

St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Ellisville, MO
September Vestry Meeting
Thursday, September 16, 2021
Submitted by: Gina Slobodzian, Clerk

Meeting started at 6:08 p.m.

Participants: Mother Leslie Scoopmire, Reverend Shug Goodlow, Tom Allen, Terence Bostic, Paige Bostic, Page Andersen, Chiazor Omeni, Angela Logan, Becky McCoy Brewer, Anne Fischer (guest), Jim Fischer (guest)

Spiritual Reading: Mother Leslie – Philippians 4: 6-7

- What does this passage mean to us?

Mother Leslie's Report (Sent Prior)

- Worship services – we have been in person every other week
 - 8/22 – 29 parishioners in attendance
 - 262 online views
 - Many individuals worshipping online with us who are not from our area/region
 - This allows us to be the church outside of our doors in a very simple way
 - Thanks to our broadcast team
 - Thanks to Reverend Shug for covering last week's service
- Compline
 - Saturday and Wednesdays
- Loretta Go's discernment committee completed its work. Loretta has been placed for training at Church of the Advent in Crestwood
- Joe Fletcher's funeral is this Saturday, September 18th
- Celebration of New Ministry is the following Saturday – 11 a.m. – September 25th
- Bishop Deon will be with us this Sunday celebrating the 56th Anniversary of our First Eucharist
- Stewardship
 - Recommend we utilize the current campaign that the diocese is using once we have a chairperson for this initiative
- Laundry Love launched on Tuesday
 - Reverend Shug was in attendance
 - Good Shepherd and St. Luke's might join us in this ministry
 - Special thanks to Dana Griggs for bringing the members of his Corvette Club to the Walnut Grill as part of the fund raiser that was held on September 15th
- Regathering committee
 - Decided that we will have service on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. starting in October, both online and in person (not every other week in person)

- Considering bringing back the 505
- Pet blessing will be outside on October 2nd
- Thank you for your prayers for her mother and her health. She is doing much better!

Reflections by Reverend Shug Goodlow

- Continuing to get acquainted with parishioners
- Adult formation. She would like to have dialogue with folks about what they would like to see. This will help her guide the sessions.
- Pastoral time spent with Rina Chittooran and her mother Mary
- Working on Reverend Absalom Jones
- Part of the Standing committee
- Part of the Sacred Ground series
- UBE, President

Senior Warden Report (Sent prior)

- 2020 Audit
 - Made good progress on this. Tom spent time with Loretta Go getting this in flight. They are reviewing journal entries and accounting. He hopes to have it wrapped up by the end of the month.
- Gale Schneider/Scheduling
 - Working with Gail to assist in scheduling volunteers
- Working with Page Andersen on the reception for Mother Leslie (Celebration of New Ministry)
- Should we consider having Vestry meetings in person within the next few months versus Zoom?

Junior Warden Report (Sent prior)

- How do we get back to the parishioners who reached out to Terence surrounding communication challenges within the church (discussed during our last meeting)?
 - "The Beacon"
 - Mother Leslie reminded us of the technological constraints of "The Beacon" delivery (email servers/limitations).
 - Page asked is there a better way to point folks to the website?
 - Mother Leslie noted it is on the website as a link
 - Tom asked we pause the discussion and move to Anne Fischer who joined.

Anne and Jim Fischer, Laundry Love

- First event was on Tuesday
- Four families attended
- Total spent was \$118
- Several individuals were referred by Circle of Concern

- Owners of the laundry mat provided guidance and help with machines
- 2nd Tuesday in October is the next event
- 6 volunteers from St. Martin's and a few parishioners stopped in
- They don't need any assistance at this time from the Vestry
- Jim said that he made a box for when people drop off quarters from their cannisters. They put quarters in the box and take their cannister back with them.
 - Page mentioned concerns about cash
 - Do we need to have counters help?
 - Parishioners should not expect this to show up on their giving statement
 - Jim created a ledger book and gave it to Dana Griggs and they've signed and have an accounting process
 - We got a donation of \$250 to start and then will use the quarters donated by the parishioners
 - We need to make sure that we have transparency in this process
- We, the Vestry, thanked Anne and Jim for starting this ministry on behalf of St. Martin's

Discussion from Terence started again (communication issues)

- Terence said he could respond to the individuals
- Tom suggested that we get all the ministries in a forum and facilitate some dialogue
- Terence said that he will consider this but if we move forward conceptually that he would do it electronically
- Tom asked should we do a ministry fair?
 - Mother Leslie said that if we do a virtual or printed ministry fair, we need documentation submitted from the leaders of the ministries
- We quickly reviewed the ministries and their leaders
- Tom asked Terence to produce some ideas to respond and then Terence will send to the Vestry to review

Financials (Page Andersen – Sent prior)

- Did get bump from SBA loan and have not had to dip into our cash flow or our SMIF
- Need to get a stewardship committee moving
- Expenses have been down all year due to salaries
- **Becky moved to approve the August financials. 2nd by Angela. No discussion. All approved. All in favor. None opposed**

Capital Campaign Report (Tom – Sent Prior)

- Steve Brunkhorst has asked if we are okay for him to start looking at the White Fund (helps accelerate cash when we have capital campaign funds and borrow against this. Low interest rate). Tom asked if we have any concerns on this - none from the group. Mother Leslie said many churches do this and can use it in conjunction with their capital campaign.

**Approval of August Vestry meeting minutes – no questions
Tom motioned to approve minutes. 2nd by Becky. No discussion. All in favor.
None opposed.**

**How do we get more people involved with the volunteer needs that we have?
(Tom)**

- We provided Tom a list of parishioners who we feel we would be able and willing to assist us (ushers, greeters, readers, Vestry members, etc.)
- 18 individuals
- Tom asked and assigned Vestry members to do a personal reach out to those on the list
- Reverend Shug made comments about stewardship and that it is an all-year action versus once a year
 - Mother Leslie would like for stewardship training to be done as soon as possible and get people to commit and have the proper mindset

Closing prayer by Mother Leslie

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.