Vestry Meeting Notes, August 17, 2020

1. OPENING PRAYER

2. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

3. VESTRY REPORTS:

The website has been redesigned; most of the work by Monty with help from Phil King

Stewardship season is coming up; Ann is developing ideas and is soliciting help from the vestry.

Ann and Saralee meet with the school including Brian and Polly every Friday to get status updates. Camp was a good trial run for school, which started last week. The school is looking forward to moving into the Danco building but it is still being worked on.

4. DEACON REPORT:

The Pastoral Care Team is active and working hard, as described in the weekly bulletin. Edith is looking to dispense budgeted funds, including another $600 for Holy Comforter in lieu of our not being able to provide for them in person.

We do have a few newcomers—names will be given to Joe, our vestry welcomer.

Edith outlined information received at a meeting with the Bishop about regathering in person. There were three basic ideas:

1. Imagine the nave as a place of pilgrimage and quiet reflection.
2. Can gather in limited groups outdoors, socially distanced and with masks, including youth and small groups.
3. Clergy are given permission to do small group weddings, baptisms, burials, without needing to check with the Bishop.

We have an operational plan for re-opening that is being developed by our re-opening committee. Two things for the vestry to consider:

- Live streaming: Taylor is talking with providers, will coordinate showing them the nave and getting estimates.
- Ideas for gathering in small groups on campus: what that would look like, how to manage

5. INTERIM RECTOR REPORT

Personnel Changes

- Our bookkeeper Charlene will be transitioning out of St. Benedict's but will stay until we find a successor. The Finance committee will act as a search committee; one lead so far.
- Our Youth Leader Allison Stewart will not be able to continue in that role. Brandon and Sean continue to help with our youth and we will be looking for a third person
- Kate Lessin, our youth choir director, will be stepping down. Valerie and Claiborne have been discussing this with Kate and an e-mail will go out to parents tomorrow. We may opt to have an interim replacement for a stipend.
- Interim Rector: Claiborne has talked with the staff about her plan to leave September 30th and has had conversations with Alicia Schuster Weltner, Canon to the Ordinary. Ann and Saralee will meet with Alicia and Buddy on Wednesday about the status of the rector search and our plans for moving forward this fall.

Small Groups: Amy Lancaster-King will be rebooting the small groups program this fall. Look for info in the weekly e-bulletin.

Diocesan Council: the vestry needs to look for and elect delegates to the council, which will be done as a Zoom conference this year.

Giving letters will be going out this week; membership status letters may go out next week.

Annual Meeting (date to be determined):

- the church needs to vote on the transition of the church status from LLC to corporation; approval was given by the vestry in August 2018 with Brian to proceed with this transition, and parish approval is now needed to finalize
- new vestry members need to be elected; a nominating committee is needed

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

- Non-pledge/pledge income is down about $55K, including miscellaneous income about $60K
- Expenses are roughly $80K below trend

Scott informed the vestry that it's time for our annual diocesan pledge. As usual the minimum required amount is 10% of the three year average of operating revenue. For 2021 this is $63,114, just a bit above last year. Motion for the 2021 pledge was approved.

7. CLOSING PRAYER