

The Episcopal Church of St. Andrew – New London, NH

Vestry Meeting Minutes

17 June 2021

Present: Jay MacLeod, Joe Daly, Marni Eaton, Morris Edwards, Chris Heyl, Lin Potter, Mike Quinn, Russ Register, Nonie Reynders, Barbara Smith, Alice Perry.

Absent: Lisa Kelly

Jay opened the meeting with a collect.

May minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Worship: Jay noted that the diocese has lifted all COVID restrictions, leaving it up to individual parishes going forward. Jay complimented Russ and Ginny for their monitoring of metrics related to the pandemic, and suggested that their work be suspended until and unless local conditions warrant resuming that effort. We will maintain the current pattern of 8 AM indoors with livestreaming and 10 AM outdoor services for the time being and decided to continue with bread-only at Communion through Labor Day.

Finance: Mike reported that revenues are both ahead of budget and last year's results for the period, with a surplus year-to-date against a forecast deficit. He also reported investment income consistent with prior experience. Detailed reports were emailed following the meeting.

Mike also spoke of the work of the finance committee for planned giving. We will use a website, plannedgiving.com, linked to and customized for our website at a cost of \$495 per year plus a \$100 start-up fee. In the weeks ahead, the committee will write policy, e.g. how to handle gifts of various types, and develop a communication plan, with anticipated roll-out to the parish in August or September. Jay noted that gifts will be invested with the Diocesan investment fund.

Staffing: Jay spoke of the clarity that came with Bishop Rob's announcement that Aaron Jenkyn is lay vicar at Epiphany, permitting Jay to resign as priest-in-charge. Addressing Jack's loss of income due to his termination at Epiphany (10 hours per week), Jay has drafted a new letter of agreement for Jack at $\frac{3}{4}$ time with an annual salary of \$69,000. Per the letter, Jack will

- Engage young people in grades 3 through 6 in weekly instrumental music-making
- Create four seasonal liturgies that are missional, for non-conventional Christians
- Create digital liturgies including occasional InSpirit style Sunday worship as well as conventional worship for major feast days that fall midweek
- Maintain weekly congregational music and choir

Intergenerational Parish Pilgrimage to the Holy Land – Based on attendance at last week's information session, Jay expects several St. Andrew's youth and parents to participate in the pilgrimage planned for winter 2022. He anticipates that the 2022 budget will include funds to subsidize the projected \$2200 cost by \$500 for our youth participants, with fund-raising efforts

as well. He suggested that we spread the word for the trip that can accommodate up to 20 participants.

Any Other Business:

On behalf of the **Crafts Group**, Barbara asked if there would be an opportunity to show and sell items that have been in production over the past year. With Jay's encouragement we will look into holding a summer fair in early to mid-August, and can expect to hold the traditional December St. Nicholas Fair as well.

Jay expressed concern after learning that Cheryl Dean has been terminated as chaplain/director of spiritual care at **New London Hospital**. We support his decision to write a letter to the hospital CEO and Board expressing his dismay at the loss of such an important service to people of all faiths and no faiths when confronted with serious illness and hospitalization.

Chris reported that he has engaged Tony's Chimney LLC to put a cap on the main chimney per a Green Committee recommendation to reduce energy loss. The \$2800 cost will come out of the **Buildings and Grounds** line item in the current budget.

Jay closed the meeting with our mutual blessing.

Respectfully submitted,
Alice Perry, Clerk

Note: The next vestry meeting will be at 5 PM on 22 July -- In-person in the parish hall!