

VESTRY MEETING NOTES May 18, 2020

Kathy, Mike, Jeanna, Al, Tom, Barb, Josh, Lisa, Erin, Alexander, Ann, Fr. Randy, Allison

6:45 p.m. Prayer and Reflections (Randy)

Fr. Randy--from the book *Celtic Benediction*, by J. Philip Newell, an Opening Prayer,
The night sky opening outwards,
star upon star,
expanse after expanse
thanks be to you, O God.
For the mystery of your presence
in and beyond all that can be seen
thanks be to you.
Guide me further this night
into the inner universe of my soul
ever opening inwards
light upon light
new depth after new depth.
Guide me through strange and fearful spaces.
towards the place of your eternal dwelling
and assure me again that in drawing closer to you
I draw closer to the heart of every living being
that in drawing closer to you
I approach the heart of life.

We are in strange and fearful places, my friends. God is with us. Amen

7:00 p.m. Review of Vestry Covenant (Kathy)

Kathy sent it out to the group via email prior to the meeting. Vestry members took turns reading the Vestry Covenant text aloud.

7:05 p.m. April Meeting Minutes (Kathy)

A few corrections were made. Once amended, Al moved to approve; Erin seconded; approved by voice vote.

7:05 p.m. Financials (Tom Linder)

Showing us notes that Ruth took, with highlights:

- Dellwood is up to date but almost nobody else.
- Spirit of Christ is on autopay
- Clutterers are up to date.
- Chinese Daycare is a large amount of money.
- Suspended building cleaning--saves some money this month
- Insurance, a quarterly payment this month, so looks large
- Music operations--paid singers for April and May

- Community Dinners fund--theoretically in the red but not going to do anything with it until get the go-ahead to re-open.
- Income--Offerings and pledges, ahead so far this year. The biggest impact is building use; it will fall further behind.
- Expenses--Salaries and benefits are a bit behind where we might expect
- Tom put together an estimate, a projection, a guess: if things continue the way they are, building use, second line from bottom. Looks like a \$40,000 shortfall, if things don't change. Hope that people will come back after re-opening. With other lines, a total of \$60,000 shortfall. This [estimate] gives an order of magnitude.
- Jeanna has a question: Last month, we talked about the Chinese Daycare. Has anyone spoken to Larry?
- Fr. Randy--he's not in the building so hard to catch him.
- Kathy will call him. With some easing of restrictions, he might open up for people who need to go back to work.
- Ann--if day care re-opens, has to be 10 or fewer kids, cannot intermix; that is what is happening in other day cares right now.

7:15 p.m. Old Business: Status check on communications in the parish (Kathy) Parking Lot Repairs (Mike/Kathy) ; PPP loan

Kathy--ECMN reached out to us and gave us some help in terms of who to contact about the PPP. Kathy has sent a person an email. If it all comes together, would be about \$30,000.

Needs to talk with Ruth about the Social Security piece; feds are allowing businesses to pass on paying our share of the employer expenses, then an interest-free loan, as it were, in terms of paying back. Ruth has had issues with ADP [payroll service].

Mike--one concern, if we can get that PPP, great -- if it goes for salaries, we don't have to pay it back. Have some trepidation about the Social Security, setting aside money.

From Tom, in Chat: Social security costs, FICA/SECA, annual budget. \$14,157

Communications?

Tom--what about a Zoom coffee hour? Or a Zoom book club? One of the people I talked with was really interested in the Zoom coffee hour--might not want to have 10 at a time. Could break out people into subrooms. We might want to start trying that.

Kathy--Ann Trapnell just starts calling people on Sunday mornings, on her own. Maybe we try to open up a Zoom coffee hour. Kathy and Tom will help test the rooms.

Parking lot repairs--Mike received two bids. Basically last year, **ACI** submitted a bid that didn't go anywhere: \$17,600 for complete job. New bid from ACI went to \$22,700+, due to increased number of cracks, also increased the amount due to patch report. **Bituminous Roadways**, came in at \$22,100. Patch repair \$8,200+; route out cracks and re-seal them. Options: Minimum number of handicapped spaces, need 6 spaces, might have to move a couple from the south side to the north because of grade issues. We have some options: \$22,000 to do everything; minimum is to have the cracks routed and filled. Part of the increased cost is the cracks got bigger over the winter.

Proposal: 1) Do the whole thing this spring, \$22,000, with Bituminous Roadways or

2) Cracks re-sealed, do the patch: \$8,200; then lock-in the amount for seal-coating and striping.

Option #2 allows us to spread money over two years. Also could take some money from the capital campaign. This isn't going to get better if we wait. It's a two-day job; save about \$600 if made it a one-day job but Fr. Toua and his family need to get in and out.

Any remuneration for the poor patch job? They've redone it twice and still in bad shape. Kathy works with insurance companies and building contractors for a living. We should go back to the original contractor who did the work, hand them the estimate from Bituminous Roadway. Have had two chances to fix it. Either they have to agree to pay us the amount for the repair or they have to try to repair it according to our specifications. I think they have to honor the warranty and repair the work. Nothing ventured, nothing gained: \$8,000+ would be saved. Or could go to small claims court.

Kathy--sewer repair vendor subbed out the asphalt patch work.

Jeanna--we're not drafting a letter?

Kathy--we're going to proceed; might need to talk to Finance.

Jeanna--So the end of July is the timeframe?

Kathy--we could just not even go with trying to go after the money. Finance meets the Monday before we do.

7:30 p.m. New Business: Review of Bishops' Guidelines for Reopening

Fr. Randy--Looking at how quickly Bishop and Bishop-Elect moved forward when Governor moved from #StayAtHome to #StaySafe. We were originally at Phase I, "you can't do [anything]." Now entering Phase 1.5. Four stages to this plan. Up to 10 people can come in to film or livestream . . . those who are sick, have a chronic illness, or 65 or older cannot come; no large groups to gather in the church. Four basic functions under 1.5. In order to move forward to regular services, there will be a lot more about a safety plan for cleaning the facility. Maintaining six feet of space and masks is very different at St. C's than St. Mark's.

Josh: Why are these restrictions so conservative? The Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis is allowing churches to resume public mass, and are lobbying to expand this to 1/3 building capacity.

Fr. Randy--some faith communities will be doing things differently. There will be additional conversations...think of the population we have! What are the demographics of your community? what does the physical space look like? Fr. Randy and other parish leaders has a Zoom meeting with the Bishop and Bishop-Elect tomorrow at 1 p.m.

Mike--this is hampering our ability to raise revenues. Will there be a break on MMS?

Tom--Our MMS payment to ECMN is \$52,227 per year; Kathy adds that it is a 3-year average.

Fr. Randy--everybody is saying the same things; this is a significant concern.

Mike--very grateful to St. Christopher's community for paying their pledges.

Kathy--very reliant on Chinese daycare; we have talked about alternatives to save money.

Fr. Randy -- other places are letting priests go. e will be coming out of this okay, especially because smart people on the Vestry, and finance people. We are doing everything the right way. I have confidence in that.

7:50 p.m. Shout Outs:

Fr. Randy--Josh Kattelman, Anglican 101 course. So proud and happy that we do have people who can do this. <https://youtu.be/1PDWSQsqJlI>

Mike--have your Book of Common Prayer within reach.

7:55 p.m. Rector Comments:

Priest-postulant possibilities: we've had 3 persons ECMN sent to us, Susan Daugherty, School of Formation, tried to focus on individuals who would benefit from being at St. C's, but also would benefit us. A couple are members of young families . . . Randy would be supervisor but also a handful of other parishioners to meet with them. Both bishop and bishop-elect both very interested.

8:00 p.m. Senior Warden Comments

I'm a little busy right now. Contacted by Dan Humes. Dan is very involved in a group called Isaiah. Not really a political action group but close to that--based on faith. Not supporting candidates as much as issues. Want to kick it around with Randy and Mike before we talk about it. Ann has been talking with Dan.

Personally, things are looking better.

8:05 p.m. Junior Warden Comments

No additional comments

8:10 p.m. Vestry Comments

8:15 p.m. Compline worship was finished at 8:22 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned.