

Trinity Episcopal Church, Wethersfield

Vestry Meeting – March 18, 2021

Present: The Rev. Tom Furrer (mission priest), Warren Blessing (co-warden), Rebecca Scruton (co-warden), Connie Harasymiw (co-warden), Robert Heath, Greg Joseph, Sarah Butters, Carol Jones, Peter Dewberry.

Absent: Ann Marie Stavola

R. Scruton opened the Zoom meeting with prayer at 6:38

1. Dwelling in the Word – Philippians 1:1-11
Vestry members considered the reading from 2 different translations, and wrote personal reflections.

Monthly reports

2. Vestry minutes – R. Scruton made a motion to accept minutes from February meeting, motion seconded by G. Joseph. Minutes accepted unanimously.
3. Financial report – R. Heath reviewed Budget report for period ending February 28, 2021. Motion to accept report made by T. Furrer, seconded by C. Jones. Report accepted unanimously.
4. Agenda for 3/18/2021 accepted without additions.
5. Old Business
 - a. Mission and outreach update – W. Blessing.
 - i. The first planning session for 2021 was held week of 3/8/2021. Collecting new ideas, or revised and ideas. Open to initiatives from wider Wethersfield community, an opportunity to participate and contribute.
 - ii. Writing up information for a grant from the Diocese for St. Vincent's school for the disabled in Haiti, due May 1st.
 - b. Annual Meeting Feedback – C. Harasymiw.
 - i. Parishioners feedback on 2021 annual meeting held on Zoom was overwhelmingly positive.
 - c. Vestry meeting dates – W. Blessing.
 - i. Dates for vestry meetings for 2021 will be held on the 3rd Thursday of each month, as follows: 4/15, 5/20, 6/17, 7/15, 8/19, 9/16, 10/21, 11/18, 12/16. Meetings are scheduled from 6:30-8:30pm. This schedule will continue unless alternate proposed. Meetings will be held on Zoom for as long as needed.
 - ii. Next month's meeting, April 15th, the Rev. Tim Hodapp, Canon for Mission Collaboration, will be coming from the Diocese to discuss the role and expectations of vestry members.
 - d. Opening Committee – R. Scruton.
 - i. Members were asked to consider personal guidelines to returning to in-person meetings and services. An informal poll was taken of vestry members.
6. New Business
 - a. Time for Rebuilding – T. Furrer
 - i. Using the verses from Paul's letter to the Philippians, T. Furrer discussed the need to reopen and rebuild our community now that we are coming towards

the end of the pandemic. The church has successfully navigated new territory, largely due to the heroic efforts of a few members. Many thanks to Carol, Rebecca, Warren, Linda, and Leslie in particular.

- ii. Using the response to the physical mailer sent to our community in preparation for the Annual Meeting, a new letter has been sent to everyone, announcing the return to in-person services, starting with Palm Sunday.
- iii. A questionnaire is included asking members to identify roles – greeters, ushers, lay readers – they would be willing and able to take on in order to hold services and provide relief to those who have taken on these duties over the past year.
- iv. In addition, vestry members were asked how they can contribute to the rebuilding our church, through prayer, action, and leadership.

7. Closing

- a. Closing prayer – R. Scruton.
 - i. Prayers from Compline a St. Francis.

Motion to adjourn made by G. Joseph, seconded by C. Harasymiw.

Meeting adjourned 7:52

Minutes respectfully submitted, 3/22/2021

M. Hepburn, clerk