

## April 26, 2022, Vestry minutes – Final

**Present:** Rev. Lisa Musser, Mark Johnson, Katie Kinney, Andy Kitchell, Joe Butler, Dorothy Sullivan, Judy Gregory, Lisa Blank, Margaret Grant, Bob Brunswig, Jim DeMersseman.

**Absent:** Katie Kinney, treasurer; Linda Springer, both excused.

**Guests:** Bernie Haley in person, Herrick Garnsey, Barb Maxfield and Joan Bronson on Zoom

Meeting called to order at 6:33 p.m.

An opening meditation about the hard work of birthing something new was read by Bob.

The Lord's Prayer was recited together.

**Correspondence:** Thank you cards were received from Pastor Monica Butler and the students of the LECM thanking us for our support.

**Additions to the Agenda:** Bernie wished to address the vestry. This will be placed in the "discussion" section of the agenda. Lisa Blank had an item for "discussion" as well.

**Consent Agenda:** Including the minutes from the March 29 meeting and the March financial report. Motion to approve by Joe, second by Dorothy, passed unanimously.

### **BUSINESS:**

**Clerk of the Vestry:** This position is still open and waiting to be filled. The Clerk has voice and vote and is a part of the decision-making process.

### **DECISION:**

**Property Committee recommendation:** They have met on several occasions and have met with Weston Kurz from Dayspring. Their recommendation to the Vestry was that we NOT sell the South property. Mostly this was due to their wanting the entire property, boxing us in for any future growth and development. Jim thought the property committee did a good job, especially in communicating with the parish. Further discussion ensued, mostly exploring what some of the forward-looking ideas had been. It will be incumbent upon us to seek diverse input from the parish about hopes and dreams for the property. Motion from the Property Committee that we decline Daysprings' offer to purchase the undeveloped South property. Second by Mark. Passed unanimously.

**Finance Committee recommendation:** At the March 16 Finance committee meeting a motion was passed requesting the Vestry consider the sale of the share of Greeley/Loveland Irrigation Co water right. The last sale of a share brought \$165,000. The Irrigation Co gave us the name of an interested party and said the City of Greeley often is a willing buyer. The water is not usable by Trinity and costs us fees of about \$500 yearly just to hold. We have been unsuccessful in renting the water for an amount to cover the fees. Stewart related his concern for the increasing rate of budget deficit for the first quarter – neg \$4000+ for Jan, neg \$11,000+ for Feb and neg \$22,000 for March. Discussion ensued. The Diocese has a process for such a sale similar to that for selling the property and would receive a tithe of the proceeds. Motion by Jim that the Property Committee explore the sale of the water share. Second by Margaret. Passes unanimously.

## **DISCUSSION:**

**Bernie Haley:** Understands that the church is exploring a facility use policy with expected fees involved. He feels this is a significant change from past policy. We don't pay taxes on the property and historically have offered the use of the facility to community groups as a "pay back." Kitchen or cleaning fees would be considered. Discussion that with several funerals recently, all the workers were opposed to a "funeral fee" instead feeling that our space and service was our gift to the grieving. Some difficulty exists in cleaning and locking up after groups as we don't have a full-time sexton. There is also a liability issue with outsiders setting up/taking down our property for their use. Barb and Herrick share similar feelings about use without expected fees. We will take these comments under advisement as the policy and procedure process moves forward.

**Lisa Blank:** Commented on the family friendly service done by Rev Lisa on the afternoon of Palm Sunday with instructed experiences of Holy Week. These included Maundy Thursday, Stations of the Cross and others in a multi-sensory manner. It was well received by the families involved and Rev Lisa should be commended for bringing this to fruition.

**Wee Love:** Judy reports that they are starting to plan for the Summer and next Fall. They hope to have half day sessions for June and plan to open for the Fall August 22. They wonder about lease opportunities from Trinity. The lease has been \$600/month for the 9 academic months. Rev Lisa recommends leasing to them for \$300 for June and \$50/month for July and August.

**Ride sharing:** For Easter service, a gentleman had contacted Trinity wondering about a ride. Mark ultimately drove him to and from the service. This brings up yet another ministry opportunity for the Parish. Discussion ensued without definitive determination as "the opportunities are many, but the workers are few." Margaret volunteered to write up a message for the Epistle seeking these volunteers.

**Organ restoration project:** Photos of the refinished console (at the factory) and stop panels were shown. The rededication concert is moved to the Fall because of delays in materials and in scheduling a "voicing expert."

**Treasurer's Report:** In Katie's absence, Rev Lisa discussed the March financials. Total revenue was \$24,021 with \$18,945 pledges and \$5076 non pledge income. Our YTD income vs budgeted income is short by \$9161. Diocesan contribution is high in March as a catch up for earlier in the year. Outreach is overbudget but will be made up by their retained funds. Outreach ministry has taken on the Campus Ministry expense. Utilities have been higher than budgeted. The boiler has been turned off. The fan will continue to run when the building is occupied because of the enhanced filtration. A small roof leak repair added to Building/Grounds. Postage will be high in April due to Holy Week postcards being sent. Our YTD actual income vs actual expense is a negative \$40,049. Barb and Herrick received copies of the summary budget prior to the meeting. Now that the budget has been passed, the summary is open to the parish. Anyone who might wish to review the full report is welcome to ask for review with the Treasurer or Senior Warden. Selling the water share will help with the budget shortfall, but not totally alleviate it. Cutting personnel would be the only other remedy at this point.

**Junior Warden** – Mark reported on possible improvements to help with more even temperatures in the Narthex bathrooms. Wireless sensors could be placed that communicate with the thermostat for \$150

each. Tra Mar will do this and adjust the parish hall thermostat allowing it to be set below 70 degrees when large groups are present.

**Senior Warden** – New assignments will be forthcoming for Vestry members being liaisons for the various ministry areas. Members are asked to submit their three preferences to him for consideration.

**Rector** – Reports on four deaths in the parish since the past meeting. She is appreciative of all the help and helpers who did such a fine job facilitating the funerals and receptions in the face of Holy Week. There were 11 services bookending Holy Week including the funerals. There was so much behind the scenes work making all these services happen that parishioners will never know about. Easter services brought an increase in attendance. She is excited to have seen so many new (for her) faces in the congregations. She will be starting a Foundations of the Faith class between services for the next six weeks. This could serve as preparation for confirmation or reception in the Fall. Senior recognition Sunday will be May 1<sup>st</sup> with 5 graduates being honored. Rev Lisa has been in contact with the Lay Pastoral Leader at Prince of Peace in Sterling about being able to be a support resource for her. The Administration for the Diocese (of which Rev Lisa is a part) will be starting listening sessions regarding clergy compensation if the Diocese.

**Jim DeMersseman:** Commented that he noted many parishioners that we had not seen during the pandemic had come to one or more of the recent funerals and that he had received comments about the spirit of openness and welcoming of the church. He hopes this will translate into more participation and attendance.

The meeting closed with Stewart reading the Evening Prayer collect for the day.  
Adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

**Dates to remember:**

Finance committee May 18, 2022

Vestry May 24, 2022

Pentecost June 5, 2022

Respectfully submitted,  
Stewart Abbot  
Senior Warden