

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting
June 21, 2021**

Present: K. Lewis+ - Rector, J. Baker, J. Bryce, D. Clark, G. Crabtree, M. Hart, S. Henderson, J. Irwin, S. Leduc, M. McKee, D. Parks, M. Schulte, G. Sutton, S. Boron - Secretary

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by K. Lewis+ at 6:48 pm. Opening prayer was given by S. Henderson.

Agenda additions

- K. Lewis+ added discussion items to the agenda

M. Schulte moved to accept additions to the agenda. Support by D. Parks. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes for May 17, 2021 Vestry Meeting
- Treasurer's Report (Handout #1)
- Ministry Reports –

S. LeDuc moved to accept the Consent Agenda. Support by M. Hart. Motion Carried.

Correspondence and Clergy Report: K. Lewis+

- Anya Baldus has been hired to teach Sunday School during the summer. A ministry curriculum will be used with 5 children. Salary will be \$17 an hour thorough August 18.
- Vacation time July 12 to August 1. K. Lewis+ will have outpatient surgery July 6th. The Rev. Dick Hamlin will be supply clergy during her vacation. Vestry will need a greeter for him each Sunday. The Rev. Donna McNeil has volunteered to cover pastoral care.
- Returning to regular office schedule – The schedule is not set but will be two days a week, Tuesday/ Wednesday or Wednesday/ Thursday. Other tasks are interfering with usual work. It is necessary for K. Lewis+ and T. Milne to be responsible for cleaning and security. The work load also includes families waiting for memorial services, other special services / needs, and building maintenance needs. Volunteerism is way down for a variety of reasons. Summer activities, vacations, as well as some who are not ready to return or out of the attendance habit have caused a decrease in volunteers.
- Move to Merrifield Room on July 4th –To move worship services to the Merrifield Room there is a need for a crew to set up the room. June 30 at 6 pm the crew will need break down the current setting, clean the room, and set up room for summer service for 75 attendees. Volunteers will make up the crew.
- Confirmation – will take place June 26.
- Transitions – K. Lewis+ will plan a transition service for this fall. Recognition will be made for deaths, weddings, births / baptisms, those who have moved, and etc.

- Update on the doors – K. Lewis+ has met with the door company and Lutz Construction Co. The new doors will be aluminum. Currently, getting aluminum is difficult. Replacement of the doors is delayed. The door design will be changed somewhat to accommodate aluminum.

Discussion Items:

- Hire cleaning company – A commercial company will cost of \$20,000 a year (\$1625 monthly).
Hiring a sexton to clean would cost \$15 per hour for 18 hours a week. A sexton would also live in the apartment and have parking at no cost. Duties of a sexton include security, some outdoor maintenance, and set up duties in exchange for the apartment. There have been many applicants for the sexton position but they declined a requested background check. Members were asked to help search for sexton candidates.
- Children and Youth Ministry in fall – Open.
- Creation of new ministry teams: New Ministry teams will be organized in the fall. Vestry members are encouraged to decide on a team they would like to participate with.

Teams are:

- Social Justice & Racism
- Christian Formation – education for all ages
- Prayer and Pastoral Care
- Ministry Gifts - use of time and talent
- Community Arts Ministry – gifts to the Lansing community (ex. Town hall meetings, author, concerts, art exhibit, etc.)
- Digital Space Ministry – only 3 vestry members responded to the request to evaluate the current web site as part of the Transition to Hybrid Church. One external evaluation was received and is of value in revising the web site. Discussion covered updating the web site and hiring a website designer.

Action Items:

- Linda Famer Lewis is interested in becoming associate clergy at St. Paul's. She is willing to live in the apartment, clean, do pastoral care and serve other clergy duties. Bishop Perry is investigating using her as an associate. Because she is Methodist clergy there is a question of her being able to function as would Episcopal clergy. She has suggested a salary of \$40,000 and would also provide ministry to youth and young adults. The vestry indicated they support having Bishop Perry investigate the possibility of Linda Farmer Lewis become associate clergy. The Shawver fund could be used for her salary.
- Live Streaming equipment and installation: Last Sunday's taped service was reviewed positively.
To implement live streaming, equipment will need to be purchased, installation to be completed, a control room created in the choir vesting room and staff to manage live streaming. K. Lewis+ suggested the vestry consider allocating up to a maximum of

\$10,000 to provide live streaming. K. Lewis+ will be meeting June 23 with Willow AV regarding equipment and installation. D. Parks submitted a proposal from BZB Gear (Handout # 2) for \$4375 to purchase two cameras, a controller with joystick, video mixer and production switcher and other equipment. The cameras are robotic. This proposal does not include installation. Also needed will be a quote for an internet line for the router. We will hire someone to run the equipment to live stream. We have currently hired Conrad (S. LeDuc's grandson) to be the cameraman. Services will be broadcast on YouTube, the St. Paul's web page and live streamed. Discussion identified positive and negative consequences of live streaming Sunday worship services including in person attendance at services. J. Irwin moved to support the purchase of live streaming equipment up to \$10,000 using the Sander Fund. Support by M. Schulte. Motion carried. Vestry was advised that additional email motions may be needed to support the project.

Adjournment – M. Schulte moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm. Support by M. Hart. Motion carried.

Next Vestry Meeting – August 16, 2021 Opening Devotions by Margaret

Respectively Submitted by

Sarah J. Boron, Secretary