

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE VESTRY
OF THE CHAPEL OF THE CROSS
WILL BE ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2020
with the business session to begin at 6:00 p.m.**

**Draft Minutes of the Vestry of the Chapel of the Cross
16 July 2020**

The Vestry of the Chapel of the Cross again met via Zoom Cloud Meeting on Thursday, July 16, 2020. Present were Dick Taylor (Sr. Warden), Emily Moseley (Jr. Warden), Leigh Ann Dasher, Molly Dempsey, Allison Worthy, Carol Marshall, Alan Rimer, Lee Wollman, Ann Craver, Amy Daubert, Terry Eason, and Meg Flournoy. Also present were John Branson (Priest-in-Charge), Noah VanNiel (Associate Rector), Mary Cat Young (Associate Rector for University Ministry), Amanda Bourne (Curate), Faith Turchi (Parish Administrator and Stewardship Coordinator), Carrie Fraipont (Treasurer), and Nancy Kelly (Clerk).

The Sr. Warden presided, and the meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Taylor recognized Mr. Branson at this, his last meeting with the Vestry during his tenure as Priest-in-Charge, saying that it has been a real pleasure to work with him. He commended his wisdom and experience and said that he's glad he's a parishioner and not going anywhere. On behalf of the parish, he was given a gift from A Southern Season (now

located in Alamance County) and a gift certificate to Acme. The Vestry gave him a round of applause.

Devotion

Mr. Branson had proposed a change to the practice of Lectio Divina, suggesting instead that the Vestry member responsible for the evening's devotion choose a meaningful passage or a topic to personalize the devotion, and it was the consensus of the Vestry that this practice be adopted. Mr. Rimer was prepared to initiate this practice at tonight's meeting, and he chose as his text the book "A Great Cloud of Witnesses," which commemorates not only saints, but also as stated in the introduction to the book, "Christians who have inspired other Christians in different times and places." He focused on the July 17 entry, The Righteous Gentiles, and concluded with thoughts on the work of Oskar Schindler. Mr. Rimer concluded the devotion with a prayer.

Consent Agenda

The following items were placed on the Consent Agenda (attached):

- Approval of Minutes from the June meeting of the Vestry
- Acceptance of Priest-in-Charge's Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Associate Rector's Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Associate Rector for University Ministry's Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Finance Committee Report (attached)

- Acceptance of May Financial Reports (attached)
- Acceptance of Stewardship Committee Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Faith in Action Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Buildings and Grounds Committee Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Preschool Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Christian Formation Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Youth and Family Minister's Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Music Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Parish Life and Worship Coordinator's Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Communications Report (attached)
- Acceptance of Parish Administrator's Report (attached)

It was moved by Mrs. Marshall, seconded by Mrs. Wollman, and passed unanimously, that the Vestry approve the Consent Agenda.

Priest-in-Charge's Report

The report of the Priest-in-Charge is attached.

Mr. Branson began by stating that we are at an in-between place, with so many things changing in all our lives. New technologies that are being used are changing Chapel of the Cross dramatically. He is impressed with the ability of the staff to adapt to these changes while

continuing to do their work with passion and a great sense of urgency, and he feels that the parish is well-positioned for new ways of operating and communicating and for continuing to be a leader in the diocese.

Sr. Warden

Mr. Taylor, as President of the Standing Committee of the Diocese, when speaking today with Bishop Rodman, mentioned that the parish might be requesting a waiver from the requirement for half-day preschools on re-opening and learned that a waiver will not be necessary. The discussion planned for this evening's agenda will not, therefore, be necessary. The Preschool does need to come up with a plan, though. Mr. Rimer added that the MERV-13 filters have already been ordered and installed in the Preschool area.

205th Diocesan Convention

The 205th Diocesan Convention, to be held November 20-21 in Winston-Salem, will be a virtual convention. This means that no official votes can be taken. The virtual meeting will make recommendations, but no actual changes can be made until such time as an in-person convention can be held.

Each parish sends its clergy and a determined proportional number of delegates to Annual Convention. The Chapel of the Cross has the maximum number of six delegates, of which two

are elected each year for a three-year term. Up to six alternates are also elected each year. Responsibilities of the delegates include attendance at two convocational meetings before the convention and then at the convention itself. The terms of Ann Craver and Joe Ferrell have ended. Brian Coggins and Katherine Kopp have one year remaining of their terms. Carol Marshall and Nancy McGuffin have two years remaining of their terms.

The Vestry elected Joan Pharr and Ian Dunn to three-year terms and Mark Biggers as alternate.

Financials

Ms. Fraipont reported that the news continues to be good, with revenues significantly exceeding expenses for the second straight month. The surplus at the end of June was \$10,000, and the the surplus for the year-to-date is \$128,000. Efforts to avoid non-essential expenses have proven successful.

Early Voting

Mr. Taylor reported that Bishop Rodman has approved the plan for early voting at Chapel of the Cross, but he wants to know the details as they become available. Ms. Dempsey reported that Ellen Cole has spoken with the Board of Elections and learned that they will thoroughly clean the area before delivery of the equipment, will clean it every day during early voting, and will do a thorough cleaning after the equipment is picked up.

Vestry members were reminded that the parish will lose access to the Parish Hall for two or three Sundays during early voting because the area will be secured.

Reimagining Stewardship Committee

Mrs. Wollman and Ms. Daubert reported that the website is up and ready to accept pledges. The committee would like to have leadership pledges in place by August.

There is great energy on the team, with callers from all generations and all demographics in the church. Chairs Nancy McGuffin and Harriet Pegram are doing wonderful work.

The theme for the Annual Campaign, as well as the theme for the program year, is *Love Dwells Here*.

Vestry members are asked to study the draft of the charter for the Reimagining Stewardship Committee and forward any feedback to Mrs. Wollman or Ms. Daubert.

Lilly Grant

Ms. Young shared the exciting news that the parish has received a \$42,000 sustainability grant from the Lilly Foundation. There are still funds from the original grant, and these can be used until May 2021.

Given the current climate of sensitivity to racial and white supremacist concerns, Mr. Eason asked about the use of the Tar Heel emblem with the ECM logo. It was suggested that care needs to be taken to research this issue before jumping to conclusions about its origin and its meaning, and Ms. Young said that she will look into the matter.

Family Time

The traditional Family Time, in which the Vestry engages in informal discussion of parishioners who have not been seen at church services recently and shares the names of newcomers whom they have recently met, is at present being revised to address the current situation.

Mrs. Marshall reported that the committee is in the note-writing phase and that significant tasks remain to be done.

Adjournment

Mr.7 Branson offered a prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy F. Kelly
Clerk of the Vestry

Attachments

- - - Consent Agenda
- - - Priest-in-Charge's Report
- - - Associate Rector's Report
- - - Associate Rector for University Ministry's Report
- - - Finance Committee Report
- - - May Financials Report
- - - Stewardship Report
- - - Faith in Action Report
- - - Buildings and Grounds Committee Report
- - - Preschool Report
- - - Christian Formation Report
- - - Parish Life and Worship Coordinator's Report
- - - Communications Report
- - - Parish Administrator's Report
- - - Youth and Family Minister's Report
- - - Early Voting Information (Wardens' and Bishop's Letters)