

Vestry Minutes
The Church of St. Michael and St. George
6345 Wydown Blvd., Clayton, Mo. 63105

Thursday, June 17, 2021

Vestry Members in Attendance: The Rev. Andrew Archie, Ian Hagemann (*Clerk*), Craig Anzilotti, Carl Eichenberger, Daniel Smith, Rachel Martens, Joe Sheehan (*Sr. Warden*), Bill Wallace, Bruce Springer, Stephanie Nash

Clergy Assistants in Attendance: None

Guests: Laurie Brown (Parish Life)

Vestry Members Not in Attendance: Harrison Hagan Heil, Kate Harris, Ruth Ezell, David Ott (*Treasurer*), Betsy Panke (*Jr. Warden*), Mary Ann Cook

Attachments/Handouts: Vestry Agenda, Vestry Minutes 5-20-21, list of adult confirmands 6-13-21, May Sunday attendance, Financial report

Proceedings: The meeting was convened by the Rector at 6:00 p.m. in the Great Hall. Fr. Andrew gave the invocation and each person gave thanks for events in their life.

Parish Life Report (Laurie Brown): There were 21 adult confirmands this year, and we have done four baptisms with one more scheduled. Four adults are waiting to take the confirmation class in the fall. Another class will be offered in the spring. We no longer require reservations for Sunday services. A large binder related to registrations was exhibited, and may be burned. Of note, we did not have to turn anyone away from indoor services due to being over capacity. Nic Ayling has agreed to be our Faith in Action coordinator. He was on the Communication Committee in the Strategic Plan and will do a great job of bringing outreach ministry heads together on a quarterly basis. Covid may have stopped some things, but not our church.

Outreach Report (Carl Eichenberger): At Mary Ann Cook's invitation, he visited the Tabernacle Community Development Corporation in North St. Louis, which has a pre-existing relationship with St. Peter's. Pastor André is their pastor. The Bishop was there to learn about ways to revitalize North St. Louis parishes instead of closing them down and selling them off. They are going to open "The Hub" in an old elementary school; it will include a Mercy urgent care center, a library, coding classes, a performing arts center, and housing counseling. Their tenets: shelter, education, and food. Of note, they are \$137,000 short and are waiting on two city grants. St. Peter's has proposed that CSMSG be involved in providing these funds. Carl will meet with his homologue Allan Ivie to determine whether anyone has done due diligence on this organization, and with the Urban League to get their perspective.

Discussion: There was robust discussion of whether we are a wealthy church. Taking on this new opportunity might go hand-in-hand with phasing out other ministries that have run their course, or could antagonize those who support them. Realistically some of our programs have lost their main advocates, or changed in other ways. Revitalizing

Faith in Action is one way to coordinate these changes. The Racial Reconciliation ministry is focused on spiritual development. Our strength may not only be the ability to contribute funds, but also parishioners' skills and talents.

Rector's Report: The conflict of interest form was circulated for signature by Vestry members. The Bishop visited last Sunday for confirmation. Currently, we have 8, 9, and 10 a.m. services. Once we no longer need to restrict seating to alternate pews, we will be able to eliminate the 9 a.m. service. Reservations are no longer required, but the Bishop has asked us to continue to wear masks. The recession will now go down the center aisle and parishioners will be able to leave through any door. Lay readers and vergers have returned at 10 a.m. and acolytes will return. The staff have been asked to be vaccinated, and it will be required of all staff who interface with parishioners. The choir is singing to the extent the Diocese will allow it.

Fr. Tom is on vacation this week and next, Fr. Andrew is away in July, and Fr. Peter will be away three weeks in August.

We are again delivering Communion to the Gatesworth and priests have resumed hospital visits.

Stewardship Report (Joe Sheehan): 292 have pledged, lower by about 30 than last year, but higher than a month ago. \$92K was raised for the Alleluia Fund. Alexis and Andrew continue to meet with parishioners on the Rectory patio. She and Kyle are filming stewardship videos for 2022. The campaign will focus on number of pledges, not dollar amounts. A discussion was held as to whether pledging should be required for membership.

Financial Report (Joe Sheehan): A mockup was circulated. Vestry members were asked to mark it up to indicate what they would like to see on a budget statement.

Discussion: These financial statements should be circulated before the meeting. However, currently, it is impossible to prepare them 3-4 days before the Vestry meets on or around the 17th of the month. Can they be circulated earlier on the day of the meeting? Realm presents some real limitations. Sonya is working hard to normalize our workflows.

Senior Warden's Report (Joe Sheehan): See above.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from 5-20-21 were reviewed. Acceptance of the minutes was moved, seconded and adopted.

New Business: None.

Upcoming Dates: The next regular Vestry meeting will be Thursday, August 26, 2021.

The Vestry adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ian Hagemann, Clerk of the Vestry