

**Trinity Episcopal Church, Wethersfield**  
**Vestry Meeting**  
**September 24, 2020**

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

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R. Scruton opened the ZOOM meeting with prayer at 6:30 pm.

**Dwelling in the Word**

R. Scruton led a guided meditation on Galatians 5:13-23, 25-26 and vestry members shared the guidance or wisdom they heard from God through that Scripture reading.

**Monthly Reports**

- *A motion was made to accept the August 27, 2020 minutes (attached). Moved by C. Lewis and seconded by T. LaMorte. Unanimously approved.*
- R. Heath presented the Budget Report for the period ending August 31, 2020 (attached) indicating that while both income and expense lines are under-budget, the expenses are considerably more under-budget than income. *A motion was made by L. Traue to receive the July budget report. Seconded by JR Stanko. Unanimously received.*

**Additional Agenda Items**

- Diocesan Convention — Rose Riley will step in for Ray Colburn as a delegate to convention.
- Young Activist Exhibit — Photojournalist Marc Yves Regis will be displaying photos of young activists from protest marches on Trinity's front lawn on October 23, 24, 25 from 1-4 pm.

**Old Business**

- New Proposal for In-Person, Indoor Services — R. Scruton presented the attached two documents regarding a proposed 10 am Sunday Holy Eucharist in the Sanctuary and a 4 pm Sunday Holy Eucharist in the Parish Hall, both proposals showing great attention to parishioner safety during the COVID pandemic. Indoor services are scheduled to begin on October 4.
- Outreach and Mission Update — W. Blessing reported enough money was donated by parishioners to support 50 children with full scholarships in the Diocese of Kafanchan, Nigeria; \$630 was donated by parishioners and sent to Nana Dogo in the Diocese of Kafanchan, Nigeria to support their Sewing Machine Project; and \$300 was sent to the Town of Wethersfield to support their Weekend Meals Program for schoolchildren.
- Nominating Committee — Rose Riley, Lynda Blessing, Cheryl Chadsey and Joan Joseph will make up the Nominating Committee which will be convened by one of the vestry members who are ending their terms this year.

- Parish Discernment Project Update —

a) T. LaMorte presented the Yoga and Qigong Report (attached), which outlines classes that can be considered after the pandemic has passed.

b) T. LaMorte also presented a comprehensive Signage Report (attached), recommending clearer, more attractive, and more flexible signage for the interior and exterior of the church. There was consensus that we should move forward with better signage. T. LaMorte will meet with the Property Committee to discuss further.

c) G. Joseph presented a “Section 1 Update” (attached) about marketing opportunities.

d) AM Stavola presented a Worship Update (attached). Beginning in October, Morning Prayer will continue to be online Monday through Friday; two in-person Holy Eucharists will be celebrated on Sundays; Holy Eucharist will continue online on Sundays; Bible Study will return on Thursday mornings online and via ZOOM; ZOOM Morning Prayer will continue on Wednesdays; and Centering Prayer will continue on Wednesday afternoons. Additional of worship opportunities may need to wait until the pandemic is over.

- Heritage Trail Plaque — T. LaMorte reported that the plaque costs \$3,000. She has been in touch with Now Connecticut Humanities who may consider awarding a partial grant (\$2,000). *A motion was made by T. Furrer to authorize the purchase of a Heritage Trail Plaque which will cost up to \$3,000. Seconded by JR Stanko. Unanimously approved.*

## **New Business**

- Outdoor Nativity — T. Furrer proposed that a Nativity scene be displayed on the front lawn during December. *A motion was made by T. Furrer to purchase a Nativity scene and build a manger for an amount not to exceed \$2000. Seconded by L. Jones. Unanimously approved.*

## **Closing**

R. Scruton closed the meeting with prayer at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leslie Jones  
Parish Clerk