

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Barrington, Illinois

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting of Monday, September 21, 2020

7:00 p.m. – Virtual Meeting

Present (Via Zoom): The Rev. Jesse Perkins (Rector), The Rev. Lisa Erdeljon (Associate Rector for Christian Education), Kirk Chan (Senior Warden – 2021), Ann Kimes (Junior Warden – 2021), Gene Dawson (2021), Suzanne Fleer (2021), Michele Phillips (2021), Gwynne Johnston (2022), Cam Sells (2022), Lindsay Taylor (2022), Charley Wickman (2022), Steve Barnum (2023), Kathi Frelk (2023), Ric Lindeen (2023), David Rauschenberg (2023), John Davis (Treasurer), Craig Anderson (Clerk)

Absent: Bill Ferry (2021)

1. Call to Order

There being a quorum present, Kirk Chan called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Opening Prayer

Fr. Perkins offered the opening prayer.

3. Approval of Agenda

Steve Barnum moved and Gene Dawson seconded that the Agenda be approved as presented. There being no objection, motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes

Gwynne Johnston moved and Michele Phillips seconded that the Minutes of the August 24, 2020 Meeting of the Vestry be approved as presented. There being no objection, motion carried.

5. Financial Report – August 2020 Recap

The August 2020 Financial Statements, included in the Vestry meeting packet, were reviewed and discussed. John Davis noted that the pattern of pledge payments is somewhat different than in past years and that revenue and expense trends remain pretty consistent for the year to date. In response to questions from Gene Dawson, John advised that a clergy pension expense item in the amount of \$912 was to correct an allocation from a number of years ago, and that employee health insurance is offered through a diocesan plan.

6. New Business

Salary and Hourly Employees for October (Nursery)

Pay for nursery staff is continuing as budgeted for 2020.

Parish Administrator Job Search

Fr. Perkins advised that Pam Blass started her employment as Parish Administrator as of September 15, 2020. A parishioner volunteer assists at the front desk, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Parochial Report Approval

Following review and discussion, Gwynne Johnston moved and Ric Lindeen seconded that The 2019 Report of Episcopal Congregations and Missions (The Parochial Report) for St. Michael's be approved. There being no objection, motion carried.

Outreach Appeal

Gwynne Johnston presented and reviewed a request from St. Michael's Outreach Committee, included in the Vestry meeting packet, to undertake an appeal to parishioners for fiscal contributions to address the adverse effect of the pandemic on parish revenue, which has necessitated a 20% reduction, \$13,800, in the Outreach budget for 2020. Gwynne commented on the importance of outreach for St. Michael's, noting that it is a core value of and a program that characterizes our parish, and requested the Vestry's approval of the appeal.

Options for approach to and communication of an appeal were offered and discussed. Concerns included timing in light of the upcoming stewardship campaign, pledge revenue being less than anticipated thus far for 2020, and funding needs for other initiatives. Based on review and discussion, further consideration of the appeal proposal will be deferred until the November meeting of the Vestry.

7. Old Business

None

8. Committee Reports

Little Angels Christian Preschool

Michele Phillips relayed information from Caren Hunter, Director of Little Angels Christian Preschool, regarding operations thus far in the new school year: All protocols are in place, class sizes are reduced, school hours are 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., there are no toddler classes, and there are 11 staff members.

Buildings and Grounds

Cam Sells reported that the new air conditioning system at the rectory is in place and functioning.

9. Rector's Report

Fr. Perkins deferred to Lindsay Taylor to provide an update on the upcoming stewardship campaign. Lindsay advised that this year's approach will be similar to that of last year with respect to format, including guest speakers, while also addressing social distancing. There will be follow-up with parishioners as needed and, if feasible, a celebratory event on November 8, perhaps via Zoom.

Discussion followed regarding options and concerns for a celebratory event, including logistics and potential costs. With respect to follow-up with parishioners, Lindsay noted that each member of the Vestry would have approximately 10 to 15 persons to contact. Based on the input from the Vestry, plans for the celebratory event will be reviewed and adjusted as necessary.

Fr. Perkins reported on recent and upcoming activities, including two weddings; the initial Peace & Justice Committee anti-racism session; the visit of Bishop Lee to St. Michael's on Sunday, September 27; plans for 'Trunk or Treat' on Halloween; the possibility of a Lessons & Carols watch party, and plans for weekly carillon concerts after the 10:00 a.m. Sunday service. Fr. Perkins noted that there will be five Vestry positions to fill in January and that Mtr. Erdeljon is preparing for another Advent Calendar initiative.

10. Senior Warden's Report

Kirk Chan noted that it is nice to see more folks for in-person worship at Sunday services.

11. Closing Prayer

Fr. Perkins offered the closing prayer.

12. Motion to Adjourn

Ric Lindeen moved and Steve Barnum seconded that the meeting be adjourned. There being no further business and no objection, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Craig G. Anderson

Craig G. Anderson, Clerk