, Cameron Rostern, Ward Cook, Emily Bond, Scott Burditt, Pam Orlander, Guy Creveling, Wendy Burgess, Mtr. Rita Kendagor, Mtr. Anne Hutcherson

Cannon John called the meeting to order and opened with the Prayer for the Morning from the BCP. A silent prayer time was followed by the group praying the Lord's Prayer.

**Election of Officers:** The following people were elected to Vestry positions:

- Junior Warden – Jewel Scott
- Treasurer – Bill Aliber
- Secretary – Ann Goodrich
- Chancellor – Greg Bentz

To attend the Diocesan Convention in November where a new Bishop of the Western Missouri Diocese will be elected, the following 10 people were selected as delegates by paper ballot:

- Greg Bentz
- Jean Kiene
- Susan Paynter
- Ann Rainey
- Bob Regnier
- Jewel Scott
- Ann Spicer
- Christina Santiago Turner
- Caroline Wake
- Paul Wurth

The alternates (in order) are:

1. Celeste Kirmer
2. Scott Kirmer
3. Randolph Oliver
4. Terry Thum
5. Ann Woodyard
6. Blythe Robertson
7. Cathy Moseley

Cannon Fr. John asked that monthly reports be sent to Mtr. Jean or Sarah regarding ministry participation tracking.

Commission ministry goals for 2024 are due March 12 which is prior to the next Vestry meeting.

A discussion was then held on "Where are you on the spiritual journey?"

Exploring, Growing, Deepening, Centered – where are you on the scale?

After a break, the question of "Why is the Church here?" was taken up. This was followed by Mtr. Rita introducing and explaining contemplative listening and the practice of *lectio divina*.

Prayers for Noonday were followed by lunch.

The afternoon sessions were devoted to small group conversations about identifying heaven on earth.

The guide is our Baptismal Covenant. How can our ministries and activities live out the Baptismal Covenant? How can we make the journey and grow along the road to finding heaven on earth? The Baptismal Covenant as the curriculum are as follows:

- Worshiping

- Learning
- Sharing fellowship
- Reconciling
- Proclaiming good news
- Serving
- Practicing dignity, justice, and peace

Many questions and suggestions on how the parish and ministries can make the journey using the Baptismal Covenant.

On Sunday, the group attended St. James United Methodist Church and then had brunch together at Plate.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Goodrich, Vestry Secretary