**Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church**

**Vestry Meeting Minutes**

**April 21, 2020**

**Vestry present: Vestry absent:**

Burdette Keeland, Senior Warden

Kristie Van Arsdel, Junior Warden

Rita Justice

Barbara Hass

Gretta Boshara

Steven Killworth

Susannah Webb

Randy Byrd

Shannon Westin

Mike Murphy

David Robinson

Libby Spoede

Rand Key

Kelly Williams

Al Hergenroeder

**Clergy present**

The Rev. Neil Willard

The Rev. Liz Parker

The Rev. David Wantland

The meeting started at 5:30 pm by Zoom and ended at 6:35 pm.

**Opening Prayer**: David Robinson

**Minutes:** The minutes of March 24, 2020 were accepted with two amendments: Libby is on the Worship Council and Rita is on the Stewardship Committee.

**Community Sharing:** There was community sharing from several members.

**Committee Updates:**

**Communications Council:** Kristie Van Arsdel. There were six items that she highlighted including:

* Increased web traffic
* The bells are ringing to pay tribute to medical center employees Monday through Friday at 6:30 AM and 7:30 PM and every 15 minutes during the hour
* The Palmer is now being published on Fridays
* Four new blogs are being offered by a variety of people
* The Dinner and Discussion Group and Catherine Meeks events were held by zoom
* There will be a collection of Palmer offerings in the zoom meeting format, including Bible Studies

**Evangelism Council:** Shannon Westin. Shannon’s printed report included:

* There are four weekly bible studies
* The newcomers class “This Is Us” is being offered Sundays at 9 AM
* There’s a Palmer parents and guardians Zoom meeting on Mondays at 8:30
* There are youth meetings – Game Night 6 PM on Tuesdays and Bible Study 6 PM on Thursdays
* The conversation with Catherine Meeks included 30 households
* The first online meeting of a Friday Dinner and Discussion Group was held with Mark Jones
* Roger is offering “Creating Our Way Through,“ five films of art and salvation
* The Loaves and Fishes ministry continues to do outreach service for grocery and pharmacy runs

**Stewardship Committee:** Burdette Keeland, Rita Justice, Rand Key and David Wantland. A zoom meeting will be set up with Roger Hutchison to review the committee membership.

**Worship Council:** Steven Killworth and Libby Spoede. The council met in April to try to arrange worship services for Easter week and they were a success by all counts, even exceeding expectations.

**Outreach Council:** Kelly Williams and Barbara Hass. The committee continues to try to be in touch with the community. Right now community agencies need money. Palmer activities include:

* Sending two checks to the EAC and money to support the men in the PARS program
* Eight Palmers are making masks and getting them to physicians’ offices
* The diocese has published guidelines for outreach, including do not re-create what is already in place, such as support the food bank rather than doing our own food distribution, keeping social distance, and reaching out to those in social isolation
* There was discussion of a virtual Serve Sunday and possibly working with “kids meals”

**Buildings and Grounds:** David Robinson and Gretta Boshara. There’s a new washer for the rectory and new locks on the patio gates. They will pursue funding for these improvements through Shannon and the Evangelism Council. There is a plea to maintain the church rose garden in honor of Stewart and Angie Kensinger and the Tellepsen family.

**Junior Warden:** Kristie Van Arsdel said there will be a Wardens’ Update by email which will give the parish an update on the finances.

**Finance:** Burdette Keeland and Michael Murphy. The church received a $143,600 Payroll Protection Plan loan which will be forgiven. This was awarded yesterday. The Endowment added another $92,000; with the expense decrease from $182,000 to $146,000 we are on budget. The sextons and security staff are working Tuesday and Thursdays and have received bonuses to help cover their expenses. The EAC was unintentionally left off of our budget for this year and a check is been cut for $3,500 from designated funds.

**Senior Warden:** Burdett Keeland said there might be a Vestry Retreat this fall.

**Rector:** Neil said the bishop is to come on May 3 through a pre-recorded a sermon; he will also speak with Liz Parker’s This Is Us group by zoom. There were discussions about how Palmer will evolve coming out of the COVID pandemic. There were discussions about how Archway Academy will look this summer – it will be online. There was also discussion about how the German preschool will operate in the summer.

**Associate Rectors:**

Liz Parker. Pastorally, most of the important work is to help people feel connected so a series of calls are being made by Stephen Ministers, the clergy and others. A second round of calls is beginning. Gretta has made 50 calls. Also, a zoom coffee hour is beginning on Sundays at 11 AM after the 10:00 recorded service.

David Wantland. David’s report focused on virtual worship and trying to be dynamic at the same time.

 **Other:**  Jeff Bohanski is progressing to become a dual vocational priest; his next step will be to become a transitional deacon. The Vestry plans to send its support of Jeff to Father Willard for the Diocese.