

Vestry Meeting Minutes - Wednesday, June 16th, 2021 - 6:30 PM - ZOOM

Attending: Rev. Andrea Wyatt+, Noel Bellesheim, Patrick DeBrock, Gordon Dunn, Leon Karvelis, David Lias, Sue Roman, Dorothy Schmidt, Forry Weatherby

Opening Prayer – 6:30 – 6:40

Doing the Fiduciary Work of the Church 6:40 – 6:55

- Consent of the May Vestry Minutes, presented by Dorothy Schmidt – approved.
- Consent of May Treasurer's Report presented by Noel Bellesheim- approved.
- Report from Finance Commission Presented by Leon Karvelis- Trinity has done well with investments. The balances in both the Glover and Johnson Trusts have increased. The budget is tracking well with our expectations. Music is one area that was over budget due to an unexpected organ repair. Funds were transferred from areas that had surpluses to cover costs. The Finance Commission is now focusing on Stewardship.
- Report from Stewardship Team, presented by Noel Bellesheim- The Team meets the first Wednesday and third Thursday of the month from 6:30-7:15pm. The Team is zeroing in on a theme and planning firm dates: Stewardship Kick-Off will be September 19th, the first Breakfast Sunday; a Thank -You dinner will be held on October 23rd. The Team would like the Vestry to make a pledge together in September.

Forming Disciples and Apostles in God's Mission 6:55 – 8:00

New Business 6:55 – 7:20

- August Vestry Meeting at Rectory with Dessert? The plan is to take a break from the July meeting and possibly meet in person on Wednesday, August 18th, 6:30 PM at the rectory. Approved.
- How shall we begin to plan for New Member Gatherings and Church School? How might we make decisions about what level of staffing we might plan for? Forming a subcommittee or task team was suggested to tackle these issues. Hosting an Open House or Time and Talent Fair to bring new people in and showcase all Trinity has to offer was also suggested. Rev. Andrea has planned a meeting with parents to discuss what they are hoping for in a Church School program.
- Hybrid Zoom Room- Church Update by Sue Roman- In the church library, a Smart TV will be set up on a rolling cart, connected to a computer. A camera that can zoom and pan will be on top of the TV. A small speaker microphone will be set on the table. A Trinity "Angel" has privately donated this equipment.
- Genesis II: Re-Vision and Renew Update- The Genesis II leaders are tasking teams for a 90-day micro-strategy for an easy to accomplish outreach project. Sue Roman described the project of using our church's labyrinth more fully for ourselves as well as an outreach to the community. Signage would be made for the labyrinth and then the public would be invited for at least one event of a guided fun meditative walk through

the labyrinth. The project would be maintained as an outward facing asset of Trinity for the community.

- Newtown Arts Festival – September 18 – 19- While the Genesis II team loves the idea of showing up at community events, the hours it would take to staff a booth for 2 ½ days and create content for the booth isn't feasible right now. Trinity will not be sponsoring a booth at this time, but perhaps in the future.
- Update on Key Fobs presented by Forry Weatherby- The key fob system and handicap entrance keypad code are on track to be implemented on July 1st. The old locks will be disabled. If you do not have a key fob, you can pre-arrange with Kim to program when the door should be opened and re-locked. As a reminder, please do not prop open the door. Safe Church training and background checks are required for those with key fobs. People have been cooperative with these requirements.
- Festival of Trees will be December 5th at Trinity.
- Book Study – Richard Rohr runs The Center for Action and Contemplation group. The book study will be opening up soon.

Trinity Care Team/Stephen Ministry – Cindy Anderau 7:20 – 7:30- A quarterly report was provided. Two of the four Stephen Ministers are paired with a parishioner. Ron Dukenski is promoting awareness by working on video interviews of Stephen ministers and putting them on our website. Paget continues with providing supervision. A Continuing Education program, Parish Life after COVID, was provided for Stephen ministers. Final interviews are being conducted for the 5 Stephen Minister candidates. Their 50 hours of training will likely take place August-November. Twenty-one people attended the first Trinity Care Team meeting. They will provide meals, rides, calls, and prayers. They will receive training in confidentiality, the art of listening, and maintaining boundaries. The team thanks the Vestry for on-going support and asks that we be on the look out for those who may need a Stephen Minister.

Mission and Outreach presented by David Lias 7:30 – 7:40 Our contact refugee in Danbury, Anoor, has secured a rental place to live with his family. A committee member of IRIS (Integrated Refugee & Immigrant Services) owns property and was able to give them a reasonable situation. David Ericson continues to stay in contact with our sister parish is San Salvador. He wrote a 2-page report which will be sent out to Vestry. Their biggest problem now is politics with violence occurring over elections. Dorothy Day House fed about 70 people yesterday. The Food Pantry is encouraging people to pick up red bags and to donate to the Food Pantry.

Property Commission presented by Gordon Dunn 7:40 – 7:50 The tenant at the Curate House has signed a lease that goes through the end of October. All repairs have been completed on the furnace. A new roof for the gazebo is scheduled to be completed in July. A report was made to Newtown police regarding the finding of some animal (fowl) remains by the gazebo. The police will increase patrols. United Alarm was consulted for surveillance. A simple deer camera with memory chip was recommended. A motion sensor light was also suggested.

Worship Commission presented by Patrick DeBrock 7:50 – 7:55 This commission is on hiatus until the fall. This Saturday a small family funeral is planned for Cathy Filiato's father, Alan

Rood. Two more funerals are planned for Peter Jameson and Karen Gardiner. Patrick suggested that perhaps Kim could look at each of the tabs on the Trinity website to update outdated information.

Leon suggested that our church reach out to a minority community in our own state with whom we can form a brother/sisterhood relationship. Rev Andrea shared that she talked with a group in Newtown called the Newtown Alliance for Change. They are doing education for how to dismantle social racism and organizing for community issues. Rev. Andrea has offered them space in our church to meet.

Christian Formation, Youth Commission – Cathy Filiato - Excused Absence

Closing Prayer by Rev. Andrea