

## **Vestry Meeting Minutes**

### **Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

**October 13, 2020**

Vestry Member Attendees: Linda Lund, Don Greer, Jim Whitcomb, Janet Guillen, Bruce Howard, Carol Lenker, Tori Smith, and Adrian Quintanilla.

Vestry Members Absent: None

Vestry Guests: Ann Amoroso, Alice Jewel, Paula Warren, and Richard Warren

Other Attendees: Reverend Ripp Hardaway, Reverend Lucy Strandlund, Pam Johnson, and Shelley Howard.

Reverend Hardaway led the Vestry members in the Order for Evening from the Book of Common Prayer. Bruce Howard provided the devotional from the book, Open Hands, "Conclusion."

Upon conclusion, the meeting was called to order at 6:42 p.m. by Linda Lund, Senior Warden.

### **MINUTES**

The September 15, 2020, minutes were presented. Motion was made by Jim Whitcomb and seconded by Bruce Howard to accept and approve the minutes as written/presented. Motion passed.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **Reopening Updates – DWTX Updated Guidelines – Phase 2(b)**

Linda Lund, Senior Warden, led a discussion on the updated phased reopening guidelines sent down from the DWTX. The discussion items included the reopening of the 11:00 am service; other services such as baptisms, weddings, funerals; and activities such as in-person gatherings, Vestry meetings and formation classes. Also, reopen Christian Education for children and restart the youth programs. The intent of this discussion was for the Vestry members to make recommendations as to how we should proceed going forward through the rest of this year and into 2021. These recommendations would then be included in a plan submitted by the Vestry members to the DWTX for approval. There was a consensus by the Vestry members to reopen the following at St. John's church:

- Reopen the 11:00 am service
- Reopen the church for Baptisms (8 baptisms and 8-10 confirmations waiting), weddings, funerals, healing services
- Reopen Christian Education for children and restart the youth programs

Concerns: Childcare, in-house meetings such as the AAA and Sunday school. There was a consensus among the Vestry members not to address childcare currently but look to expand at a later date.

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All reopening services mentioned would take a “staggered” approach with the reopening of the 11:00 am service a priority. This would give time for infrastructure to be put in place to accommodate these reopenings.

Linda Lund, Senior Warden, Reverend Hardaway, and a group will develop a document for sending to the DWTX with prior approval from the Vestry members.

### **Goals 2021**

Reverend Hardaway noted that the Vestry members needed to be thinking of and submitting their goals regarding “what needs to be accomplished by our church in 2021.” Reverend Hardaway asked the Vestry members to submit 2-3 goals to Jenny Montgomery, Assistant to the Rector, by no later than November 2, 2020.

### **Fall Parish Meeting Review**

The Fall Parish Meeting will be held on October 18, 2020, via Zoom. Reverend Hardaway will open with a Power Point presentation, followed by the election of the proposed Vestry members, Ann Amoroso, Alice Jewell, and David Drichta (no nominations from the floor have been received, nominations are now closed.) Don Greer will report on the status/progress of the reopening of services as well as the procedures. This will be followed by a “Budget Update” from Jim Whitcomb, Treasurer. Reverend Hardaway will introduce new staff. Reverend Lucy will provide a brief Curate report. Reverend Hardaway will close with St John’s “Vision and Moving Forward into 2021” and “Thank You.”

### **Curate’s Report**

Reverend Lucy shared that on last Friday she had participated in meetings/interviews with two Bishops of Alabama, the Standing Committee, and others to complete the process of ordination. Reverend Lucy was approved, unanimously, for ordination and will be ordained as a minister at 11:00 am on December 19. Bishop Reed, DWTX will conduct the ordination. Reverend Lucy is extremely excited to begin her service as an Ordained Minister.

Reverend Lucy also shared that she had begun a Bible Study last Wednesday morning with eleven people in attendance. It was a good study and the Bible Study is off to a good start.

### **Rector’s Report**

- Staffing: Grace Symmons has been hired as the new Director of Communications for St. John’s. She will begin full time on November 3, 2020 and may do some part time work before starting.
- Calendar: Reverend Hardaway’s daughter, Mekenzie will be graduating from Texas A&M at 7:00 pm on December 19, 2020, same date as Reverend Lucy’s ordination.
- Reverend Lucy will run the entire St. John’s Church service on December 20, 2020 following her ordination to the priesthood on December 19, 2020.

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- Water leak: The water leak located under the concrete sidewalk outside the Parish Hall is currently being worked on.
- December Vestry meeting will not be held at the Rector's home due to COVID-19. The December 15, 2020 Vestry meeting will be held via Zoom.

### ACTION ITEMS

#### Financials

Mr. Whitcomb informed the Vestry members that Frost Bank had not closed out the PPP Grant to date. There is nothing wrong, Frost Bank has just not been able to accomplish this for St. John's yet. Mr. Whitcomb shared when this process is completed by Frost Bank then the "carve out" from the Unrestricted Operating Funds will be shifted to the Diocesan Investment account.

Mr. Whitcomb stated that the budget numbers looked good and that tithes and offerings were on target to meet budget. Mr. Whitcomb shared that Desiree Moultrie, Director of Finance, is doing a great job.

Mr. Whitcomb also stated that he had no update on the "water leak" charges pending but would get with Desiree Moultrie for more information.

Outreach funds showed significant progress in the allocation of funds being pushed out in September.

Mr. Whitcomb informed the Vestry members that the new budget committee is now in place and ready to build the 2021 budget for St. John's. The committee's first meeting will be October 29, 2020.

Mr. Whitcomb then presented the financials. Motion was made by Bruce Howard and seconded by Don Greer to accept the financials as presented. Motion passed.

Reverend Hardaway closed the meeting with the "Prayer of Conflict", Order of the Evening and the Lord's Prayer.

Linda Lund, Senior Warden, called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. Motion to adjourn was made by Bruce Howard and seconded by Don Greer. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Howard

**PLEASE NOTE: Next Vestry Meeting – Tuesday, November 17, 6:30 p.m.**