

The Vestry Meeting was brought to order at 2100 by The Rev. John Spicer.

Attendance

Father John Mother Anne Deacon Bruce Father Jeff Zach Beall Jean Long Lauren Richardson
Colleen Simon Bill Aliber Lora Kokjer Jan Ashmore Vin Clark Bert Cottine Dorothy Curry
Stephen Duerst Victoria Fiori Julia Jackson Janet Kelley Brian Gloe George Kroh Erin Mos Ann
Rainey Ann Renne Scott Kirmer Norman Todd Paul Wurth Melissa Rock

Checking In

Consent Agenda Approval

- 1) Motion was made by Bill Aliber. Seconded by George Kroh. Unanimously approved.

Scriptural Reflection by Fr. John. He read a portion of Matthew 6:25-34, reflection on God and not worrying in our current times, followed by an opening prayer for guidance.

Pilgrims on the journey: Personal experiences of exploring, growing, deepening, centering in life with Christ (All) – 5 min.

- 1) Jan, Paul, and Victoria shared the struggle of missing time with family during social distancing.
- 2) Lora added her experience of participating in an “end of school” parade for the school she works at.
- 3) George contributed about his experience about weekly Zoom family meetings with members from across the country.
- 4) Bill expressed the difficulties of watching online church and missing being able to worship together.
- 5) Erin shared about family & friends who are struggling to not be able to connect in person right now.

Disciples on the journey: Catching Jesus in the act through St. Andrew's ministries

- 1) Community Connections (George Kroh, Brian Gloe, Fr. Jeff) – 2 min.
 - a) George reported that the Commission looked for how to show appreciation to our essential workers in the neighborhood. For local stores, we gave \$10 Gift Certificates. Working with the Lewellen family, we provided dinner from Lew's for our local fire station and police station.
- 2) Engagement (Norm Todd, Fr. Jeff) – 2 min.
 - a) Norm reported the Commission is looking to be creative in how to work digitally to engage. Text in Church has been a great tool for worship services. Colleen and Fr. John set up and hosted a coffee hour for newcomers who have been exploring our church during this time. 10 new people attended!
 - b) Norm asked the Vestry for feedback on how membership calling has been affecting our data in regards to contact information. Stephen shared that finding incorrect phone numbers and incomplete contact info has been captured and we are in the process of correcting the data.
- 3) **Examples from other commissions** – 5 min.
 - a) Dorothy shared the activities of Outreach and the ongoing effort of working with Banneker Elementary School to provide needed food and toiletries to underprivileged families. The next distribution event will be at Southeast Community Center on June 13th. She shared that the growth in partnership (especially with the school administrators) has been a blessing.

Stewards on the journey: Growing generosity and managing the master's household

- 1) Stewardship update (Stephen Duerst) – 2 min.
 - a) Developing the first draft of Stewardship Campaign for the year, keeping mindful of the financially difficult time this has been.
 - b) Stephen expressed thanks for the Vestry making a second round of calls to the parish.

- 2) Report on major facility issues (Scott Kirmer) – 3 min.
 - a) Patiently waiting on city approval of plans on the sidewalk project. Once they have approved, then work can begin.
 - b) Initial drafts were reviewed on the parking lot project. A meeting (social distanced) was held on site to review the plans, and further fine tune the plans with the engineering firm. Plans should be submitted to the city for inspection very soon.
 - c) Undercroft floor has been examined and the floor finishing may be best left “as is”. The contractor believes that waxing the floor may be the best solution to improve the quality of a 10x12 section in question. Rest of the floor turned out great.
- 3) Finance report (Paul Wurth) – 3 min.
 - a) April report was presented with an address of the previously discussed bequest of \$110,000 to be directed towards the Endowment Fund.
 - b) Revenue forecasts were exceeded by \$9,000.
 - c) Pledge Income is on target.
 - d) Expenses are showing a cost on labor as a result of the SBA Grant. Still below budget.
 - e) Undesignated Operating account is at \$165,000.
 - f) Designated Operating account is at \$737,000.
 - i) \$145,000 is set aside for the parking lot and sidewalk project.
 - g) Endowment Fund is currently at \$1.6 million.

Apostles on the journey: Answering the call to proclaim good news and make disciples

- 1) Report on worship attendance and ministry participation (Fr. John) – 5 min.
 - a) Youth participation is up 34%
 - b) Children's participation is up 16%
 - c) Young Adult encounters up by 131 encounters
 - d) Adult Formation is down, but are now meeting online. (inability for groups to physically gather)
 - e) Worship attendance is down 8% from last year.
 - i) Mostly due to not being able to worship in person.
 - ii) Easter attendance was down 48%, with half as many devices online in comparison to people in attendance last year. Fr. John recognized this is a difficult comparison.
- 2) Guidelines for resuming in-person worship and ministry (Fr. John) – 20 min.
 - a) A document was distributed with plan for Vestry review.
 - b) Lora asked for a definition on “decline” and Fr. John answered that the guideline is calling for a decline in new cases as opposed to total cases from the KCMO Health Department daily reports.
 - c) The document calls for a “two platform” approach to church. In person and online, wherever possible. Sometimes the experiences will happen simultaneously.
 - d) Ann Rainey expressed concern for how in-person worship can be provided fairly to all parishioners.
 - e) Dorothy conveyed a desire to hear the church's bells be sounded during the day at the same times the 8-1-8 prayers are beginning. Fr. John will look into the possibility.
 - f) Bert made known his appreciation for the two-platform approach for all to be able to participate at their comfort levels, when returning to in-person worship.
 - g) Brian voiced concern for how the church will be able to return to in person worship, in regards to how numbers are reported, & Bishop's directive to begin returning after 14 reported days of decline.
 - h) A robust discussion on how reporting is done by the city & state commenced. Bill & Fr. John expressed that guideline will continue to be evaluated as the state of the infection in our area changes.

St. Andrew's Vestry Meeting

May 19th, 2020

- i) Stephen asked how other churches in other denominations set their guidelines for return. Many communicated that the RC parishes have begun reopening with similar procedures to these guidelines.
- j) Scott asked about logistics of reservations for in-person worship, and the possibility of visitors walking in. Fr. John said that some space will be reserved for those possibilities.
- 3) Motion to approve Guidelines for resuming in-person worship and ministry.
 - a) Motion was made by Bert Cottine. Seconded by Bill Aliber. Unanimously approved.

Other business – 15 min.

- 1) Thank you notes: Mary Sanders, Kathy West, Susan Paynter, Adam James, Dr. Tom Vozzella
- 2) Erin asked the Vestry to consider writing letters of congratulations to the Senior Acolytes. Jean will be following up. Yard signs have been made for them and a caravan will begin at the church parking lot on May 31 at noon.
- 3) Fr. John reminded everyone of the Parish Calendar Planning meeting on Thursday, May 21st at 6pm on Zoom.

The meeting closed at 2252 with a closing prayer led by Jan Ashmore.

Respectfully Submitted,

Adam A. James
Secretary