

Meet Christ. Be Christ.

St. Christopher's Faith Family Vestry 17 April 2023 Agenda

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church Parish Hall

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

Absent: Ann Trapnell & Ross Ackerman

Opening Prayer: (Fr. Randy) & the Reading of Vestry Covenant: (Rich)

Additions to agenda & approved the agenda: (Karen) Motion made by Madisen and Rich seconded by unanimous approval.

Approve 20 March Minutes: (Karen) Motion made by Cheryl and seconded by Darlene; unanimous approval.

Team Reports:

Finance: (Pat/ Tom): The incomes are tracking very well. The salary and benefits are less than we budgeted for this year. The facilities are somewhat more than at a smaller base. For this month the expenses are what we expected. Some of it has been heating and the purchase of a new compressor for the refrigerator/freezer. There is a concern about the sewer. Not sure at this time of the cost to repair. There was backup in the Chinese Daycare, in the toilet area.

Through the years of 2018 -2022 and part of 2023, the surplus was quite low. The surplus has slowly grown over the years. Some of it could have been the PPP (Paycheck Protection Program) loan coming in and Randy working part-time. This year's budget, when everyone is working full-time, is a deficit budget. We are planning to spend \$50,000 to cover it. This year, we won't cut too much into the surplus. The surplus will grow a little bit.

Last month, we approved moving money from checking to F&M bank to keep our checking below the FDIC limit. The Finance Team has suggested putting some money in the F&M account into an interest (CD) account. According to the Finance Team, the moving of money does not need Vestry approval. St. Christopher's will let Jean Crow, the treasurer, know that she can move \$100,000 into a 1 year CD account (Certificate of Deposits account). We cannot touch the CD until it matures. We chose the \$50,000 or

greater at 4% interest. The interest should be locked for 1 year. We should receive about \$4,000 from it.

The Vestry does need to approve the audit. Last month, Jean and the team completed the audit. The Finance Director of the ECMN did the audit. There was no concern about the audit. They recommended that we take pictures of items in the church in case something happens to them, such as being stolen, for insurance purposes.

Pat made a motion that pictures will be part of the audit, Madisen made a motion to approve the audit, seconded by Leslie; unanimous approval.

Altar Guild: (Karen) We had beautiful flowers for Easter and that it is nice having a local floral source. A couple of years ago, we ordered from a warehouse. It was cheaper, but it was a huge headache. St. Christopher's received multiple compliments, from parishioners and visitors. Before Jennifer (Wright) placed the tulips into the Baptismal Font, she called and asked Fr. Randy for his permission. It was a nice touch. People could walk away with tulips. The Altar Guild spent some money to have some of the old linens replaced. The money has been sitting there a long time.

Darlene suggested that we give the old linens to the Textile Classes/Lab on University Avenue, near the KSTP (studios). They love old linens for their dye classes. Karen will ask Jennifer about them. What kind of procedure needs to be done for sacred (blessed) linens to use in a secular way? Fr. Randy suggests that we de-commissioned them. There are some faith communities that believe that the linens should be burned.

Buildings and Grounds: (Barb) Jeff has been busy with several projects. One of them is the backup of the sewer into the daycare. It was a cistern that was identified as abandoned when the sewer work was done. It filled up and overflowed with water. They dug out a manhole cover buried about a foot underground. A professional sewer company used a scope(camera) to see how deep the cistern is. In the meantime, the daycare is not using the little kid's toilet area. It will not affect their operations as a daycare. In the nursery area, we will need carpet cleaning. It was gray water and not sewer water. Don Sheik will talk with our carpet cleaner about getting the entire general carpet cleaning.

They have the contract for lawn mowing for the year.

Fr. Toua reported the cook top was not working at the Dellwood House. They had not been using the oven because they felt that the wall was getting hot. Fr. Toua bought a new electric range. Jeff and Chris Mayr took out the old cook top and prepared the cabinet for the range. Jeff hired an electrician for the electrical hookup. Fr. Toua paid for

the range. We paid for the cabinetry and electrical work. Ruth pushed it along to be resolved because they were not able to cook anything for over a week.

Children's Ministries: (Eric) VBS (Vacation Bible School) 24 - 28 July starting at 9:00 to noon. Marion has a request to have for St. Christopher's Day. She knows that St. Christopher's Day usually lands during VBS which impacts people providing her with help. Her request is to do the celebration after VBS is over and not the Sunday prior to VBS. We will tentatively celebrate on 30 July 2023.

Communications:(Madisen): Chris (Mayr) did not have much. Do we have recently solicited information for name tags, birthdays, anniversary dates from the newer members? Have we updated it recently? If they want to be more formally recognized, Ruth will collect all of that information. The last time we updated the Parish Directory was September 2022. On Start-up Sunday, we had a table to allow the parishioners to change any personal information.

Garden/Green Team:(Leslie) We had a combined meeting with Jeff (Jensen). We are planning several meetings on 6 May and 13 May 2023. Planning a bike to church day and Hamline (Ave) Cleanup Day. Tentative plan for 10 May which will be "advertised". Looking at having a "blessing of wheels" on 4 or 11 June 2023.

Looking for people who are interested in any type of gardening to help with watering. Whatever fits their schedule. Just let the Green Team know. It takes a lot of people to keep the garden going and thriving. You can volunteer as much as your schedule will allow for the garden. Green team is also reading and educating on composting, recycling, and blue zones, and are planning a visit to the Ramsey County Recycling center. They found a local garden person, Pletschers Greenhouse, in New Brighton, who will give a discount on plants. In the future it may be possible to sell to the congregation.

Hearts and Hands, Meals on Wheels: (Cheryl) Cheryl agreed to become the liaison for Hearts & Hands, Meals on Wheels. Sally needs someone to take on some more responsibilities.

Kitchen, Funerals/Caterer, Special Gatherings: (Darlene) In the Annual Report, there was a tentative letter. We are working on a letter for the office and clergy. They can give to bereaved families so that they know the parameters that happen at St. Christopher's. Next meeting, Darlene will bring a tentative copy of the plan and determine if changes are needed.

Unfinished Business:

Open Arms: (Pat) Pat is looking into a date that the Vestry can volunteer at Open Arms (May or June) So, we have some type of feedback on volunteering. Pat thought it may be Saturday morning. Pat will talk with the group coordinator for possible dates and times.

Fellowship/Social Activities Group: (Ann) Karen reporting for Ann. Ann is willing to spearhead. Ann is asking for help from others to brainstorm some activities for the congregation. Will be looking at what has been done in the past and for new ideas. Want to offer something during the daytime for people who cannot drive or have problems with driving at night. Soup supper was a great success and demonstrated that people are looking at ways to connect.

Will look into the labyrinth with Marilyn.

New Business:

Contract for MSI: We have some remaining items for the contract. Jeff is currently looking for a contract for MSI. MSI checks the boiler system. We do have a contract to do a start and end of season shut down for the boilers for the year. Jeff is suggesting we stay with MSI since we have a relationship with them. We do not want to jump to another vendor, every time a lower bid arrives. It is already in the budget but want to approve that we have them do the Spring/Winter start up and shut down. So far, we are happy with MSI.

Karen made a motion for the MSI contact of it to continue, made by Leslie and Rich seconded by unanimous approval.

St Christopher's Day- breakfast July discuss with the Children's Ministry.

Rector Report: (Fr. Randy) We had a nice Holy Week and a beautiful Easter Time Season with the beautiful music. The various different musicians delivered beautiful music. Visitors were impressed by the different types of service. Fr. Randy thanked the Altar Guild for their hard work during Holy Week and Easter. He also thanked the musicians for providing the beautiful music,

During Holy Week, Randy went to The Cathedral in Faribault to renew his vows as an ordained clergy in the ECMN. He reported that it was nice to have a little bit of a boost during the busy time of the year.

20 May is the EMMA (East Metro Mission Area) day. Randy shared that it is nice to meet with other churches within the EMMA region who gather about 3 times a year.

They discuss what is going on and build deeper relationships with the other churches within the area. The EMMA group is one of the most diverse mission areas in the state. There are about 8 churches in the area. St. Matthew, in St. Paul, will be hosting the event.

Shoutouts: (All) Jeff and Bruce for work with drain backup; Jeff and Chris for installing the stove. Ruth, Jean, Kathy for Audit work on Saturday. For all of the musicians, who performed all of the beautiful music during Holy Week and on Easter.

Motion to adjourn: (Karen) Motion made by Madisen and seconded by Leslie; unanimous approval.

Next Meeting of Vestry: Monday, 15 May 2023, 6:45 p.m.