

St Mary's Episcopal Church, Vestry Meeting on May 19, 2020, Held by Zoom Video Conference

Present: Ann Lovejoy Johnson, Jessica Tomic, Joy Dorin, Noreen Kirk, Sarah Tierinni, Jo-Ann Swanson, Gene Marinelli, Beth Bickley, Karen Armogida, Karen Fedorchak, Harry Perry, Mechelle Olotegui, Bruce Perry

Meeting called to order at 6:30 with a birthday prayer for Jo-Ann, Mechelle, and Joy

Motion made to accept April minutes; made and accepted

Treasurer's report highlights:

Book of Remembrance: disbursements should come out of undesignated money's from Bill Dwyer's funds

\$2325 for handicap access door opener from Sheila Brown's funds

\$2000 transferred from miscellaneous funds from a parishioner's paid-in-advance pledge, to the operating fund; this will be done every month

We are down about \$10,000 in funds from March

Joy: 2-3 weeks ago we received notice from the bank that there is a third bequest from the Haugh fund for about \$90,000. As of now they have left us over \$200,000. It is enough to make the repairs on the church.

PPP - Allows for borrowing two and one half times monthly expenses which for us is about \$45,000. We applied and received the funds.

Sarah said the funds will be deposited in the "miscellaneous" fund, line 307. The money has to be paid out in eight weeks. All other sources of income have been spoken for.

There will not be a May Fair or Christmas in New England, rent from Iglesias R.E.D. \$20,778, and pledges down for the rest of the year

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report passed

Food Drive

May 30th, Saturday, 9:30-11:30 at St. Mary's. Sarah will reach out to Mark Winzler at Concordia to ask if they would want to join us and reach out to the public. Second Congregational has started to publicize that they are in need of donations as is St. George's in Bolton. We could possibly alternate giving what we gather to those churches besides MACC. Volunteers will be needed no matter what is decided.

Joy and Ann went to a (virtual) leadership conference, Emotional Life Cycle of Disaster, bottom line being that our situation is in for the long haul, "normal" is in our history.

Mechelle- once the virus is under control, if and when, we will have to go back to dealing with the problems of St. Mary's again and it will be very hard.

Each member that chose to, reported on how they were doing

Phone calls- in general, there is no rush to come back into the building, people miss being together in church, technology is not a problem with some folks doing several services, the coffee chats are welcomed, things that keep people connected, live streaming services are important to reach a faith community, there was a sense of gratitude for conversations but no hurry to rush back.

Next steps:

Continue Zoom church through June

St. John's Church Vernon is doing live streaming services

Can we get a tech team together to do that when we open?

How are we doing at hosting the Zoom format like getting people to join and just chat?

Beth asked if some of the Haugh's funds could be used to purchase the equipment to enable us to have the ability to create the tech team with cameras, sound board, remote speakers, etc. Book of Remembrance Funds also appropriate.

Is there someone in the parish who could help us with all this? Mechelle and Beth volunteered.

Joy- Holy Cow Consulting is not scheduling anything until after August. The consultant will be available in October. The survey could be done in Sept.

The survey does not answer the "stay or go" question. It will help us understand who we are and where we are at collectively. We need to commit as a Vestry to support the survey results.

Bruce- It will add clarity as to what the options are and get a reading about the consensus as to what options are desired.

Mechelle- our circumstances have created some interesting opportunities to look at all this differently.

Date of October 17th, Saturday morning

We will reserve three hours to go through the survey results etc. Rich Simpson, from Worcester, could be with us in person in October. Could put this on the June agenda.

Joy will send all the information out again so it can be discussed in June. Then it could be put in the July Happenings

Should we host an open Zoom forum for others to chat or check -in? Dates will be scheduled for Ann and vestry to host conversations, "Open Mic: We're Listening!" Town Hall conversations with parishioners.

Meeting closed at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Ann Swanson