

# **St. Christopher's Episcopal Church Vestry Minutes**

16 May 2022 / 6:45 PM / Parish Hall

**In Attendance:** Junior Warden Karen Hartman, Ross Ackerman, Cheryl Bailey, Madisen Crow, Ann DePaolis-Jones, Eric Hedican, Alexander Kun, Jeanna McLoughlin, Leslie Norton, Clerk Robert Williams, Tom Linder - Finance Team member **Absent:** Patrick Ahern, Fr. Randy, & Chris Mayr

## **AGENDA**

**Opening Prayer and Vestry Covenant Reading:** Opening Prayer by Karen / Vestry Reading Covenant by Jeanna

**Additions to Agenda:**

- **New Business:**
- **Minutes Review and Approval:** 18 April Vestry Minute by Vestry vote Ross made a motion to approve; 2nd by Alexander the motion; unanimous approval
- **Pulse of Parish Presenters:** 8:00 am service by Karen and 10:30 am service by Ann

## **Team Reports**

Team liaisons were encouraged to reach out to the corresponding team leaders.

**Finance:** Tom: Statement of Financial Position: YTD cash flow is good. The checking account is \$292,000. The bank won't insure more than \$250,000. With us at \$260,000, we are not insured for the \$10,000 extra. In May, we will direct the overage to the Diocese to fund the balance of our Mission and Ministry Support for the rest of 2022, a total of \$31,000. The PIF increase is \$20,000 from the parking lot easement, \$5,000 Capital Funds and \$769 return excess Draw to PIF. (Dedicated Accounts) Capital Funds: \$794 received in April. Music Enrichment for Easter Music/Altar Guild for Easter Flowers. Statement of Activity: Income for the month about \$30,000. The monthly income will equalize for the year. \$26,000 from the Excel Energy payment for the parking lot which includes the \$2,000 per month to park their equipment in the parking lot. The facilities budget is 110% over because of the increase in heating bill. Cleaning of the building is budgeted for \$10,000. If the rise is around 33%, it is not a concern. The biggest expense, salary, is not going to change much.

**Altar Guild:** No report Karen

**Buildings & Grounds:** Karen reported on behalf of Chris. Sink was removed from the boiler room / furnace room. Someone will be looking into fixing the ac (air conditioner) in the Gathering Room. The gutters will be fixed & replaced on Northeast side of the building. The lights are turned off by the breaker box, It has been an issue for awhile. Jeffrey (Jensen) probably knows about it.

**Children's Ministries:** no food truck for the VBS' Sunday /no report Jeanna and Eric

**Communications:** Madisen shared that Kate Pendergrass met with the Communication Committee, Kate talked about doing a strategic plan. We should do an inventory of the different types of communications we

utilize. We do have a lot of items in our inventory & to be more effective, such as handouts, social media, and the website. How to figure out the target market & to be more effective. We, St. Christopher's, do have a brand standard even though loose ones.

**Community Dinner/Keystone:** Ross reported that we are in a holding pattern for the Community Dinner. Giving Garden to Keystone Food drive hasn't been planned for Keystone. With the warmer weather, we could have bar-b-que type dinners. When the weather turned unpleasant, we could do a drive through type of dinner. When we start the Community Dinners again, it might be nice to put an invitation for the apartments across the street since they are so close.

**Faith Family Welfare:** Cheryl shared that the Children's Ministry kids delivered the 50 cards to the apartments across the street on Hamline Ave. The cards containing St Christopher's address & the times of the services, were somewhat hung on the resident's doors. The delivery was not all that great. It was a nice gesture to make sure that our neighbors know that we are here.

**Gardens:** Leslie shared that on Sunday, 15 May, it was a good day for planting. Peppers, beets, peas, squash, potato, & tomato were planted. Jeff put up trellises. This year, we are more concerned about what Keystone wanted as fresh produce.

**Green Team:** Alexander shared that the team met last Wednesday. The coffee hour plans to continue on Sunday & talk about vegetable composting. Highway cleaning requests for volunteers, this Sunday, will start. Our section of Hamline Avenue is from County Road ``B'' to County Road ``C'' & the clover leaf near to the church. The clean up still starts, this Sunday, 22 May, at 9:00 a.m. "No Mow May" started in England. There is food in our lawns for the insects & the birds. They can get something from our lawns before they can get the food naturally. There are several municipalities. They do allow "no mow May." Alexander

**Heart & Hands, Meals on Wheels:** No report Karen (for Chris)

**Kitchen, Funeral/Caterer, Special Gatherings:** Ann shared that the kitchen has not been used for several years. The cabinet was checked for the expired spices, cans. The kitchen was purged. The contents of the cans were sent to recycling. There is a sign up sheet for the Coffee hour (Fellowship). If you need any spices / herbs, bring your own for the amount that you need.

**Stewardship:** no report Karen

**Unfinished Business:** Karen

**Finalizing Labyrinth qtrly sessions: Who to lead? Set dates, Market?)** We will be implementing regular use of the labyrinth the 1st Sunday of the Monthly on a quarterly basis. After a year, we can see. We can start the labyrinth in the Fall. The different seasons & the kids. Who to lead; We do have some time to decide. Adult ed education & explaining the Labyrinth throughout history.

**Orchestrating Adult Forum/Coffee, Lemonade on Lawn:** We can use compostable cups with cookies. We can use one of the parking spots nearby for people who are unstable on their feet or can't walk the distance. We can have a table & some chairs in one of the parking spots. Let the usher &/or a designated person know, if you need some assistance getting to the "Lemonade on Lawn."

**New Business: Karen**

**St. Christopher's Day July 31-Who to lead, plan, etc?** For VBS & St. Christopher's Day, there won't be food trucks. It is expensive to have a food truck. Some of the reasons are that a number of our people are gone during the Summer. The people have to pay for the food & the line for the food. Can we have a mock food truck for the ice cream? Who wants to lead: Ross will cook. The Vestry will provide the food.

**MMS Surplus discussion:** The Diocese or ECMN has a surplus of \$ 314,600 after last year. They would like to return it to the different churches. If the church wants their money back, the amount will be an equal amount. The refund will be \$2,000. The church does not want the refund. The money would go to churches hit hard by COVID. Finance proposed to give churches the money for the greater need in the Diocese. The total amount of the refund will go to 104 churches. The churches may use the refund to help with bills &/or start social justice initiatives. Declining the EMCN \$2,000 one time gift made with the idea the Diocese will give to a church because of the greater need, Ann made the motion, Madisen 2nd the motion. The proposal was unanimous approval.

**New cleaning service contract signed "Green Team Crew":** We have a new cleaning team cleaning the church. It will cost more money. The one advantage, they will use green organic cleaning products vs. toxic things. Our current vendor is over \$2,000 vs the new one. For the year end, it will be a \$1,400 difference.

**Rector Report:** by Karen The COVID rate is rising and will be watched. Randy wants to do adult ed formal. There are some ideas, such as the basics of the Episcopal Church. The funeral for Darlene McLennon. Her family was very appreciative. Ruth provided them with a grave service bulletin. It was used later for a family burial in Sauk Center, MN.

**Wardens' Remarks:**

Senior Warden: Absent Chris  
Junior Warden: no report Karen

**Announcements/Shoutouts:** Jeff Jensen for everything that he does around the church.  
Compline Reading led by the Vestry by saying "The Lord's Prayer."

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m..

NEXT MEETING is at 6:45 p.m., 20 June 2022