

The April 13, 2021 vestry meeting of Emmanuel Episcopal Church was called to order via Zoom with reflection and prayer at 5:43 p.m. Fr. Joe shared an article from the *Anglican Theological Review* about a priest, Frances Maynard, from Champlain, Illinois who was an avid traveler and her observations in France in the last twenty years. The vitality of the church in a widely secular, post-Christian society had the following factors in common across the different thriving ministries: they engage in intentional formation and teaching of the faith; they are rooted in prayer and worship; they understand the importance of beauty they engage in pilgrimage; and they reflect the influence of neomonasticism.

**Members present:** Lark Adams, Megan Clark, Jo Anne Hairston, Janet Jayne, Scott Lamie, Rachel Morgan, Ed Powers, Candy Snodgrass. Clergy: Rev. Joe Dunagan. Staff members: Kristie McElheny, Adriel Slaughter, Stephanie Yoder.

**Members absent:** Charlie Christ, Daniel Shew, Cher Young, Dave Zochowski

The minutes from the March 16, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved.

Rector – Fr. Joe Dunagan

- Average attendance for March: 40 Saturday/Sunday; 73 livestream; 7 Wednesday.
- Reviewed financials for March 2021 and the reports are attached to the minutes.
- Fr. Joe is concerned about attendance the weekend of Pentecost Sunday. With the new organ being available that weekend, there could be too many people to fit into the church. Fr. Joe asked that a few vestry members be available to help usher. Stephanie Yoder is going to play at all three services that weekend to give parishioners more options to hear the new instrument. Candy Snodgrass and Maggie Green will usher at the Saturday vigil. Rachel and Mark Morgan will usher at the Sunday, 10:30 a.m. service.

Senior Warden – Candy Snodgrass

- The virtual parish meeting is Thursday, April 22 at 5:30 p.m. Candy requested every vestry member attend the meeting.
- We still need \$70,004 to finish paying for the organ.
- Motion made by Candy Snodgrass: 1) use the balance of available funds from property endowment (after completion of the undercroft) to assist with payment for the organ; 2) send \$5,000 from mission endowment to Mountain Mission School, and 3) provide \$1000 from scholarship endowment for Dustin Ashley's tuition at Milligan College. Second provided by Rachel Morgan. Motion passed unanimously.
- A couple of people have volunteered to serve on the rewrite of the Endowment Committee.
- The group planning the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the church has yet to meet but the celebration is tentatively scheduled for October 2021.

Junior Warden – No report.

- The rector gave the Junior Warden's report concerning completion of work on the undercroft. The new sump pump and dehumidifier have worked well during the recent heavy rains. New flooring has been ordered. The flooring is warranted against water damage. It will be delivered this week for installation next week by the same contractors who did the framing, drywall, and painting, Doug and Shannon Combs.

Treasurer – No report.

Secretary – Lark Adams - No report.

Staff Reports

Organist and Choir Director – Stephanie Yoder.

- Brad Colby will have a crew on site starting May 3 and everything wrapped up by the end of May. The organ will be available Pentecost Sunday (May 23) with a few tuning items the next week.
- Provided a quote for new chimes and the potential to incorporate a chime class to parishioners. This new set would add two more octaves to the set we currently own. The quote for \$5,308 is attached to the minutes. After some discussion, it was decided to revisit this in the fall after the organ has been fully funded.

Director of Formation Ministries – Adriel Slaughter

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd:**

- We have continued meeting virtually on Sunday mornings at 9:45. It's been a small but committed group.
- I have set a Zoom meeting with parents on 4/26 at 5pm to discuss what Fall 2021 will look like and to address any concerns or questions that parents have. I have asked parents to consider what they want formation at Emmanuel to look like. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd requires a strong commitment from families and while it seems like it is demanding due to the required training, one of the benefits is that once the training is completed, it is somewhat

self-sustaining and I will attest to its power. I learned so much about faith and what it means to be Episcopal through the training I have done. It has made me more patient as a parent and I continue to watch with wonder the things that the children share.

- The plan is to meet virtually in April and then to meet once more, hopefully in person, before we reconvene in the fall.

#### **Youth:**

- I am continuing to produce weekly videos - they are reflections on the reading for the week. I have enjoyed doing some research and posing questions for youth to hopefully engage with themselves and with their families. If you would like to see any of the videos, just let me know. They are texted to parents and also posted on the Youth Facebook page (which no youth see but several parents do). I plan to have the same meetings with youth families that I am having with CGS — youth formation does not require the same training but it does involve a level of commitment.

#### **Professional Development:**

I have participated in several webinars over the last few months and have several scheduled in the near future. If you would like to hear more about any of these, just let me know:

- Faith Formation (Mar 11, 18)
- Ibrahim X Kendi “How to Be an Antiracist” via SWVA Diocese / Maryland (Mar 24)
- Pentecost @ Home (April 15)
- Vacation Bible School for the whole parish (April 19)
- Gathering on Sacred Ground with Bishop Michael Curry (April 27)
- Empowering Parents to Practice Faith at Home: A Ministry Leader Workshop (May 5)

#### **Parish Administrator – Kristie McElheny**

- Attended an all-day Parish Administrators webinar with the diocese. Church Pension Group is placing more responsibility on the parish administrators instead of diocesan staff. Enabling local administrators with access to the CPG portal should help reduce errors with employee benefits and employment information.
- 2021 first quarter contribution statements have been mailed.
- Purchased and set up the webinar package with Zoom. With the webinar add on we can 1) have participants register for the meeting and track attendance; 2) post the slate of 2021-2023 vestry candidates in a digital poll for voting, 3) get quicker results from the vote, 4) record the entirety of the meeting.
- Next vestry meeting is Tuesday, May 11 at 5:30 via Zoom.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

#### **Upcoming Vestry meetings**

Tuesday, June 8

Tuesday, July 13

Tuesday, August 10

Tuesday, September 14

Tuesday, October 12

Tuesday, November 9

Sunday, November 14, 9:00 a.m. Annual Parish Meeting

Saturday, December 4 - Vestry retreat