

**Trinity Episcopal Church, Wethersfield**  
**Vestry Meeting**  
**May 28, 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, the Rev. Darryl Burke (curate)

**Absent:** Linda Traue

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R. Scruton opened the ZOOM meeting with prayer at 6:40 pm.

### **Dwelling in the Word**

R. Scruton led a guided meditation on 1 Thessalonians 5:12-24 and its implications for us personally and as parish leaders.

### **Monthly Reports**

- *A motion was made to accept the April minutes. Moved by C. Harasymiw and seconded by R. Scruton. Unanimously approved.*
- R. Heath presented the Budget Report for the period ending April 30, noting that income and expenses through March are close to budget projections. *A motion was made by W. Blessing to receive the April budget report. Seconded by G. Joseph. Unanimously received.*

### **Vestry Housekeeping**

- D. Burke lead a discussion of Chapter 1: The Mission-Focused Vestry of the *Vestry Resource Guide* with everyone contributing their thoughts. Chapter 2: Ministry of the Vestry will be reviewed at the next vestry meeting.
- G. Joseph presented a "Report of Parish Discernment Survey Meeting" developed by T. Furrer, T. LaMorte, JR Stanko, and G. Joseph. The report is attached.

### **Additional Agenda Item**

- Parishioner and webmaster Joan Joseph is posting a photo journal to capture what it's like being church during the pandemic. Since it is impractical and/or impossible to gather photo releases in person, a motion was made by G. Joseph to revise the adult and child media releases in order to accommodate electronic signatures. Seconded by J.R. Stanko. Unanimously approved.

### **Old Business**

- A special vestry meeting was held May 21 (see separate minutes) regarding reopening the church. A survey was sent to all parishioners on May 27 for feedback about opening. Questions were: 1. When we begin to hold worship services in the church building, with appropriate safety measures in place, would you attend? 2. If we held services out of doors in warmer weather, with appropriate safety measures, would you attend? 3. If we continue with online services, would you continue to stay home and participate online?

- The vestry discussed what a Phase 2 reopening might look like (e.g. outdoors, bring your own chair and prayer book, marked off spaces for social distancing, bring your own wafer, etc.). Phase 2 could be as soon as June 20 with consideration given to recommendations by the CDC, Governor Lamont and our bishops. C. Harasymiw attends weekly ZOOM meetings with the bishops and the ECCT counselor regarding reopening churches and will email her notes to vestry members each week. The survey results and various recommendations will be reviewed at the next vestry meeting. Until then, daily online and ZOOM services will continue.
- *C. Harasymiw made a motion to cancel the church fair scheduled for 11/21/20 due to possible pandemic restrictions and to provide time to rethink what our church fair should look like in the future. Seconded by C. Lewis. Unanimously approved.*

### **Property Committee Updates**

Updates reported by W. Blessing:

- Parish Paint Day was held on May 16 with lower level, exterior window painting completed by eight volunteers.
- B & H Property Maintenance will take over our cleaning beginning next week and will continue during the pandemic until our sexton can safely return.

*A motion was made by G. Joseph to approve up to \$650 for P & J Cleaning Services to scrub and redcoat the floors of the parish hall, kitchen and backstairs. Seconded by D. Burke. Unanimously approved.*

### **Closing**

*A motion to adjourn was made by D. Burke and seconded by Rob Heath. Unanimously approved.*

R. Scruton closed the meeting with prayer at 8:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leslie Jones  
Parish Clerk