

Meet Christ. Be Christ.
St. Christopher's Faith Family Vestry 18 September 2023

Attendance: Senior Warden Karen Hartman, Junior Warden Barb Hovey, Madisen Crow, Patrick Ahern, Leslie, Norton, Eric Hedican, Ann Trapnell, Rich Pieper, Darlene Cross, Ross Ackerman, Tom Linder - Finance Team Member, & Clerk Robert Williams Guests: Karla Cole & Josh Kattleman (from the Organ Committee)

Absent: Rector Fr. Randy Johnson & Cheryl Bailey

Opening Prayer/Covenant: Madisen

Additions to agenda Karen: Motion made by Madisen and seconded by Leslie; unanimous approval.

Approve agenda Karen: Motion made by Madisen and seconded by Leslie; unanimous approval.

Approve August Minutes: Motion made by Ross and seconded by Rich; unanimous approval.

Organ Q&A- Karla Cole & Josh Kattleman (from the Organ Committee): Karla gave an overall view from the Organ Committee. Karla gave a recap of the (Reiger) current pipe maintenance problems. Karla gave a quick explanation about the structure of the current (pipe) organ. Karla mentioned multiple organ companies that she had contacted. She explained some of the problems with each one.

Karla explained the difference between the two organs. If St. Christopher's wants to keep a pipe organ, there will be extra construction costs for a pipe organ. Currently, the Sanctuary is not made for a pipe organ. Karla gave some options for the current (pipe) organ.

The Vestry briefly talked on how to pay for the new organ. The Vestry decided to table the organ vote until they get more information from the Organ Committee.

Team Reports:

Finance Tom / Pat: The YTD income for August is behind on what we budgeted. Traditionally, it usually happens for the pledged donations during the summer months compared to the rest of the year. We are still a bit ahead of offerings. Next month may give us a better idea at the end of the year. For this month, if we figure it out for the rest of the year, we will be behind around \$ 30,000 for the year. That is not the case for the summer months' pledges.

The salaries and benefits are less than we budgeted. It will be that way until the end of the year. Hopefully next year, we will have a full-time rector. By the end of the month, we will have \$ 42,000 surplus for this year. There is a surplus, sitting in a bank account, of \$ 200,000. The surplus will go down quickly if the pledges are at the same rate as last year and Fr. Randy goes full-time. Roughly, it will happen within 3 or 4 years.

The 2024 budget is still in progress. It will look like last years' budget. In the budget, the biggest item will be in facilities. We are spending more than planned on heating and electricity. Prices around the world have gone up. The finance committee will be looking at that for a few months. The finance Committee did not take any actions on anything.

Altar Guild Karen: The Altar Guild had a brunch during which time those who retired were honored. Last Sunday, 17 September 2023, we used glass cups for communion instead of the plastic cups. There is talk about using a common cup for communion for those who want to do it. Deacon Christopher is working on that and on what is needed to educate people on the process. He is trying to figure out how that might work. The Altar Guild is planning for Christmas.

Buildings and Grounds Barb: The air conditioner in the Music Room is not quite fixed yet. Karla was able to shut it off but it will come on spontaneously.

Children's Ministries Eric: Hayride is 14 October 2023, at Bunker Hills at 4:00 p.m. People can sign up through Marion. Nursery is up and running. There are nine volunteers for the nursery. There are enough volunteers to serve once a month. The family expressed several times gratitude for having the nursery operational. Marion talked to Ross about getting a bluetooth so the nursery staff can hear the service. Ross needs to do some additional research about getting a bluetooth connection and/or applications for the nursery staff to hear the services. We still have around \$ 200.00 from the COVID grant.

Communications Madisen: Nothing to add.

Garden/Garden Leslie: The garden is looking good. The garden donated 575 pounds with about 3 weeks to go. The Green Team met and are working on new projects. They are promoting more composting and recycling to the congregation. The video is done, with drones. It will be on the Church's website. The video went very well.

Hearts and Hands, Meals on Wheels Cheryl (by Karen): They will be packaging cookies. Some type of a meal train, it will be a little bit easier for people who need some type of support. It will be easier to streamline the entire thing and for the Congregation to sign up easily.

Funerals/Caterer, Special Gatherings Darlene: Darlene put up a poster during Start up Sunday, and a number of people signed up to help. A new person will not be alone with someone who has done this several times when a new person serves for the first time.

Fellowship/Social Activities Ann: We had several great ideas. Early December, there will be a talent table, such as bake sale and craft items sale. An Event Fair will be launched and people will be able to offer social events with the congregation. No raffles have been planned. For 2024, there will be a lot happening.

Unfinished Business All:

Welcoming Committee, publications: Welcome to St Chris Packet (see St Matthew's web), welcoming classes- steps going forward (communications team): Faith Innovation Group. Instructional info about Eucharist during services: They are in the process of getting it started. It is an ongoing thing for people to learn about our space, our Church, instructional information about our services and Communion. It still continues.

Open Arms Pat: The signup went well on Start Up Sunday. The next time that we volunteer is 7 October from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. People can start to be added to that. The maximum number of volunteers is 12. Pat started the 3 week countdown. A person can create an account so that they can volunteer when it is most convenient for them. The next one probably will be in the 2nd or the 3rd week in January.

Stewardship: We have 5 speakers lined up so far. They will talk for 5 Sundays in October. They are using the "Road to Emmaus." (Fr.) Randy is giving a person a little bit of the story to highlight a phrase for a story starter for their 2 minute talk. The Stewardship is preparing the information depending on the budget. (Fr.) Randy will prepare a letter & they will get a little packet together.

Start up Sunday review: Overall, it went well. People were stopping at the tables to gain some more information.

Daycare space issue- need more space for larger aged children: They have 2 years for their license then they will need some extra space. Currently, we are waiting for them to define their requirements so we cannot make any decisions about this.

Copier Contract / Lease: The lease is up for the copier machine. Ruth wants the Vestry to approve the Metro Sales Contract. Ross made the proposal to renew the Metro Sales' Lease Contract per Ruth's recommendation. Motion made by Rich and seconded by Ann; unanimous approval.

Carpet needs to be fixed in the Daycare: Carpet will need to be replaced in parts of the Daycare. The Vestry does not vote on it. It will be a line item in the budget.

Rector Report: Absent.

Senior Warden Karen: Nothing to add

Junior Warden Barb: Nothing to add

Announcements All: Karla has "Karla and Friends" concert happening on 1 October. We will be having Lessons and Carols on 17 December. Guy Fawkes' Day, led by Karla, will take place November 5 or 6.

Shout Outs: Everyone, who helped with the State Fair Parking.

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

Next Meeting of Vestry: Monday, 16 Oct. 2023 at 6:45 p.m.