

Vestry Meeting Minutes, April 26th, 2020

Vestry members in attendance: Jeff Aulgur, Melissa Courtway, Genie Davis, Brett Hardison, Kristina Ward, Melissa Felty, Kris Burford, Steve Hurd

Absent: Carolyn Scott

Church staff in attendance: Rev. Greg Warren, Peggy Cromwell

Zoom Virtual Meeting started at 1:07pm

Opening prayer: led by Peggy Cromwell

March Minutes: Motion to adopt by Genie Davis, Second by Steve Hurd. All approved.

Priest-in-Charge report: Greg Warren

- Worship (virtual worship update; virtual coffee hour; enhanced audio/video)
 - Worship has expanded with virtual option. Able to reach more people.
 - Virtual coffee hour was a success.
 - Continue to improve audio/video. Better camera and using audio from camera instead of computer. \$4,000 investment will allow us to continue virtual services after social distancing. Started St. Peter's Episcopal Church Conway AR YouTube page

- Planning a 'return'
 - Diocese will return at a slower pace and take guidance from medical community as opposed to guidance from the Governor.

- Staffing update (during hiatus, post-hiatus, Greg/Peggy role sort)
 - John and Greg on site Tues, Wed and Thur. John in office Tues and Thursday
 - Post hiatus
 - Greg – Administrative, Worship, Mission
 - Peggy – Pastoral care and Christian formation

- What are we missing?
 - Parking lot services? Guidance from diocese is to remain cautious about gathering.
 - Lay participation with weeknight Compline/Evening Prayer. Sign up genius? Groups to reach out to below. Peggy to follow up.
 - DOK
 - Alter guild
 - EYC
 - General church members

Associate Priest report: Peggy Cromwell

- The first wave of the Outreach Ministry went smoothly as far as I know. Thanks to the Vestry and COH! I am finishing up the completed “hard-copy” directory and will have it available soon.
 - Peggy will send out new update in May for Vestry and pastoral care team to reach out to.
- I am working on some formation materials to be distributed in the coming weeks/months via email.

Topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- BCP Devotions/Prayers for Individuals
- Podcasts - Pray-As-You-Go, Turning to the Mystics, Ask N. T. Wright
- Anything, etc
- Resources for children/youth - in conjunction with Heidi, Jerusalem, et al
- Forming a Virtual Small Group for those not already connected to one
- Continuing Creation Care - in conjunction with Marilyn Larson and Dan Allen
- Overview of offerings and sources from the National Church – Episcopal
- News Service, Episcopal Public Policy Network, Bishop Curry,
- The Good Book Club, etc)

These would come out once or twice a month, beginning in May. Potentially, things for children/youth would be more frequent, given that “school” will be over and summer church camp is cancelled.

- I am grateful that the availability of Zoom enables me to participate more often in Small Group meetings. These groups are taking extra care to stay in contact with one another and support each other in many ways.
 - Peggy will send out Jerusalem’s Zoom meeting how-to video to Small Group leaders.
- Our Wednesday Bible Study continues via Zoom. Candice McPherson has taken on facilitation of that group, setting up the room and getting the reminders out. It is a rich discussion every week. We are currently coming to the end of John’s Gospel.
- The Wednesday Noon Book Club opted NOT to meet via Zoom. Several of those members don’t function too well “online.” Hopefully, we can resume face-to-face soon.
- I am completing my first year of the Thriving in Bi-Vocational Ministry Program through the Iona School at Seminary of the Southwest. I was accepted for a second year which will begin in July

(meeting virtually). This year I have been studying Spiritual Formation/Direction. Next year will be a study of Congregational Leadership. I have greatly benefited from both the study and the community our cohort group has formed.

- I spoke with Deacon Linda this week. I returned her personal things from here and her vestments to her. They will be physically moving to Bentonville next week. Linda will be leaving Sunday (today) and not returning to Little Rock. She will be staying with their friends in Bentonville until the move is accomplished. Leigh will be back and forth a couple of times next week to supervise the movers. Linda has an appointment in Kansas City on June 3 for a second opinion regarding her ALS diagnosis. Please continue to keep them both in your prayers.
- Book of Everyone video for Linda to say thank you and we love you.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Cromwell +

Senior Warden Report: Jeff Aulgur

Rector selection approved by Bishop Benefield on April 6th, 2020. Verbal approval from Bishop Benefield on call a with me. Updated compensation package previously approved by the vestry, will be effective July 1,2020.

Junior Warden Report: Brett Hardison

Conway Locally Grown continues to utilize the church lobby on Fridays.

Tammy Heffington (sexton) has painted the parish hall lobby and bathroom. She is presently painting the women's bathroom. The men's bathroom will be painted next. Brett will touch base with Tammy about fixing the hole in the wall in the men's room.

Grounds Beautification update: Shout out to Sandra Espy. She has devoted her time and talent working in the flower beds and yard. She has planted Vinca around the Star Magnolia and under the Prince Street sign, is trimming boxwoods (ongoing), planting Lantana in several of the flower beds, and been cleaning up around the church yard. Steve Lunk, with Conway Locally Grown, donated several plants. Sandra and I planted 2 hyssop plants on each side of the parish hall. We planted tickseed, butterfly bush, and butterfly weed in the bed in front of the church where it gets full sun. Steve gave us a Shumard Oak (fast growing white oak) seedling that I planted in front of the church. Hopefully we will have butterflies and hummingbirds as everything blooms out.

Finance:

Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activities will be posted in Realm Vestry group.

Financially stable at this time. Diocesan payment can be delayed if needed. Further payment delays will be considered if needed.

SBA PPP Loan was approved for 36,200.00. This will cover payroll until June 11th. There may be a second loan opportunity after June 11th and the Vestry can give approval in May meeting, if needed. Payroll is in a separate account so that John and Kathy can easily audit the loan for government review. Once the loan is audited and found to have been used for only payroll, the loan will be forgiven.

This loan will eventually show up as a grant to account for the revenue.

Contact Kathy to get Greg's new compensation package implemented by July 1, 2020

Outreach:

Food Pantry:

Need to get new tires on the trailer. Who could take the trailer to Discount Tires?

Food Pantry continues to operate as drive through only. 66 families served in April. AR Food Bank pick up is scheduled for Wednesday April 29 at 9:30 am. Tom and Melissa Courtway, Claire Losardo, Dalton Losardo and Brett Hardison will pick up at Food Bank. We may reach out to EYC to get help unloaded at church. We are ordering to supply for 100 bags.

May open dates are May 2nd and May 16th. There are 5 Saturdays in May, so we may need to plan for a busy Saturday on June 6th.

News is reporting that black and Hispanic communities are getting hit hardest during the pandemic. We have a few Hispanic clients. Would it be helpful to have a couple of volunteers that speaks Spanish.

Greg to reach out to community of hope on what he is hearing.

New Business:

Vestry Counters:

On hold until return to physical services

Next vestry meeting May 31st.

Motion to adjourn made by Steve Hurd and second by Melissa Courtway at 2:03pm. All agreed.