

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Vestry Meeting
June 20, 2022

Present: K. Lewis+, Rector; L. Farmer-Lewis, Associate Clergy; J. Baker, J. Bryce, G. Crabtree, L. Hall, S. Henderson, J. Irwin, P. Kessler, S. Leduc, M. McKee, D. Parks, M. Wawro, S. Boron, Secretary

Absent: D. Clark

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by K. Lewis+ at 6:27pm with prayer.

Additions to the Agenda:

Discussion Items:

- Active shooting
- Social media policy – social church
- Pledge income / attendance
- TeDeum window canvas

Action Items:

- Delegate to diocesan convention
- August vestry meeting

Approval to the Agenda: M. Mc Kee moved to approve the agenda as amended. Support by D. Parks. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes for May 16, 20022 Vestry Meeting
- Treasurer's Report - Handout #1
- Facilities Report - Handout #2
- Investment report – Handout #3

S. Leduc moved to approve the consent agenda. Support by D. Parks. Motion carried.

Correspondence and Clergy Report:

- June 19th picnic worked well and enjoyed by all.
- A Nursery Attendant is being interviewed.
- Rector vacation will be July 11 – 30, 2022.
- Staff has decided to close the Office on Mondays and working from home during the summer to reduce utility expenses with the use of air conditioners.
- Bishop's Ice Cream Sunday Sundae was discussed. St. Paul's will participate and schedule it in September as a Welcome Back event.
- K. Lewis+ noted that her summer reading will focus on importance of worship in a group – gathering. Exiting the pandemic has created a reduction in attendance for many churches. A second focus will be the book *The Psychology of Christian Nationalism*, a book of about Christian Nationalism.
- Lector/Chalice Bearer/Crucifer training – St. Paul's is struggling to get enough volunteers for Sunday services. Covid has changed churches and how we worship. Do we need to consider changing the format of our level of worship?

Discussion Items:

- Status of Welcome Video and Social Justice groups
 - Welcome Video - D. Parks shot video at the picnic. There could be several videos produced focused on varying categories. The group needs to define what groups to focus on and plan subsequent videos.
 - Social justice group plans to meet with M. Hart to identify for what options to consider. They will define a focus for social justice.
- Building Issues –
 - The cloister has been sealed to remove dirt and grime.
 - The narthex interior repair took 3 weeks longer than expected. Someone put an unknown compound into the mortar between the brick which has been very difficult to remove. Brick was damaged and they found water in the walls as a result. HANDOUT #5: A - details the overage expense – actual and preferred at \$14,343 (actual) or \$10,254 (discounted) to complete the narthex repair. This expense is in addition to the \$36,000 that has already paid. Sealing the narthex will deal with the water issue and an infestation of ants eating the mortar and the bricks.
 - Handouts #4 and #5: B - Other
 - Additional structural issues during the structural analysis include the ceiling in parish house front stair well, and a leak near the organ pipes in the church. Awaiting an estimate for this work at this time
 - Exterior work including additional tuck pointing; limestone repair, and ants inside the brick wall needs to be done at a cost of \$24, 900. Discussion about a second bid or staying with Xtreme Mason Contractors. Work needs to be done or we will have more damage. **J. Irwin moved to pay \$14,343.09 from the Sellers Fund to Xtreme Mason contractors. Support by J. Bryce. Motion Carried.**
 - **P. Kressler moved to pay \$24,900 from the Sellers Fund to Xtreme Mason contractors for additional building repairs. Support by K. Irwin. Motion carried.** It was discussed that in the future we can ask for bids with set maximum amount.
- Peaceable Kingdom activities/Prayer Ministry/Summer VBS/Music series – Rev. L. Farmer-Lewis Handouts #6, 7, 8
 - Prayer Ministry has been written by K. Lewis+ to include the wider community not just St. Paul's. Short mid-week services, create an advent devotion booklet, recording daily morning prayer and providing a prayer resource table are being planned.
 - Advent Devotional booklet will be written by St. Paul's parishioners.
 - Peaceable Kingdom will take place on August 2 and 9 with intergenerational art activities, a meal and creation of an art project. Other art and social justice events will be shared with the community ending on October 15, Children's Day.
 - Music Concert Series are planed –Echoing Air, evening of jazz, and a folk singer.
 - The Shawver Fund will support these projects.
- Masking in services/building – Whether or not to recommend mask wearing was discussed. It was decided by consensus to let people do what is comfortable, with the suggestion that if you are or have been ill, wear a mask. Personal choice will be honored for those who wish to mask for personal self-protection.
- Mission & Outreach possibilities – Handout #8 Mission and Outreach has been doing great work but is mainly writing checks. This limits the rest of the congregation's ability to participate. There is a need for possibilities for others to be invited to attend and participate in mission and outreach. Some examples identified were assistance for refugees, adopt a family, Samaritas. The vestry was asked to help generate new ideas and possibilities.

- Fall Adult Formation opportunities were discussed and suggested: a second group of Sacred Ground, Episcopal 101, K. Lewis' + Holy Land photos, Early Anglicanism Christianity, styles of liturgy, different religions, etc.
- Coffee Hour Clean-up – volunteers are needed to help clean up each Sunday.
- Active Shooter Training – K. Lewis+ took the training. Discussion about having a security guard or offering active shooter training for the congregation. Maybe seeking a speaker on the topic to address the congregation or offering training for the ushers.
- EDOMI Social Media Policy – Handout #10 was distributed and the vestry was asked to read it.
- Safe Church Memo – vestry members present signed the Safe Church: Creating a Healthy Environment for Children, Youth and Vulnerable Adults Policy and Code of Conduct Acknowledgements form.
- Pledges are behind, making it hard to meet operating expenses. Low summer attendance is expected. If this continues, the vestry may need to take action in August.
- TeDeum Window canvas is in our possession. It was suggested that it could become a fund raiser by cutting it up and selling the pieces.

Action Items:

- Vestry meeting in July – consensus to cancel
- August Vestry meeting - changed to a Tuesday, August 16
- Delegate to Diocesan Convention – none volunteered. K. Lewis+ will seek a volunteer from the vestry.

Adjournment and Closing Prayer at 8:49pm

Respectfully submitted by
Sarah J. Boron, Secretary

Upcoming Events:

- Move to summer schedule on June 26th
- Office closed July 4th holiday and Monday during the summer
- Sally Laurion memorial service July 9th at 11:00am
- Need help with set-up of Merrifield Room on July 7th at 1:00pm and July 9th at 4:00pm
- Vestry Meeting – August 16, 2022, Tuesday

Handouts:

1. Financial Report – May 31, 2022
2. Facility Ministry Report June 13, 2022
3. St. Paul's Investment Committee report June 6, 2022
4. Structural Engineer letter June 15, 2022
5. 5A & 5B Bids from Xtreme Mason Contractors
6. Report from Rev. Linda Farmer Lewis
7. Visual Arts – Peaceable Kingdom Project
8. Prayer Ministry
9. Mission & Outreach report
10. EDOMI Social Media Policy