

VESTRY MEETING

MINUTES

October 19, 2020

Attending: Kathy, Al, Lisa, Ann, Michael, Barb, Josh, Tom, Erin, Fr. Randy, Jeanna, Alexander; Allison, clerk

6:47 p.m. Prayer and Reflections, Fr. Randy

Lord Christ we are so grateful for . . . all you give us in our lives . . . we thank you for this wonderful group . . . we pray for your guidance. Amen

6:50 p.m. Review of Vestry Covenant

6:53 p.m. September Meeting Minutes — Tom moved, Alexander seconded; approved.

7:00 p.m. Financials (Tom Linder)

Summary of activities: After September, we are at 75% of the budget — offerings at 69%; building use 33% — largely the rent that has been lost; overall, income at 64%. Expenditures — salaries and benefits at 65%, facilities 44%, Mission & Ministry 75%; administration 50% — saving money. The surplus we haven't touched, even though budgeted to spend 28% of previous surplus. We spent 62% and brought in 69%, so it looks like this year is going to work.

7:10 p.m. Old Business:

Status check on communications in the parish – Had you had a chance to call people? No chance to call.

Tom's email: Make people feel more connected, send a CD or a send link to a picture site where we have church pictures. Show us being together. Another idea: a CD of the choir, say 45 minutes. Matt Cole has both the pictures and the concerts. Is that something we want to do? Pull pictures from FB. Tom proposed sending a postcard: Are you interested in getting the DVD with pictures from the church; Are you interested in getting a CD with choir music? Or a slide show — just give an electronic link.

Fr. Randy is having a hard time with communications — those who are ill or hospitalized are not getting connected to him. Some of our senior members, their children or grandchildren don't think to contact St. Christopher's. This week, he will ask Ruth to include in the weekly email. If you know of anyone who needs pastoral contact, please let us know.

Let's add to the postcard, if you know of anyone who needs pastoral care, contact us. If you are hospitalized, let us know. Could let the parish know and they could send notes.

Jeanna — How about prayer cards with return postage; could send them back at will, when need an extra prayer? Lisa: on the postcard — if you have a prayer request, let us know.

Josh has offered to take on the postcard project. Fr. Randy, we have had tremendous feedback on these postcards.

Chinese Daycare Status — Kathy: Still no word.

Safe church plan to submit to diocese; Randy should have it submittable by next month. If the Chinese Daycare pulls out, Kathy and Fr. Randy have talked about adult day care.

Bishop's Guidelines for Reopening -- Randy. There is nothing coming from them, right now, as COVID increasing.

Stewardship -- Alexander/Mike. Gone well so far, last Friday, Tom, Alexander, Jeanna, Lisa, and Michael sent out the pledge letters. So far on track. Videos: two people recorded: Jean Crow spoke. This week, link for Don Horton. Link in Ruth's weekly email. A way to connect with people. Make links more prominent; put on Facebook page.

7:30 p.m. New Business

Budget Review: Kathy wanted to highlight that we are not giving staff raises next year. We're taking about \$39,000 from \$51,000 surplus to meet the budget.

Vestry Recommendation – Kathy, Tom, Barb and Lisa are rotating off, don't have to provide names, just provide Kathy with recommendations, and then sit with Fr. Randy and Mike to discern. Suzanne Hitchcock is stepping down; if no other candidate for treasurer, Kathy has agreed to serve if no one else comes forward. Kathy: asked the group to lean toward new people.

Service Time Change — Randy

Beginning Nov. 1, going to 10:30 Sunday morning worship, hope that will be a time easier to make. Nothing on the website about the worship time. Show the cars in the parking lot. Could sing hymns. Finding the bulletin is not easy.

Forum is moving to 8 a.m.; leave it open for Zoom coffee hour for the foreseeable future. Flexing the gatherings for a different time — Sunday afternoon or evening. Lyn Lawyer would do Bible study weekdays, except Thursday, at 1:30 or 2:00. Extensive discussion ensued. Advent is coming: what about 1 or 2 forums focused on Advent? Kathy will ask people at the Forum this Sunday.

Grant from ECMN — Kathy \$80,000 surplus in the diocese because they cut operations; they are doing grants, up to \$5,000. Kathy had hoped to have a draft of the grant application to share, due next Monday. Has to be COVID-related. Could upgrade our Zoom capability but it wouldn't give us that more than we already have. Fr. Randy: Expand our tech resources to reach our diverse community. Alexander — identify homeless, provide food or shelter for them. Tom — if wanted to re-do daycare space for adults, \$ would come in handy. If lose this daycare, would be hard to get licensed again because things would need to be re-done. Check with Cindy. Ann — lost our ability to do community dinners, any other way to feed community. Is there something to put money to pull together the whole church community?

8:00 p.m. Shout Outs: Josh for postcards; Jeff and Jeff Jensen; Bruce, Don, Mike--dealing with giving garden and trees.

8:05 p.m. Rector Comments: Very glad people are willing to monitor and adjust to communicate. Grateful for seminarian Colleen Carpenter — sermon was solid.

8:10 p.m. Senior Warden Comments

8:15 p.m. Junior Warden Comments: election day vigil of prayer; Jesus in the Public Square on ECMN webpage--coming together in prayer. Each hour, saying the prayer.

8:20 p.m. Vestry Comments--304 pounds to Keystone for food drive; four financial gifts.

8:30 p.m. Compline, led by Barb

8:33 p.m. Adjournment--motion passed.