Christ Church Vestry Meeting
April 27, 2021 – via Zoom

Evening Prayer at 6:40 p.m. was led by the Rev. Noelle York-Simmons

Attending
Clergy: Noelle York-Simmons
2022: Marilyn Bromley, Bob Cady, Carol Donlan (Sr Warden), Mary Dixon Hutcheson
2023: Betsy Hahn, Brett Levanto (Jr Warden), Liz Nelson, Anne Ramsey
2024: Sean Dalton, John Grey, Elizabeth Trigg, Libby Witt
Others: Jilinda Crowley

Call to Order and Opening Prayer
The Rev. Noelle York-Simmons called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Brett Levanto offered the Opening Prayer.

Vestry Liaison Roles – Brett Levanto
Each vestry person has been assigned to be a liaison to one or two Christ Church groups. The liaison’s role is to 1) share information both ways between the group and the vestry and 2) be a “cheerleader” for the group within the parish. How involved we become depends on our level of interest. We are not the chairperson, but we can volunteer for committee tasks. Brett asked to be notified of any updates to the list of contacts. Brett asked the vestry to reach out to staff and committee leaders this week and request to be added to their email list.

Approve Expenditures for Audio Improvements – Carol Donlan
As part of refurbishing the church last summer, Robert Slye Electronics was selected from several bids to install a new system to record church services. The audio equipment needs to be updated to be compatible with the new recording system. Estimate for the upgrade is $13,665, which will include clergy microphones, a receiver and amplifier, a server and microphones in the choir loft (after the new organ is installed).

Sean Dalton moved to approve entering a contract with Robert Slye Electronics for updating the audio equipment. John Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Organ Update – Noelle York-Simmons
Because of quarantine rules and a slower rollout of the vaccine in Great Britain, we will not receive the organ until the fall. Jason is working on options for housing the installers. The large anonymous donation has not yet been received.

Our Calling, Our Campus – Noelle York-Simmons
Emily Bryan, Abas Adenan, Kathleen Hickman, Angela Mills, and Anne Reed will collect input from parishioners in two-part Zoom meetings: 1) what parishioners see as Christ Church’s gifts and calling and 2) how the Christ Church campus (especially Fowler House) should support our calling. Participants will also be asked to complete two surveys. The process will be tested on the vestry. Multiple times and days will be provided to encourage as much participation as possible.
Treasurer’s Report – Jilinda Crowley

Finances are “rock solid.” A Treasurer’s Report for the First Quarter will be provided to the parish. For the first quarter, revenue was $12,000 lower than budgeted but expenditures were $48,000 lower. The PPP (Paycheck Protection Program) loan was forgiven, making our position much better. Kudos to Controller Stephanie Woodland Kelly for getting all the paperwork done. Offerings were down $39,000 in March, but expenses were also down. We are caught up on audits through 2017. Our auditors will conduct a full audit of 2020 in the near future. How the self-check/in-house audits for 2018 and 2019 will be accomplished is still to be determined. Sean Dalton said he appreciates how easy Stephanie’s monthly vestry summaries are to follow.

Worship Report – Noelle York-Simmons

We are close to being able to have services inside the church. Marie Denslow, Shannon Finney, Dorothy Friedlander and Matt Zahn have nearly finished the petition to the Diocese for worshipping inside the church. Initially there will be Morning Prayer, no Eucharist, and no singing. Worshippers will sign up a pod (1-5 people) ahead of time and pods will sit in every other pew. No one will sit in the balcony. There are 27 pods available. Worshippers will enter from the portico door and leave through the north door; ushers will direct them to their seats. Eucharist will be outdoors at the 8 a.m. service. Noelle hopes to have services both in the church and outdoors when the Bishop visits.

Noelle has discussed how to reopen the offices with the staff. All are comfortable beginning to come back to work, given protocols such as alternating office days, masks used except in one’s office, meals in one’s office or outdoors. Noelle asks that parishioners not drop in—the front desk will not be staffed. There will not be any drop-in Lazarus assistance. There are four spaces (Meade, Auditorium, McMurray Commons and the Library) available for group meetings of up to 10 people.

Rector’s Report – Noelle York-Simmons

Lauren Banks Killelea is completing a second round of Sacred Ground. She is developing follow-on studies.

Noelle will be gone for about a month from the second week of July to the beginning of August. The Rev. Frank Wade, Rector of St. Albans, Washington, DC for 25 years, will be our supply priest.

We have surpassed the number of pledges we had in 2020. Bob Cady said all the credit should go to Anne Richardson.

At the beginning of Covid, Noelle allowed AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) to use the building with a 10-person cap. She has now raised the cap to 15.

There will be no planned Christ Church Shrine Mont parish weekend this year. However, space is available for individual use. Parishioners can coordinate so they are there together over Father’s Day weekend. Shrine Mont will try to house Christ Church people close together.
**Warden’s Report – Carol Donlan**
The Vestry History Project has made significant progress; Carol will provide an overview next month. Carol noted that Director of Children’s Ministries Ariel Rudy’s report was great this month. We have 25 applications for baptisms. Regarding liaisons, Carol encouraged all to participate as much as possible—carry our light to them and theirs back to the vestry.

**Consent Agenda**
There were no corrections to the March meeting minutes. Brett moved that the minutes be passed; Bob seconded. The motion carried.

**Announcements & Upcoming Events**
- Pentecost – May 23
- Vestry Meeting – May 25
- Bishop Visit – June 13

**Closing Prayer**
Carol Donlan offered the closing prayer.
The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.