

## **Vestry Meeting Minutes - Thursday, February 18th, 2021 - 6:30 PM - ZOOM**

Attending: Rev. Andrea Wyatt+, Cindy Anderau, Noel Bellesheim, Patrick DeBrock, Gordon Dunn, Cathy Filiato, Rebecca Filiato, Leon Karvelis, David Lias, Dennis O'Connor, Sue Roman, Dorothy Schmidt

**Opening Reflection 6:30 – 6:35** Sue Roman offered a meditation by Howard Thurman, *We Expose Ourselves to God* from the book, *The Centering Moment*.

### **Doing the Fiduciary Work of the Church 6:35 – 6:55**

- January Vestry meeting presented by Dorothy Schmidt. Approved.
- Annual Meeting Minutes to be revised and reviewed at next month's meeting
- January Treasurer's Report presented by Noel Bellesheim and Patrick DeBrock. Two highlights: pledges are ahead due to a large annual pledge, and expenses are lower. Approved.
- Finance Commission Report by Leon Karvelis. Curt Symes will join the Finance Commission.

### **Forming Disciples and Apostles in God's Mission 6:55 – 7:55**

#### **New Business 6:55 – 7:20**

- There was a motion to close the Newtown Trinity Episcopal Church Capital Reserve Fund held by Donations & Bequests for Church Purposes, Inc. at the ECCT. The balance, approximately \$12,000, will be transferred to the Trinity Episcopal Church IMA-Capital Reserve Fund at Union Savings Bank. The Motion was approved.
- A partial draft of the Parochial Report was circulated. The full report will be emailed to the Vestry for a vote so it can be submitted by March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- There was a motion to purchase additional audio equipment for sanctuary. Sue Roman and Floyd Higgins propose to purchase 2 electret condenser super-cardoid wireless microphones and a professional grade digital compact console mixer to improve audio within the church and for live streaming. The cost is \$8,375. Pascom will install and maintain as part of their service contract. Approved.
- Vestry Retreat – Virtual retreat scheduled for Sunday, March 14, 2021, 1:00-4:00 PM. Reps from Genesis II may join part of retreat.
- Genesis II: Re-Vision and Renew – Genesis II is a free coaching and support program being offered by the National Church. About 10-12 congregations nationwide are invited to form a community of practice for teaching and coaching about how to reach out, invite, and build relationships with the community. Reps Tom Brackett and Steve Matthews would like to meet with the Vestry.
- Update on Building Access. Dennis O'Connor reported that Precision Alarm started working on the doors, converting from a key-based lock to a fob-based lock and installing a controller box. We'll need a transition plan for people to return keys and

replace them with fobs. There was a request to unlock the downstairs interior doors when Trinity Day School is not in session.

- Drive-Thru Meals- The team responsible for the Mardi Gras dinner and Shrove Tuesday Pancake preparations was congratulated. Between \$1800-\$1900 was raised, net of expenses, to be given to the Newtown Fund and Faith Food Pantry.
- Building Use- Rev. Andrea noted the increased level of activity at the church with Ashes-to-Go, drive-thru meals, and even a baptism. We seem to be re-entering the building. Are there other ways we can use the building safely? It was suggested that individuals, not commissions or groups, could call the office to let them know they'll be in a particular room to do a specific activity.

**Worship Commission – Patrick DeBrock 7:20 – 7:25** We are working on a mission vision and purpose of the Worship commission. Starting February 24<sup>th</sup>, and every Wednesday during Lent, Stations of the Cross will be held outdoors with a firepit. It's a sign to the community that we're here, and they're welcome. Finally, we'll be broadening our participation to the larger worship ministry groups including tech, alter guild, musicians and ushers.

**Parish Life – Cindy Anderau 7:25 – 7:30** There are 6 different groups that fall under the category of Parish Life: Hands of Christ Ministry, Stephen Ministry, Pastoral Care, (these 3 coordinate well together), Lay Eucharistic Visitors, Membership, and Fellowship. Cindy suggested that Membership and Fellowship fall into a different category, managed by someone else, perhaps a new Vestry position to manage these groups.

**Mission and Outreach – David Lias 7:30 – 7:35** David is working on public relations for Mission & Outreach, perhaps creating a website or Facebook page. He 'd like to continue to identify potential affiliations and partnerships with other organizations in the region that can serve together. We need to recruit more people.

**Report on Christian Formation, Youth Commission – Cathy Filiato 7:35 – 7:40** A Formation team will start meeting to start planning for adults and for younger children. Youth is already meeting and doing things. We talked about doing Conversations on Race, watching a movie and doing discussions for Youth. Youth Commission met and will assemble hygiene kits and socks to be delivered to Chapel on the Green in April. The YAC kids plan to read Bible stories and make video recordings of themselves and provide them for younger children. The college packages for Valentine's Day went out. They're starting to plan Senior Sunday in June.

**Property Commission – Gordon Dunn 7:40 – 7:45** We finished the year right on budget, at 99.4%. We had savings on snow removal and utilities, but we did have repairs (masonry, leaf filter system at Rectory) that went over. The Curate House is rented until May with the rent going into Fund 15. We will need to check with renter if they plan to continue to stay or leave, then plan for next renter if needed.

### **Appreciations, Regrets, Learnings**

**7:55 – 8:00 Closing Prayer-** Dennis, BCP, p.833, Prayer #62, Saint Francis