

Zoom Vestry Meeting – July 14, 2021

Present: Fr. Richard, Lynn Garland, Susan Howland, Nancy Waugh, Lorraine Brumskine, Rose Reith, Robin Yates, Peg Nelson.

Regrets: Lana Pieczynski, Eileen DeMings, Josh Spooner.

Fr. Richard Lynn opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m. with prayer and Bible study: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56.

BUSINESS ITEMS

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the June 9, 2021, vestry meeting minutes, as corrected.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the June 2021 Treasurer's report.

Rector's Report

Fr. Richard's report and comments are woven into business items and committee reports.

Search Committee for New Secretary

Although Emily is working out very well in her temporary position, a search committee is needed for this position because she is actively looking for formal work and has interviews lined up. Susan, who does not want to chair, and Eileen are willing to serve on a search committee. The committee can include a non-vestry member, and Robin suggested that a good addition would be someone with a business background. While not interested in being on the committee, Tamsin is willing to make phone calls and help screen applicants. A person who was recommended by Chris may be available in September and has asked that we send the application and job description to her when ready.

Committee to Assist with Planning for Music?

Fr. Richard has been planning the music in Anne's absence. We have music selections through August 8 for the hymns. Meanwhile, others are welcome to participate, for example, at the offeratory. Although this is working out for the short term, it is not sustainable. Fr. Richard feels that if Anne doesn't come back on 9/1, we need to find someone who can play the piano. The most recent word from Anne is that she will let us know about her retirement plans by the week of July 19. Anne may be helpful in a search.

Continued Review of Easing of Pandemic Restrictions:

- What guidelines to follow for Coffee Hour and when to begin – It was agreed that on July 25 we will resume coffee hour. Lynn will confirm with the coffee servers that they wish to continue. The protocol will be that the servers must be vaccinated, only the server will pour the coffee into paper cups, and creamers and sweeteners will be placed on a table to be added by parishioners. No food will be offered at this time.
- Shall we take a break from live-streaming over the summer? – It was agreed that beginning on July 18 we will take a break from live-streaming the service for the summer. Between now and fall, a decision will be made about the possibility of resuming live-streaming. A major issue is finding enough people to sufficiently support the tech team rotation.
- Are we ready to start collecting the offering? - It was agreed that we can return to collecting the offering and bringing forward the communion elements.

These decisions about easing restrictions were based on the latest Covid numbers as of July 14. Also, especially during the summer heat, it was suggested that Fr. Richard not wear a mask. He will widen the buffer between him and the congregation while chanting before reading the Gospel.

MINISTRY/COMMITTEE REPORTS/UPDATES

Communication Report

Susan reported that no one is sending out the Mail Chimp since Emily has not been instructed yet. Susan will send out the announcement about the secretary search committee and stopping live-streaming.

A few people took Chris to lunch to say thank you. This provided an opportunity for her exit interview, which was positive.

Emily has been trained in doing the Tidings, and she has some fresh ideas.

Family Worship/Faith Formation

Eileen had recommended August 22 for the Blessing of the Backpacks, and Fr. Richard agreed.

We will wait until we hear more from Eileen about a welcome back party for Family Worship.

Abby Bullard will be in church on 8/8 for presentation of her Fitzpatrick Scholarship.

Neighborhood Ministries

Fr. Richard reported that our hope to become a satellite provider for the town recreation department did not materialize. They were looking for content providers. Meanwhile, Fr. Jose met with committee and was thinking about another couple of projects (such as diaper ministries). We need to avoid parts of the building that are not handicap accessible; therefore, we need to gear initiatives to available space. Fr. Jose has not yet gotten back with names.

Daughters of the King

Lorraine reported that the two barrels arrived in Liberia and were delivered. Lorraine thanked everyone for the help. The delta variant is hitting Liberia very hard. Vaccines were sent but more than 8,000 had to be destroyed because they did not have proper storage. There is a huge need for sanitizing wipes, masks, sanitizing sprays, etc., for the next barrel. Lorraine is trying to arrange a visit on August 13 with Julia Duncan Cassell, head of the Sons and Daughters of the King.

Social Studies Class

Lynn reported that the class concluded in July. It will reconvene in September. They are exploring topics for the course of study.

Closing prayer – Prayer for the Parish

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Next Vestry Meeting August 11, 2021 @ 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by Peg Nelson, Clerk