

## Trinity Parish Wethersfield, Vestry Meeting Minutes

January 20, 2022

Attendees: W. Blessing, R. Scruton, C. Harasymiw, R. Heath, S. Butters, G. Joseph, C. Jones, T. Furrer, A. Stavola, P. Dewberry, M. Hepburn. (Absent JR Stanko,)

6:35pm meeting called to order.

1. Opening Prayer. C. Harasymiw.
2. Dwelling in the Word. C. Harasymiw. Members read the passage from Luke over several times, reflecting on personal connections to the verses. Comments were made about the treasure of relationships, community, health, every-day gifts from God, the love of God and the richness of scripture. What is Trinity's greatest treasure? All of the people in our congregation, a return to a real prayer life, a community of welcome, preaching with conviction, the congregation, the community and the people within that community, seeing people's lives changed by Jesus, our leadership.
3. Monthly Reports.
  - a. Minutes of December. Greg moved and Carol seconded the approval of minutes. Motion approved and December minutes accepted.
  - b. Motion to accept the December financial report – Carol moved and Greg seconded. Rob reviewed the report. Motion approved and report accepted.
4. Call for any additional items to the agenda. Nominating Committee, by Greg. Connie, Ann Marie, JR, and Greg will be stepping down as of the Annual Meeting. The slate for next year are: Warren Blessing as warden, Garth Myers and Rebecca Scruton as co-wardens, Melanie Hepburn as clerk, Continuing members are Sarah Butters, Peter Dewberry and Carol Jones. New members are Don Ghostlaw, Charles Melchriet and Susanna Brown. Convention delegates are Ray Colburn and Kathy Cole, with Jennifer Gebhardt.
5. Old Business.
  - a. Safe Church. G. Joseph. All current vestry members have completed the training for Safe Church. Background checks will be started next where required. Once the vote for vestry has been completed, the new members will be directed to complete their Safe Church requirement. We will be doing a yearly self-evaluation in June in conjunction with the wardens to make sure we are in compliance. Anyone who participates in the Afghan program will also need to go through Safe Church (Donna Brown will be responsible for following up on those volunteers.)
  - b. Outreach and Mission. C. Harasymiw.
    - i. Afghan Initiative. Connie referred members to the materials submitted with the agenda for this evening's meeting. Leslie is the overall leader of the project and Donna will be the representative of Trinity. Joan Joseph offered to manage the administrative materials associated with the project. Several other members including Carol, Linda, etc have undergone the training as part of the program requirements. They are looking for affordable housing in Hartford. Each of the 4 participating churches has pledged \$3000 for a total of \$12,000 to offset the rent for 6 months.

1. The motion that \$3,000 from the Outreach and Mission account be used as Trinity Parish's contribution towards the IRIS project Citizens of the World. Moved by Greg, seconded by Carol. Approved by vestry. Motion passes.
- c. COVID. R. Scruton. Things are now moving in a positive direction. We will be maintaining the current practice until further notice. And the outdoor service will continue, rain or shine.
6. New business.
  - a. Outreach. Fr. Tom. He has created a magazine to highlight the various outreach activities, local and international. He wants it to be focused on our mission and outreach, so that we can use our stories to act as inspiration. This will be a printed magazine available to everyone.
  - b. Icons. R. Scruton. Icon initiative. Around 2017, the church received several icons. A small group of members have been doing due diligence on caring for the icons. Icons are intended for active prayer. The icons will be installed in the side chapel. Several parish members have met with an iconographer who would be happy to talk with the vestry and/or parish to discuss the history, use and placement of icons.
7. Closing prayer. Fr. Tom led us in prayer.
8. Motion to adjourn moved by Greg and seconded by Carol.

Meeting adjourned 8:10pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by M. Hepburn

1/20/2022