

**Meet Christ. Be Christ.**  
**St. Christopher's Faith Family Vestry 21 August 2023**

**Attendance::** Rector Fr. Randy Johnson, Junior Warden Barb Hovey, Madisen Crow, Patrick Ahern, Leslie Norton, Cheryl Bailey, Eric Hedican, Ann Trapnell, Rich Pieper, Darlene Cross, Ross Ackerman, Tom Linder - Finance Team Member, & Clerk Robert Williams

**Absent:** Senior Warden Karen Hartman

Opening Prayer/Covenant

Randy/Ann

Additions to agenda: Nothing was added.

Barb

Approve agenda: Motion made by Madisen and seconded by Leslie; unanimous approval. Barb Approve The Vestry did not meet in July. June Minutes: Motion made by Madisen and seconded by Leslie; unanimous approval.

Barb

**Team Reports:**

Finance Pat / Tom: The July income was less than budgeted, but there were early offerings so we are ahead of budget for the year. By the end of the year, it is close to being expected. The expenses: the salaries & benefits are less than expected. The Mission & Ministry has been paid for the entire year. The facilities are higher than we budgeted. For the Summer music expenses have been low. The Expenses are going to be lower because of the salaries for the year. Income is about what we expect it to be. The facilities are a smaller part of the budget. The Finance Committee focused on midyear totals at the August meeting.

Altar Guild Karen (by Ann): Altar Guild will have an annual meeting on 9 September 2023.

Buildings and Grounds Barb: Bruce fixed the peace pole because the pole has rotted through at the base. There was some yard work around the grounds to make the grounds better looking. This was done to help our grounds look good when the State Fair bus riders come.

Children's Ministries Eric: A new family reached out to Marion about attending St. Christopher's. They asked about a nursery for a 2-year-old child. The nursery has been closed since the pandemic started. Marion thinks that at least 8 people need to be recruited for the nursery. The volunteers need to have Safe Church Training. Marion has the paperwork for the training. The nursery needs to have 2 unrelated adults. The vestry supports opening the nursery. It could help attract more families with children.

Communications Madisen: Chris (Mayr) & Madisen were looking over the welcoming packet information.

Garden / The Green Team Leslie: The garden is going well. They have harvested some produce. Jeff Jensen will be off for about 6 weeks. We have the entire team to take care of the garden. The Norton family used 2 drones & videographed for the garden, the solar panels, & the

church. They interviewed a few people. They will reduce it down from 1 to 1.5 hours to sixty seconds. Currently, the Peace Garden is maintained by a combination of the Garden Team & the Green Team. The Green Team will put it on the books to handle it 3 times a year.

Hearts and Hands, Meals on Wheels Cheryl: Nothing to add.

The 75th Anniversary Committee had a meeting this morning, 21 August 2023. They will submit a rough budget to Finance in October for the catering costs. The anniversary celebration will be after the 6 October service in 2024. They are planning to have a pig roast. They are trying to invite the community & former parishioners to attend the event. Some events are still being planned. They would like to do a videotape. They would like to interview all current &/or former parishioners of St. Christopher's. They asked former Priests (Clergy) to attend the event. The video will be a snippet of all of the interviews. They would like to have old pictures vs. the current Church's pictures. The Anniversary Committee wants to celebrate our past and also look forward.

Funerals/Caterer, Special Gatherings Darlene: We made a new updated funeral protocol for catering for the families. Fr. Randy thought that it was useful for the cluster of recent funerals. It was useful for the families to have. For the families, they have some information about options for receptions.

Fellowship/Social Activities Ann: The group has not met for a while. They took last month off & they will be meeting soon. For the BINGO, we had 42 guests attend. They did not charge a fee for Bingo. The free will offering was around \$ 162.00. Fellowship is trying to work around other groups' times & events so that there are no conflicts. Ruth moved the calendar to a prominent site on the website so it will be visible to all of the groups & to the community. It will allow the community or fellow Church's groups to view the on-going events. There are a variety of social events happening. Some groups are already part of the calendar, such as Meals on Wheels & Hearts & Hands.

Unfinished Business: All

- Welcoming Committee, publications: Madisen and Chris are working on this. Hopefully next month, they will have more information to add.
- Instructional info about Eucharist during services: Something to be supplemental. Fr. Randy is hoping to find a way to do this effectively. It can be difficult during the service and make the service run too long. For the Wednesday Service, it is easier because it is a smaller group. Fr. Randy will deputize in certain roles. He had several persons, particularly women. When the women participated in the different roles, they had a different experience in the service. For most women, it was not an option for them. We could invite people to the Wednesday service if they want to learn more about the structure of Eucharist.

- Daycare Flooring- may have decided against due to cost: Nothing is happening,
- Daycare space issue- daycare had a license review and learned they need more space for school aged children (1st to 3rd grade). These children only attend day care during the summer. Daycare will need separate spaces for the older kids and younger kids. The **licensor** recommended that they could use the Parish Hall because it is large enough. We use the Parish Hall for church activity and do not want to turn it over to the daycare. One option could be to use the second youth room. We have to clear out the room to make it available to them. Daycare has 2 years to show the license that they made the change. They were given a conditional 2-year license. Ruth will contact Larry to see what they need from St. Christopher's. When we know what they need, we might have a group of volunteers to help clear out the room.
- *Article:* For your reading pleasure courtesy of Cheryl: Barb gave a recap of the article "What Churches Offer That 'Nones' Still Long For" in The New York Times. The article was published 28 June 2023 & was written by Jessica Grose. The Vestry had a discussion about the article.
- Start up Sunday: Sept 10. Brainstorm celebration of the new program year. The week after Labor Day, they will have one service. We are planning to have root beer floats & popcorn. We will have tables for the different groups. Each committee can have some information on the tables so people can sign up. On 17 September, we will have 2 services.
- Open Arms- moving forward Pat: Pat signed up the Vestry group on 7 October (Saturday), at the St. Paul location. The time is from 11:30 am. to 2:30 p.m. When we get closer, Pat would provide the link for it. There will be information about Open Arm in different ways to inform the parish about them. Pat tries to do it once a quarter. Once they get a log-in, they see the calendar. At the St. Paul's location, the maximum number of people to attend is twelve. When you get an account, you have access to the calendar. You can see only time spots for groups or for individuals. There are different types of volunteering, such as delivering the food.
- Stewardship time is quickly approaching: Karen is planning to talk to Chris Mayr. We are working on his thoughts about it.
- Organ Randy: We have one on a trial basis. Peggy, the substitute organist, is the organ company representative in the area. She had the organ in her studio and felt it would fit the acoustics of our sanctuary. Karla will demonstrate the difference between pipe organ vs electronic organ. The Vestry had a discussion about the organ.

Rector Report Fr. Randy: Adult forum starts on 17 September. The forum will study Luke's Gospels. There are several people, not necessarily clergy, who are leading a discussion. It will happen between the two services. There are books available as a study guide. Marilyn has

them in the office. If you need one please let her know. The entire diocese will be discussing the book of Luke. Randy will be mentoring a new priest. The term will be a 2 year program. It will be one-on-one. Last week on Thursday, Randy met with Bishop Craig Loya at the Diocese's Office. Bishop Loya met with priests representing the 11 largest parishes within the Diocese. The meeting was more of a reconnection. This Saturday, 26 August 2023 at 2:30 in the afternoon, we will have another baptism. The photo directory, Matt Cole will be taking the photos for the new directory. You can submit a private or more personal photo for the directory. Trying to think about the Vestry & Junior Warden's candidates. Tomorrow, 22 August, St. Paul Conservatory Recorder Ensemble will have a concert in the sanctuary at 6:45 pm.

Senior Warden Karen: absent

Junior Warden Barb: Added a comment about the organ. This congregation is a singing one. The organ helps people to participate.

Announcements All

- Shout Outs: Thanks to members of the congregation who have volunteered time this summer.

Closing Sharing and Caring All

Closing prayer, poem or Compline Ross

Who would like to lead the closing at the next meeting? Ann

Motion to adjourn: Motion made by Pat and seconded by Leslie; unanimous approval.

**Next Meeting of Vestry: Monday, 18 September 2023 at 6:45 p.m.**