

**VESTRY MEETING MINUTES**

**October 12 2022**

*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?*

*I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. [Isaiah 43:19]*

**Present:** Susan Howland, Lynn Garland, Robin Yates, Jean Frost, Mother Judith, Cat Reith-Lowery, Eileen DeMings, Lorraine Brumskine, John Grant, Lana Pieczynski via Zoom, Nancy Waugh (will be late)

**OPENING:** Holy Eucharist 7:03 prayers for Mary Hicks

**Acceptance of Minutes:** September 14, 2022 – Jean Frost – A motion was made, seconded, and carried.

**Treasurer's Report: September/ Third Quarter** – Nancy Waugh sent financials out via email. A motion was made to accept, seconded, and carried.

**Priest's Report**

- Pastoral Care Check-in
- Update: Chapel Renovation/Children's Chapel liturgy – Chapel will be ready for Children's Chapel this weekend
- Update: Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service: will be held at Holy Trinity on Tuesday November 22<sup>nd</sup>
- What have we done well? The Dirlam Room downstairs is ready for children, teens had their first meeting, and they came up with a plan for a fundraiser and a place to send the money. What could we have done better? Cat would like to edit the survey that exists for the volunteers for coffee hour – she will send it to the Vestry for input.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Resolution: We authorize the filing of Restated Articles of Organization with the Secretary of the Commonwealth During COVID it was discovered that many churches were not incorporated and could not legally have Annual Meetings, we were incorporated in 1921 but were not in the database that was looked at. A motion was made, seconded, and carried.
- Resolution: Designate an organization to receive the Free Will Offering from the Blue Shades Clarinet concert [a local organization addressing food insecurity]. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to send money to Rosilda's Kitchen which is out of the Methodist Church on Main Street in Southbridge.
- Resolution: Support for Operation Christmas Child carried out by Cat Reith-Lowery's Girl Scout Troop from Holland. Cat is looking for parishioners to get involved – could an announcement be made in church and the church be a location for collecting and assembling, perhaps "sponsor" a box (pay for filling the box cash or checks made out to the GS troop and given to Cat) Collection will be on Nov 13<sup>th</sup>. After some discussion a motion was made to support Cat's troop by providing the girls with a place (at Holy Trinity) to store the supplies and put together the shoe boxes and post a sheet for people to sign up to "sponsor" a box by donating \$10 – checks to be made out to the Girl Scout troop. The motion was seconded and carried.
- Resolution: Building Committee Proposal for the Girl's Bathroom in Classroom Wing – not ready yet. Bathrooms are not usable in the condition they are in, the plan for capping the places where the toilets will be removed from will be discussed by the Building Committee.

- Resolution: Building Committee Proposal for protective fencing on the side of the building - the open railing is a hazard if children swing from it, suggestions for decreasing the risk include lattice panels, construction tape, netting. Lynn will soon have a monetary proposal, if people are in favor in general, she will send out an email when she has the financial information. Wooden lattice panels were deemed the best choice for our purpose.
- Planning: Stewardship Ingathering & Breakfast – November 6<sup>th</sup> Nancy has a sheet for people to sign up to bring in items for the breakfast and sent it around the table.
- Planning: International Dinner: November 12 - typically done on a Saturday, 5-6 pm, could be started earlier 4:30 to 6:30 (or 7 pm). Lorraine will speak with Chris about having inserts in bulletins. She will be looking for volunteers and for those interested in attending. There was some discussion about a form that would include a question about food allergies of attendees. The dishes served should have a list of ingredients posted.
- Update: Teens Fundraising for Cancer Research: November 6<sup>th</sup> selling hot chocolate, hot cider and cookies each will bring. Google Doc with all of what they need identified sent out to families of teens, they will be welcome to eat at the stewardship breakfast prior to selling 11:30 to 1:30 or 2 pm depending on the weather

#### **MINISTRY REPORTS**

- Communications – Susan Howland - after Mother Judith reviewed website Susan made updates. There is a laminated list in the counters cabinet of what needs to happen for closing, Susan will relabel the first counter heading as counter/closer.
- Building Committee – Tamsin Lucey sent a written report, floors of parish hall to be rewaxed Oct 22-23, coffee hour could be in foyer. Lynn gave Landscaping committee report – Yews can no longer be trimmed so should be (and some have been) pulled out. Ramp garden to be cleaned out this Saturday. Bart was not able to consult. Tamsin knows someone who would be willing, for a fee, The plan Cat and Nate did a few years ago is still in the office. Lynn will look at it.
- Cooking for Life – Tamsin Lucey – no report
- Family Worship/Faith Formation – Eileen DeMings - Children's Chapel starts this week for younger elem. and upper elem. Teens met already. Faith Formation Comm will meet soon for Advent plans, adult Faith Formation going well. Cat has an issue to discuss – Members of Family Worship have been approached during coffee hour about things that need to be addressed. Any request for Family Worship should be brought to their team rather than to an individual during coffee hour. The priest has the final say about building use. Family Worship members can bring any issues to the priest and wardens. Family Worship leaders should feel confident that they may use the spaces in the church for children's faith formation.
- Daughters of the King - Lorraine Brumskine, Robin Yates (Re-dedication on November 6) Two boxes and a large barrel were shipped about 2 weeks ago. They have 4 bags of children's clothing, when Lorraine arrived there were 6 bags. DOK in Hartford is very excited about being involved in this ministry. Susan and Robin went shopping spent \$725 to buy supplies – personal hygiene items. Lorraine has some shipping boxes that can be used to ship items. They have enough to send, just needs to be packed, lots of work to pack. Lorraine and Sue mentioned the International Dinner to the DOK in Hartford.

- Stewardship – Lynn Garland, Nancy Waugh - A letter will be going out tomorrow that includes a pledge card.
- Praying Hands Ministry – Susan Howland reported that more shawls were made and blessed last Sunday. Sue Smith has been making shawls, too.
- Lorraine thanked everyone for their prayers, her son is feeling much better, he is back to work.
- Susan was given some new updated information for the website.
- Nancy asked for prayers for her granddaughter
- A motion was made to adjourn

**CLOSING PRAYER – at 8:50 pm by John Grant**