

### **Vestry Meeting May 21, 2021 @ 1 pm (virtual via Zoom)**

In attendance: Nancy Emmel Gunn, John Eads, Liam Clements, Margarita Tschomakoff, Ann Balsamo, Steve Hoepflinger, Jeff McIntire-Strasburg, Anna Hall, Brent Brower-Toland & Ann Quay Rushing, Reverend Michael Dunnington.

Opening Prayer, Nancy Emmel Gunn

### **Guest Presenter, Canon Doris Westfall (joins us via zoom)**

- Canon Doris presents a powerpoint reviewing the funding totals that the diocese has given in support of St. John's over the past ten years (totaling \$593,000). The Bishop has decided not to provide extra funding support to St. John's that would enable the church to afford a full time clergy. Making up the needed funds to pay a priest full time is not something they can do at this time. The Bishop would like to see St. John's discern the following questions:
  - What is St. John's known for?
  - What is St. John's unique ministry in the neighborhood?
  - What does St. John's strive to be in 1 year? 5 years? 10 years?
  - What assets are available/present at St. John's?
- Canon Doris provided a list of Diocesan resources available to St. John's that can assist with strategic planning, goal setting, and assist with "stable footing" to help us move forward. Training can also be provided for community listening sessions.
- St. John's receives more funding than any other church in the diocese.
- Vestry members ask about concrete steps in moving forward. And further emphasize that a consistent leader is something that the parish needs. Canon Doris replies, "I have no doubt you are going to get a priest." For now, the church can afford a priest at 20 hours/week.

**Vestry moved outside in the Wainright courtyard for the remainder of the meeting.**

**John Eads motions to accept the minutes from April. Anna Hall seconds, unanimous acceptance of the minutes.**

**Appreciations were spoken**

### **Budget - Ann Balsamo/Judy Headley, Treasurer**

- Income level is low and expenses are low.
- Is there a total number of people that are signed up for automatic payment? It would be great to have a campaign for more people to sign up for an automatic withdrawal. This can ensure predictability and consistency.
- Rental income is something we accounted for, and no one has started renting yet. The ad is on Craigslist. Buildings and Grounds crew will follow up with anyone interested in seeing the place. Can a sign be put up outside the building advertising available office space for rent? Reach out to Alyce Bullock to up the advertising.

### **Finance Committee - Ann Balsamo**

- Ann will reach out to fellow parishioner to chair the committee. Steve is interested as well as Judy.
- Suggestion of a stewardship budget - assigning each line item as a ministry component
- Each meeting should review monthly deliverables from the budget
- There is a conversation with another congregation (African Anglican) to share the sanctuary.

**Letter of support to Dave Malek was passed around for Vestry to sign.**

### **Reopening Plan review - Ann Quay**

- We will be meeting outside again next week, 5/23, then the following weeks after will be inside. The pews have been taped off. Masks will be required inside, and no singing of the congregation permitted.
- We will have no coffee or food, but ask that people congregate outside for visiting after the service.
- After the summer, we can begin discussing when to recruit nursery workers again for the young children. This can coincide with any children's education programs that may start back up in the fall.

### **Vestry social event - John Eads**

- Now that we are able to meet in person, the group suggested having a Vestry social event to catch up and get to know Reverend Michael Dunnington.
- Anna Hall will send out a doodle calendar with potential dates to have an event - outside in the Wainright Courtyard.

### **Loose Ends -**

- We need to revisit a conversation about having a fundraising event. What about a fish fry? Partner with Welcome Neighbor StL for a fundraising event to support both organizations?