

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
VESTRY MEETING MINUTES
January 28, 2021 - Via Zoom

Present: Senior Warden-Murry Edwards, Junior Warden-Paul Westrom, Treasurer-Chris Bartlett, Clerk-Mattie Gustafson, David Brierley, Marlo Pratt, Julie Zecher, David Spengler, Matt Spohn, Peter Collins, Chris Winslow, George LeBlanc, Dave Ferkinhoff, and the Rector- the Rev. Jennifer Pedrick.

Jennifer began the meeting at 6:02 p.m. with a prayer. St. Mary's mission was reviewed.

Reconnecting with each other, in the presence of God.

Jennifer asked the Vestry to think about how God has showed up in this difficult time – either in their personal lives or in the life of the church.

Updates from the Rector – Jennifer Pedrick

Moving Forward Taskforce

It seems that this is a time of waiting – for conditions to improve, for weather to soften – for many things. The Diocese has asked churches to avoid in-person worship. So, the question for the MFT, is how to keep people connected. This is what the Task Force is working on.

Lenten plans

Ash Wednesday (February 17) –

- 1 service will be filmed at noon
- 1-1:30 - drive through ashes (in some safe form)
- 5-5:30 – drive through Holy Communion and ashes

Sunday before Ash Wednesday (February 14) –

Holding some kind of bonfire to create ashes. People will be invited to write on a piece of paper either what is being transformed in them or what they are letting go – and these papers will be put in the fire.

Special Lenten Program

The Way of Love: A Practical Guide to Following Jesus by Scott Gunn. Jennifer is planning to call people to extend a personal invitation to participate in a discussion of this book weekly, via Zoom.

Sundays in Lent

We will stick to the same worshipping pattern

Dave Brierley discussed the idea of extending our wireless connection to the historic church. He is investigating the feasibility of getting a cable inside the church. Dave made a motion,

seconded by Chris B. that the Vestry approve spending no more than \$2000 from the general fund to extend Wi-Fi coverage to the historic church.

There was some discussion of the appropriateness of having Wi-Fi in the historic church, as well as some talk about where the funds would come from. It was decided not to use historic church funds for this project, but to take monies from the general fund. There is the possibility of a grant from the Diocese (\$3000?) to improve a church's technology that St. Mary's might apply for and receive.

The motion passed.

Annual Meeting

A Zoom Coffee and Conversation will be held on January 31. Vestry members were urged to attend.

The Annual Meeting will also be held on Zoom on Sunday, February 7. The week before the meeting, members will receive, via email, the Annual Report, a list of nominations for Officers and Vestry, and the Zoom link.

Jennifer thanked Murry for the great amount of work she put into gathering and creating the Annual Report.

Junior Warden Update – Paul W.

Historic Church Renewal Project

In the process of removing the wallpaper, we discovered mold, which will need to be remediated. The walls will then be treated to help retard any future mold growth. Paul hopes that treating the mold will also get rid of any adhesive that remains.

Jennifer mentioned that the sacristy needed to be included in the restoration process. She and Paul will discuss.

Buildings and Grounds

There are 3 major maintenance and upkeep projects that need attention.

- 1) Clean and reseal the wood on the Parish House.
- 2) Resealing the parking lot.
- 3) Repairs and upkeep on the Rectory, including new shingles in front, replacing trim boards and painting.

The first two of these are immediate needs, and Paul and his team, with Jon, will proceed with accomplishing these. Depending on how these go, we may have enough money to implement the third priority as well.

Saying “goodbye”

Jennifer wanted us to take a moment and virtually toast and thank the Officers who are leaving the Vestry this year – Murry Edwards (Senior Warden), Paul Westrom (Junior Warden) and Chris Bartlett (Treasurer). All three have made extraordinary contributions to this Vestry and the church. Thank you all.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Dave S., seconded by Dave F., that we accept the Consent Agenda, consisting of the minutes from the December Vestry meeting and the Treasurer’s Report covering this past budget year. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m. with a closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Mattie Gustafson, Clerk