

Trinity Episcopal Church, Wethersfield
Vestry Meeting
April 23, 2020

Present: The Rev. Tom Furrer (missional priest), Rebecca Scruton (co-warden), Warren Blessing (co-warden), Connie Harasymiw (co-warden), Leslie Jones (clerk), Robert Heath, Greg Joseph, Tina LaMorte, Cheryl Lewis, J.R. Stanko, Ann Marie Stavola, Linda Traue, the Rev. Darryl Burke (curate)

R. Scruton opened the ZOOM meeting with prayer at 6:34 pm.

Dwelling in the Word

R. Scruton led a guided meditation on John 15:9-25 and its implication for us as parish leaders in this time of isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Monthly Reports

- *A motion was made to accept the February minutes. Moved by J.R. Stanko and seconded by T. LaMorte. Unanimously approved.*
- R. Heath presented the Budget Report for the period ending March 31, noting that income and expenses through March are close to budget projections. Investments are down. *A motion was made by G. Joseph to accept the March budget report. Seconded by L. Traue. Unanimously accepted.*

Vestry Housekeeping

- The vestry will read Chapter 1 of the Vestry Resource Guide and review at the next meeting.
- G. Joseph reported for the Parish Discernment Subcommittee (T. Furrer, T. LaMorte, JR Stanko, G. Joseph). They recommend focusing on three goals:
 - a) Gain new members from visitors by establishing a New Member Committee that would determine and implement ways to greet visitors as well as follow up with visitors
 - b) Proactively recruit new members through signage and community meals
 - c) Offer new services such as evensong, healing, etc.

Old Business

- ECCT Investment Compliance – R. Heath reported that the transfer of investments from Merrill Lynch to ECCT will be completed before the May vestry meeting.
- 150th Anniversary Celebration – C. Harasymiw reported that most of the scheduled events have been cancelled or put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

New Business

- Chaplaincy of the vestry – R. Scruton reported that the wardens and clergy suggest that the chaplaincy alternate between clergy and lay. Vestry members who wish to participate should contact R. Scruton.
- Parish support systems – On behalf of the wardens, W. Blessing asked for suggestions about how to support parishioners during the pandemic in ways to augment telephone calls. Suggestions may be sent to the wardens.

Property Committee Updates

Updates reported by W. Blessing:

- Exterior painting – the brown trim on the front and driveway side of the building has been completed. There are three additional areas that need trim painting.
- Floor polishing – the parish hall, kitchen and hallways will need to be professionally polished this summer. The vestry will be asked to vote on this expense at the next meeting.
- Parish Paint Day – all work will be done outdoors with attention to social distancing on May 16, weather permitting (rain date May 23). Volunteers are being solicited via e-blasts and the Belfry newsletter.

A motion was made by W. Blessing to approve \$2500 for William Driscoll to finish painting the remaining trim of the church building and to purchase painting supplies for volunteers. Seconded by G. Joseph. Unanimously approved.

Closing

A motion to adjourn was made by G. Joseph and seconded by T. Furrer. Unanimously approved.

R. Scruton closed the meeting with prayer at 8:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Leslie Jones
Parish Clerk