

# SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

## Vestry Meeting

August 1, 2023

**Present:** Michael Bowman, Andi Waller, Phil Glanden, Steve Brindza, Martha Belury, Cheryl Boop, Kevin Fix, Betsy Gillespie, Brenda Hammersley, Jodi Hess, Julia Johnson Davis, Barb Keyes, Ted, Meyers, Jody Porreca, Vicki Zust

**Absent:** Bruce Johnson, Anna Markwardt, Roman Skoracki

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 pm by Cheryl. Vicki Zust led Vestry in an opening prayer. Cheryl welcomed all.

**MINUTES** of the May, 2023 meeting were reviewed. The minutes were approved as written.

### 1. Reports

#### i. Rector's Report: Vicki

- i. It has been three months since a meeting. Our summer numbers have been good, 100 in person between the two services and 40 to 70 online.
- ii. Praying through Art will be the focus during the 9:30 time in August.
- iii. Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year. There will be an 8:00 service on the morning of December 24<sup>th</sup> and two Christmas Eve services. Christmas decorations will be put up on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent after services.
- iv. A new Bishop will be elected in September. There are currently four women on the slate. There has been a petition to add an additional name to the slate. A background check is being run on that person, so the name has not been announced yet. A decision will be made by mid-August. The election is September 30. In September Vicki will be doing adult formation on the process of electing a bishop.
- v. The new bishop will require some of Vicki's time. She will need to look ahead at how to back-fill some of her duties. Brenda suggests Vicki take a skills survey of the Vestry members who may be able to take on some of what Vicki is currently doing.

#### ii. Senior Warden's Report (Cheryl)

- i. Does not have much to report. No one has emailed her.
- ii. It has been a vital summer. The 8:00 service has been amazing; people are staying after , creating community, and taking part in the outreach talks.

#### iii. Junior Warden's Report (Kevin)

- i. Kevin highlighted the items in his report.
- ii. The environmental grant has been submitted for approval. Cheryl will sign pledge that the church will stay in the Episcopal diocese, which is needed to get the grant.

#### iv. Treasurer's Report (Phil)

- i. The numbers continue to look good. We are halfway through the year. Income is a bit ahead of budget. Pledged income is at 70% because some people pay it early.
- ii. Phil went through the printed budget categories and explained how they fit into the total budget.
- iii. If anyone has a question about a specific line item, please reach out to Phil.
- iv. Financial report accepted by voice vote.

### 2. Discussion Items

#### i. Review of last 6 months and goal setting.

- i. What has gone well in the first six months:
  1. Welcoming of newcomers. They have been incorporated well. Newcomers are now welcoming newcomers.
  2. Social events have been plentiful, but not overwhelming.
  3. Interaction with the larger community. (The Arts Fair, Pride Day) This has had the side benefit of good press, bringing interest in the church.

4. The pursuit of grants.
5. The efficiency of workdays. There has been enthusiasm and it the church look wonderful.
6. Including the youth in the larger church. The youth are involved and bonding. They have their own space but feel comfortable in the larger church community.
- ii. What do we need to work on.
  1. How do we get the newcomers engaged; give them purpose and a sense of belonging.
    - a. Have we asked people how they would like to be involved. We need a communication survey, or a ministry fair.
  2. Children's formation- we need more staffing, volunteers and a third teacher.
  3. The online viewers either are "hybrid", (sometimes here, sometimes online due to circumstances.) some are checking us out and may begin coming after a few weeks. Some are permanently digital. How do we minister to our digital congregation? Some do not wish to be contacted until they choose to make themselves known.
    - a. We are going to livestream adult formation.
  4. Updating the website. Investigate soliciting older youth to help with this project.

**ii. Review of our Covid policy.**

- i. Current policy has been pegged to the community covid levels. It is no longer a pandemic. Masks will continue to be available. The signs will come off the doors. Responses going forward will be tied to levels in the community.

**iii. Fall Kick-off & Workday (Bruce, Andi, Kevin, and Brenda)**

- i. Fall Workday Saturday September 9<sup>th</sup>. Which is the same day as Canterbury Choir camp. Hot dogs will be served to kids and workers.
- ii. Fall Kick-off: Have tables during coffee hour labelled by topic. Use paper tablecloths that people can write on. Update the ministry fair workbooks with contact information and contact information.

**iv. Labor Day Bake Sale (Julia and Steve)**

- i. Sign up sheet in lobby and email solicitations for volunteers and bakers. The food trucks will be on Tremont which will be closed.

**v. Vestry Person of the Day sign-ups.**

- i. Sign up sheet passed around for September to November.

vi. **Annual Meeting Date** Will be 2/11. The new Bishop is being ordained and consecrated on the 17<sup>th</sup> of February at the Columbus Convention Center. There may be youth activities the night before at St. Mark's. We will be asked to help as needed.

vii. On the 15<sup>th</sup> of September the Bishop candidates will be in town, 1:00 at Dublin St. Patrick's and 7:00 at Trinity downtown. Election is the 30<sup>th</sup> of September.

**3. Open Discussion – Parking Lot Issues**

- i. Wednesday night suppers- Should they be continued? What about foyer groups? Suppers could start in October.
  - ii. When are we going to go watch the Clippers play? Who would like to organize it? We will go see the Muffins in early September. Do we need a Sports event each quarter?
  - iii. We have a property that is currently rented. When it opens up, could it be turned into a "house of hospitality?"
4. Blessing and Adjourn: Motion to adjourn and seconded. Passed at 8:56. Motion to adjourn, seconded and passed. Prayer from Vicki

**Respectfully submitted,  
Jody Porreca**