

## St. Christopher's Vestry Minutes of 4-16-18

Members present: Cindy Lee, Mike Sirany, Jan Fillmore, Karen Hartman, Barb Hovey, Tom Linder, Mark Brilowski, Lisa Spiro, Joel Norton and Fr. Daniel Pearson

Members absent: Chris Huntley and Becky Lucas

The meeting began with a reading from the Bible and some time for reflection and discussion.

Pulse of the Parish: Cindy agreed to present at the 8:00 service and Tom agreed to present at the 10:30 service.

A motion was made by Karen and seconded by Tom to approve the vestry minutes from March 2018. Motion carried.

Due to the massive snowfall during the previous weekend there was some shoveling and snow-blower discussion—We have one that works.

Financial Reports were reviewed and discussed.

Some money was moved from the Building Renewal fund to Dedicated funds. Offerings are on track, as is building use except for kitchen rental. Salaries and benefits on track. We are over budget on electric bills, and heating is also high. This will be discussed further with the solar conversation. Some heating parts for our heating system are unavailable. The Financial Report accepted.

Transition Discovery Discernment Update: The group is transitioning. Minutes are in Library for this group. They are using a book called: People Of The Way. They talked about missional aspect of the church and moving forward, and what will we need and want (We being St. Christopher's.) They are becoming more concrete in putting down selection criteria. We want the next rector to be more conversant with a Missional focus which is looking forward and not backward. This would be looking more at things like our community dinners. What does our parish need? What is the vision? Where is God leading us. Rachael Babbit one of the Community Missioners was invited in and spoke. Janet gave her perspective as the deacon and that role. There is a concern about this group moving ahead of where the parish community is. Are things moving too

quickly? There are some expected changes that will be desired with the new Rector. There are two types of people: one that wants things the traditional-way things have always been done. Then there are people who want engagement with the larger community group- like Janet. We need to honor both. We have always been engaged in community outreach. The survey points out where the parish is. The committee may see some differences between the survey and the community.

A Missional Church presentation was done on March 25 by Fr. Daniel, and there will be more presentations on April 29th and May 6th.

Health of the Parish: Cindy mentioned the Health of the Parish document that we need, and she will set up a group to meet and work on this.

Website Team: There are several people who will work with Tom on the website.

Continued work on Solar panel:

Joel met with Jim of \_\_\_\_\_. There are two meters: one is for Xcel, and there is one that we have. The array is less than we expected. Sundial is auditing with our array and warmer weather. They will have to go panel by panel to see what the output is. There are 4 inverters—one in particular goes out and drags the others. They are monitoring this daily. It is beyond projections of the billing and output. We have had faulty information from the start to finish. The loan interest rate went up. Why? The lender is the St. Paul Port Authority. Sundial will work on analysis, and Xcel will have to get back to us with information, and we need to meet with both of them. This would be a productive next step.

Organization Update:

Thursday dinner discussion: There are about 30 guests a month. This event needs a leader/organizer. It is too much for Connie Hendricks. Vant and others plan the meals. This should be mentioned in Pulse of Parish.

All of us (vestry) need to interact with new comers and invite them to coffee and sit with them.

What about the Silent Auction this year? Think about it and have ideas next time.

Legacy Giving and Sewer Fund Update: There is a sewer fund bulletin board that is being promoted. Maybe people could make a pledge to it--like a payment plan. We should ask every family to commit to a certain amount for a certain amount of time.

Fr. Toua's rent request has been implemented. Ruth and Cindy will meet with him tomorrow.

#### New Business

Larry and the Chinese Daycare has reduced enrollment. There are fewer U of M grad student families, fewer Chinese adoptions and fewer older children. Currently he has 19 children in the building here. His other location, which is smaller, has 13. They are near a Chinese emersion school. He has a 5 year lease there. He has reduced staff hours and will try to market more. There are new enrollments throughout the year. The Finance Committee recommended to reduce his rent from \$3100 to \$2500 for April, May, June and July. Ruth found areas in the budget that are under budget, so we should be able to withstand this rent reduction longer than 4 months. A motion was made by Tom and seconded by Jan to do this. The motion carried.

Shout outs: Snow shoveling—which has been mentioned before and Easter involvements.

Fr. Daniel's comments: Our ministry continues here; we have dedicated staff and lay leaders. Confirmation is at 2:00 PM at St. Mark's Cathedral. Julia, Cora, and Kathryn, are being confirmed. Pat (who sings in the choir) will be received. There are 2-4 adults who will be involved. New bread will be coming for communion at St. Christopher's.

Cindy's comments: This Wednesday until Wednesday April 25<sup>th</sup>, Cindy will be out of town.

Joel reported that Earth Day is next Sunday; come and be surprised. We will be cleaning up along Hamline again.

A motion was made by Tom and seconded by Mark to adjourn. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Triebenbach, Vestry Clerk