



**Vestry Meeting (Via Zoom)
Minutes
August 25, 2020
6:30 PM**

Attendance: Chris Woodruff, Senior Warden; Patricia Streeter, Junior Warden; Jan Branham; Jesus Gonzalez; Julie Johnson; Andy Kitchell; Ray Quick; Paul Scholar; Dorothy Sullivan; Kim Houtchens, Treasurer; Sheryl McBride, Clerk; Rev. Lisa Musser. Absent: Jim George, Sandy Torres.

Business

- August 4, 2020 minutes: The August 4, 2020 minutes were accepted as presented. **Julie made a motion to accept the August 11 minutes as amended. Jan seconded. The minutes were approved as amended.**
- Financial update: The month of July was not a good month. Total revenue for the month is under \$44,870, 13% under budget year to date. This is comparable to 2019. Total net operating is under \$2,344. Personnel expenses will continue to drop \$1,511 per month due to no organist. We should have no repayment obligation for the PPP loan. **Sheryl made a motion to accept the financials as presented. Dorothy seconded. The motion passed.**
- Additions to the Agenda: None.

Discussion

- Reopening Building Plans: We reviewed the August 23, 2020 draft for opening Trinity for Public worship. In conjunction with our review of the draft document prepared by Patricia listing the requirements for reopening for in person worship, Chris raised the question of whether the Vestry was ready to take the position that we would not reopen our building for in person worship until there is a vaccine. A copy of the draft reopening document is attached to these minutes. There was discussion concerning the air flow issue within our building and how the building does not meet the minimum fresh air standards for indoor meetings. COVID spread by aerosolization is particularly problematic for us since we do not have the ability to significantly infuse our indoor worship space with outside air. No more than 10 persons should be present for more than 30 minutes in a space of 600SF without being significantly infused constantly with outside air. Chris mentioned the importance of the Vestry protecting the most vulnerable members of the congregation in considering whether to reopen for in person worship. Our people are missing community. Lisa spoke of a carbon dioxide monitor and how several churches are using them; if the meter reaches 500ppm, the windows need to be opened. If 600ppm, people must leave the building. As soon as one steps on to church property, a mask must be worn until one is back in the car. Indoor

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worship requires all to be masked. There is no singing, responsive reading, touching. Our sanctuary is 3600SF; the governor mandates no more than 50 people. Rev. Lisa believes we can distribute communion (bread only), but we cannot gather. She told us that Bishop Kym is considering authorizing the start-up of communion, possibly by mid-September. Rev. Lisa has been exploring the logistics and technology for live-streaming a communion service from the sanctuary. A Sunday live-streamed communion service might be possible starting next month, assuming the Bishop authorizes us to again receive communion by that time. Communion would be by sacramental bread alone, and parishioners could drive to the church Sunday afternoon to pick up the host. There would be no sacramental wine. A live-streamed communion service would be in addition to the Sunday Zoom morning prayer service which has been taking place for some time. The Vestry felt that if we could implement live-streamed communion as described by Rev. Lisa, along with continuing the Sunday Zoom morning prayer service, that would be received very favorably by the congregation. Small groups of people can gather together in homes. Live-streaming is being looked into, and the costs haven't been figured out yet. We would have two services and communion distribution. The distribution would be a separate event. We can continue to find ways to enhance worship, but services will not return to pre-COVID until there is a vaccine. We should send a communication to the congregation about not being able to "open" on September 6, as previously announced. Without mentioning a date, let them know the steps that are being developed and taken to reopen; it's the virus that is leading. **Patricia made a motion to reopen the building for in-person worship when there is a vaccine, and continue to explore ways to enhance worship, including implementing Holy Communion. Ray seconded.** Discussion on the motion followed by several Vestry members. Julie asked about having the motion state that the decision not to reopen was based on current information about COVID. Chris said that if there were significant future changes regarding COVID, Vestry could revisit a decision to close for in person worship until there was a vaccine. Kim suggested that as part of the motion it should be stated that we will continue to explore ways to enhance worship, including implementing communion when we are so authorized. **The motion passed, but with nays from Andy and Julie.**

Reports

Rector: Progress is being made with outreach.

Junior Warden: The master gardener courtyard committee is meeting to look at the courtyard and decide what needs to be done and what can be done. Getting bids for new mulch. Getting bids on repainting and repair of the exterior of the church. One of the A/C units is making horrible noises; west side of the building by parish hall, controls the air for library and youth room.

Senior Warden: Nothing more.

Dates

September 8, 2020 – Vestry Meeting

September 18, 2020 – Finance Committee

September 22, 2020 – Vestry Meeting

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