

## VESTRYMEETING

Notes

June 15, 2020

Kathy, Randy, Ann, Jeanna, Barb, Erin, Lisa, Michael, Al, Josh, Alexander, Tom, Allison (clerk)

6:47 Fr. Randy offered a prayer attributed to St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

And where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may

Not so much seek to be consoled as to console;

To be understood, as to understand;

To be loved, as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive

And it's in pardoning that we are pardoned

And it's in dying that we are born to Eternal Life.

Amen

6:51 Ann offered a reading of the Vestry Covenant

6:52 May Meeting Minutes, presented by Kathy

Al moved to approve as written, Ann seconded; motion carried by voice vote.

7:05 p.m. Financials (Tom Linder) 6:53

Income—Main takeaways from finance: offerings were \$24,410, with a budget of \$34,474; building use totals are \$1,085 but budgeted for \$5,289.

Expenses:

Spent \$11,000 less this year than budgeted; salaries and facilities are both under expectations.

6:56 p.m. Old Business:

**Update on PPP loan** – Kathy. We did find a lender and the application is in; expect to hear something this week.

**Status check on communications** in the parish – All

Have you been reaching out to people? What are you hearing? Not a lot of people answering — I wonder if a lot of people have gone back to work? Responses included: Left a couple of messages, connected with a few, shorter conversations. Sent information to one contact to reach others.

Kathy asked Vestry to keep reaching out and calling, if they can.

**Chinese Daycare Status** — Kathy talked to Larry 2 or 3 weeks ago. Although he was anticipating opening the first of July or August, we are running into a problem: The Bishop's guidelines will not

allow the day care to open. The only people allowed in the church now are up to 10 for filming the service; no outside use. We have placed a request to be given a variance. May have to re-up the request with the transition to our new bishop. A move to create a task force on building use may be afoot.

Bishop's Guidelines for Reopening: Kathy said to bring people into the building, we need a two weeks' decrease of COVID-19. Useful to review the details, says Michael.

Randy--Minnesota Dept of Health is very aggressive in their numbers, so the number counting may be working against us.

**Parking Lot Maintenance** — Mike said at Monday's Finance meeting presented figures. They voted on the minimum plan, to fill the cracks. Bituminous Roadways, broke things down really well; estimate to clean out cracks and seal \$3,020  
Proposed to delay seal coating and re-striping until spring, bid will remain \$9,500.

Fixing that patch would cost \$8,200; should probably be done before winter. This was not voted on because Kathy is seeking money from company that did it. Mike recommends done before winter.

Kathy—money to pay for the crack sealing will come from \$2,700 State Fair Parking Lot revenue, plus the dedicated account for the building renewal fund. Not coming out of operating revenue.

Ann moved to approve \$3,020, seconded by Alexander; approved by voice vote.

### **7:30 p.m. New Business**

**Approval of transfer of funds** from Mission Opportunities to in-house feeding, proposed by Kathy. Procedural issue--every time we move money around any amount over \$500 has to be approved by Vestry; move \$600 to in-house feeding, basically Community Dinner.

So moved by Tom, Alexander seconded; approved by voice vote.

### **Budget Cuts – Kathy and Randy**

As you know, we are looking at a possible shortfall. Have some reserve money but may not be enough. Randy is willing to go to half-time salary, critically important to maintain part-time staff: youth, music, children, administrator. When you look at our salary numbers, biggest chunk is Randy. In Fr. Randy's opinion, it would be wise to go to 50% of his salary for the rest of the year. Also may entertain idea of dropping medical coverage; he would go under state medical coverage. At this point, looks like Randy's job at the state goes through the end of the year. Services provided to St. Christopher's will not be affected, Fr. Randy says. He will need to look at impact on retirement funds from the church — allow him to pay into that retirement fund himself.

Question: If we get the PPP loan, would this have to be this drastic? Kathy not sure what the number will be.

Fr. Randy—We have to make some tough decisions and that's okay. I've been blessed to be part of this family and we do what we need to do.

Motion: Reduce Randy's salary (currently 75% time) to 50% starting July 1 till Dec. 31 and take him off the church medical insurance.

Tom moves; Lisa seconded.  
(Kathy—for info, some parishes have cut their priests entirely.)  
Vote--approved by voice vote.

Vestry expressed appreciation.

In the face of salary reduction, Fr. Randy now has a reduced \$48,318.72 housing and office expense.

**Restarting Adult Forum** – Kathy—first one this Sunday, over Zoom. Two periods of time—9:30 and 10:30 starts. (Note: Later changed to one time slot at 10:15.)

Second one, Ask the Wardens and Rector

Josh and Allison may be able to help; perhaps the Isaiah group will send a speaker; Mad Dads of Minneapolis — dads of color, positive role models for children of color. Will be a push in ECMN for social justice and racial justice, educating our community on these issues.

Tom—can be software support for people. Kathy— one of us could run his slides for him and he could participate by phone. Can record the sessions as well, so people could watch later.

Record services and adult forum and burn them onto DVDs and mail to members—Tom, Kathy, and Josh can burn DVDs. Ask Ruth to ask folks so know how many to make and mail.

Forum topic: Erin, In connection to the topic of social justice, I think it would be great to have a forum on being an ally for LGBTQ rights, especially in light of the Supreme Court decision and the latest roll backs of transgender medical care. I do not have a contact, but someone else might. Kathy will ask Chad.

**Game night** – Jeanna — will send an email to the Sunday School and do a Doodle poll to the families for what days and times work best.

Kathy--adult game night is being looked at as well.

Josh will have something for us at the third Sunday Forum.

Jeanna — Do we know people who cannot reach services online? Kathy — some of our older parishioners are having a hard time being isolated.

### **Suggestions for improvements to Sunday Services**

From Josh: 1. If the church is serious about doing “e-church,” and/or this is a long-term prospect, recommend we look into whether public access TV is an option. I used to serve at the “Mass for the Shut-ins” growing up, which we filmed at a local television studio and which was available to people in nursing homes and so forth on their regular TVs. MUCH more user-friendly to that demographic than Zoom, et. al.

2. Recommend doing live-stream or recorded liturgy from the chapel rather than the sanctuary for better sound and greater intimacy. Fr. Randy is willing to try the Chapel.

Randy and Mike and Kathy—scheduling readers for services? Fr. Randy, also need a scheduled time for recording. During civil unrest, working 24/7 and long hours; now out of emergency mode and can schedule regular times.

Alexander—DVDs has his support; a local TV station that would air our services, could reach neighbors.

Josh—BTW, here's a good, simple way to do liturgy with a single celebrant (IMHO):  
<https://brightonoratory.org/daily-mass-online/>  
<https://northmetrotv.com/>

Kathy will send info to Tom, so he can ask local TV stations about airtime.

How could we get the kids involved? Even Ellery who is usually chill, gets excited.

Jeanna -- Tik Tok of passing footballs? Send something to the families to hold up and pass to the next family. Erin—kids have been excited about activities together. Jeanna and Erin will work on this. Also may try Facebook rooms.

**Postcard idea:** Jeanna — try sending everyone a postcard. Are they aware of the services?

Josh — we could create a St. Christopher YouTube channel and include that link on a postcard as well.

Vistaprint.com—Jeanna will take on this project.

8:17 p.m. **Shout Outs** — Karla, who did a marvelous job at the Bishop's consecration; Don Sheik for painting Randy's office and getting lights working; all the gardeners — Giving Garden and flower gardens; Patrick Hunner has been helping to teach songs to the kids.

8:05 p.m. Rector Comments: very good work . . . reminder of services for those recently passed. A lot of delays, a lot of holy water backed up behind the dam. Keep all the families in your prayers.

8:10 p.m. Senior Warden Comments: Going to host a food drive; look for more information for community dinner team. Ann--MWF, Roseville High School is offering free food, no questions asked.

8:15 p.m. Junior Warden Comments: talked enough.

8:20 p.m. Vestry Comments

8:30 p.m. Compline

8:37 Adjourned.