

Vestry Minutes
May 2, 2021

PRESENT; Senior Warden Zadinga Ogada, Junior Warden Kristen Keating, Danielle Allen, Adoma Baffoe, Wadai Dennis, Arturo Rodriguez, Monty Petersen, Lauren Kingsland, Ruth Anna Skowronski, Ed Armstrong, Wendy Quijada, Gary McLaughlin (Treasurer), Andrew Kullberg (Director of Music), Bishop Mariann Budde.

Meeting opened at 2:03pm following prayer by Bishop Mariann.

Conversation with Bishop Mariann: Bishop Mariann asked what we heard as a theme from our check-in with each other. Some of the things that struck each of us as we hear from each other. Following that discussion, the Bishop asked each person in the group what was our biggest blessing and our biggest challenge. Bishop Mariann asked her final question. With Javier's installation coming up in two weeks, she wants to know what about his leadership has been a blessing. What do we hope for him and for us as we move forward?

CONSENT AGENDA: Kristen asked that we remove the worship committee report from the vestry packet since it wasn't meant to be a report. Danielle said the same for the communication report which had errors and that needs to be removed as well. Kristen moved to accept the consent agenda with the proposed changes and Danielle seconded. It passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS; Gary said that in March we had \$5,000 more than the previous two months and the expenses were \$2,000 less. It is a nice ending for the month. So far, we have \$8,000 more in income because someone gave the church \$5,000 as a gift. We are doing well. The Net income without the gift of \$5,000 is \$2,000 per month which is keeping us slightly ahead. He is paying attention to keep expenses down. Anything that needs to be done in terms of income or expense needs to be discussed and he will find a way to pay for it. There are no specified budgets for things like worship, but we can find spending money to use. In the treasure's report, there is a line item for non-operating expenses. We are not in charge of the non-operating expenses such as our endowments and it is dependent on the stock market for gains or losses.

There was discussion of the placement of the red-box so people do not miss dropping their donations. Kristen said that if people don't put anything in the red box, it doesn't necessarily mean they are not fulfilling their pledges. We have encouraged the parishioners to send donations electronically so not everyone will have an envelope or cash to drop in the box.

Re-Opening: Today's service went smoothly once the ushers figured out how to use the thermometer and people were cooperative. They followed instructions well and signed the two

forms. Padre said it was nice to see some people who did not register but showed up. They were accommodated with no problem. It was uncomfortable for him not to talk, shake hands or hug the people. Lauren asked if the guidelines for masks and singing in the pews is clear. Cantors sang with masks on. Javier confirmed that there should be no singing in the pews as stated by the Bishop at the regional meeting.

Danielle asked if the re-opening committee meeting will include discussion on Javier's installation and it was confirmed that the committee will discuss both the re-opening and installation service. The headcount was about 30 which included the ten staff. Zoom had 71 screens. The Latino service had 19 with two staff included and seven Zoom screens. We still don't know how many people watch the service on Facebook or YouTube. Danielle said there are stats we can capture but it doesn't show how many watched the service throughout. It is complicated. We don't know how many people watch on Twitter either.

Padre Javier's Installation: Kristen said that there was no decision made on the number of people to allow for the service. With about 11 staff members, we can increase the number of people to allow for the installation service. She is hoping that today's service and the following week's service will give us a good feel of how many to allow. Today it looked pretty safe because there were a lot of empty spaces. It is not against the rules to have 80 people in the sanctuary. The question is, do we want people to be seated that close to each other? It will be first come, first serve for space.

NEW BUSINESS:

HVAC: Reference was made to the proposal in the packet. It is more than the heating system that needs fixing. It is all the things we need to make the air circulate. In 2016 the ducts were disconnected. The current heating system is set up to force the air up through the floor, heat will rise. It has not worked as anticipated. We now have to spend \$13,600 to rectify the problem. We may have to ask for itemization. Kristen suggested that the first thing we have to do is fix the fresh air problem because it makes the space safer during the pandemic when the air is circulating. Kristen would like to suggest we do the whole thing, but she is not sure we have the money on top what we need for the fire panel. The whole cost is about \$28,579 for the fire panel. The HVAC alone is \$13,600. Gary said that we need to get it done. He also said that if we are working with the same company that disconnected the ducts, we should ask them to fix it first. Randall may be able to itemize the problems and prioritize. The system will be inspected tomorrow, and they will turn the air conditioner on, so we need to fix it to get fresh air in. After discussion about what the monies represent and what payments have been made previously, Arturo suggested we table the discussion until later. Monty would like to speak to Randall a bit more before the work is done. It was agreed that we wait a month to discuss the HVAC issue again. Kristen suggested we ask HVAC to give us a proposal on the fresh air part because we shouldn't wait a month to fix that. Both Monty and Javier agreed.

OPEN MIC; Zadinga stated that, a couple of years ago, we did the meal packaging event for Rise Against Hunger to support the hungry. They reached out to us to find out if we want to do it again this year (10,000 lunches). We should start thinking about it and not necessarily

supporting this international organization but also how to support our own community. This will be a long-term conversation.

The Seventh Day Adventist group wants to have a memorial/funeral that starts at 6PM next Saturday night through 6AM on Sunday morning and their pastor would like to know if we will allow it. We will restrict the number of people that can attend. Maximum for the chapel is 100 so 50% 50 people. Do we want to allow it with capacity limits? Gary suggested that Padre approve it. Padre decided he will call their pastor and discuss it.

Danielle said that the RESJ committee wants to know if there will be cross sectional meetings with the other committees. Javier asked that Laurie Yelle (RESJ co-chair) give him a month to set it up.

ADJOURNMENT: Danielle motioned that we adjourn the meeting and Monty seconded. It passed unanimously. Gary provided closing prayer.

The meeting ended at 4:14pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Ophelia Yalley-Ogunro
Secretary of the Vestry