

Christ Episcopal Church
7145 Fieldcrest Drive
Lockport, NY 14094

Vestry Meeting
May 10, 2021

Attendance

Wardens: Jack Taylor, Gloria Bryant

Vestry: Mary Brennan-Taylor, Debbie Bronschidle, Pat O. Few, Theresa McCabe, Ken Miller, John Scott, Cheryl Urtel, Sue Venezia-Waddell

Clergy: The Rev. Thomas J Mitchell, The Rev. Joseph Kozlowski

Excused:

Absent: Ann Rucci

Other Attendees: Tim McQueen

Fr. Thomas Mitchell called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm and offered the opening prayer.

Mary Brennan-Taylor started with a description of a Consent Agenda to help shorten meetings – see attachment. It will shorten meeting time, but all reports will have to be submitted a week before each Vestry meeting, and everyone must read all the reports before the meeting. Theresa McCabe moved that we start using the Consent Agenda at the next meeting. Pat Few seconded the motion and it passed.

New Business

- Review Reopening Christ Church – we would like to eliminate registration, but we will wait until after the Bishop’s meeting with Clergy, Wardens and Sextons to make any changes to our procedure.
- Brookside Committee & 2021 season – not discussed
- Organ Updates & Repairs – Tim McQueen: It will be a long process to replace the reeds (one set of pipes) in the organ that will likely be finished early in 2022. We are working with Parsons Pipe Organ Builders to take some measurements and do the work on our organ and AR Schopp’s Sons pipe manufacturer in Ohio who will create the new pipes. New pipes are about the same cost as repairing the current ones. Tim will be removing the pipes and taking them to Ohio. They will loan us samples to help us decide what works best for us. We are working with two skilled organizations.
- Finance Committee Update – Sue Bauer: see the Finance report. The need is to rebuild the Finance Committee as quickly as possible because there is a lot of work that needs to be done right away. Fr. Thomas will find new Finance members and the new committee will be approved by the Vestry at the next meeting (the Finance Committee is the Vestry’s advisor and working on the Vestry’s behalf).
- *Reminder (watch the weekly newsletters for more details):*
 - Preparing Buildings for Use – May 25th, 6:00 pm; for Clergy, Wardens, Sextons and reopening leaders; discussion includes upgrading and maintaining ventilation/HVAC systems, cleaning, signage, protocols and managing the flow of people indoors. Zoom link to be available in upcoming Diocesan newsletters.

- Mission Strategy Conversation with Bp. Sean – May 26th at 7:00 pm meeting to discuss how we will emerge from COVID. Everyone needs to preregister [here](#). Submit questions to communications@episcopalpartnership.org.

Old Business

- Employee Letters of Agreement – no update

Committee Reports

- Disaster Plan – Debbie Bronschidle: In order to be an emergency shelter, we need a generator that is big enough to run the elevator. We also need to modify the elevator so the doors open and close automatically. Debbie is looking into the details and cost of both. Theresa McCabe suggested grants (FEMA & NYS) to pay for these upgrades.
- Inclusivity – Mary Brennan-Taylor: Mary’s report has been sent to the Vestry and is attached. We need to get a sense of appetite for this change which requires genuine commitment and difficult work.
- Mary Hunt Guild – Pat Few: Joan Weet is willing to continue leading the group. She will call an off-site meeting to plan the Guild’s future and discuss possible fundraising that could be done during COVID.
- Worship Planning – Fr. Thomas Mitchell: We are slowly expanding the number of people who are helping lead the services. We will not make any changes in our procedures until after the Bishops meetings May 25th and 26th.
- Outreach – There are now six blessing boxes in Lockport, but the West end needs help. We had a great turn-out at the food drive on Saturday. The boxes are very empty especially at the end of the month. Next month we need to focus on a variety of items including cereal and veggies.

Minutes Approval

No corrections were made to the minutes of our last meeting. John Scott moved the minutes be accepted as presented. Seconded by Gloria Bryant and carried.

Finance

The finance report was submitted ahead – no discussion or action.

Remarks by Clergy Present

- Fr. Thomas Mitchell:
 - Everyone should register for 5/26 meeting with Bishop Sean about our mission strategy as we emerge from COVID – see above.
 - Fr. Thomas has a one hour “check-in” meeting with the Bishop on Wednesday at 11:00 am.
 - Fr. Thomas has been meeting with Randi Hicks Rowe and Barbara Price. The Canon for Parish Development attended one meeting. They are looking for ways that the five “lake parishes” can be more collaborative so we can make a bigger impact in this area. The focus is on social justice issues (earth, marginalized, equality, non-violence, ...). We may also have joint services on special occasions, but that will not be the primary purpose of this work.
- Fr. Joseph Kozlowski: Fr. Joe started with the Genesee region ministry on May 9th. For the next year they will try to share clergy, supply clergy and a Deacon to ensure the churches in

the region are able to have services. He has reserved the first Sunday of the month to do supply in our Deanery or elsewhere in the Diocese.

Warden's Reports

- Jack Taylor – Sr. Warden: no report
- Gloria Bryant – Buildings and Ground: There was no interest in an offer for a free inspection of our stained glass windows. John Scott offered to look at the gutters and see what we can do to repair them. There is an issue with mice in the building. We may need to hire an exterminator at some point. The Department of Health inspection will be next month.

Closing

Fr. Thomas Mitchell offered the closing prayer. The meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Bauer
Office Manager

**Next Vestry Meeting:
June 14, 2021 at 7:00 pm via Zoom**

The following reports are due to office@ChristLockport.info by June 7th:

Jack Taylor, Sr. Warden
Gloria Bryant, Jr. Warden
Landscaping – John Scott
Men's Group – Ken Miller
Parish Life – Pat Few
Organ Updates & Repairs – Tim McQueen
Minutes (5/10/2021) – Sue Bauer
Finance Report – Sue Bauer