

Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting Minutes
June 21, 2022

Vestry present:

David Robinson, Senior Warden
Danna Kurtin, Junior Warden
David Candler
Margie Dieter
Melanie Fahey
Abigail Follmar
Rand Key
Jim Rosenbach
Libby Spoede
Andy Williams
Lam Yu

Vestry absent:

The Rev. Neil Willard
Pam Harvey
Bet Hunter
Posey Saenz
Marie Wehrung

Clergy present:

The Rev. Ryan Hawthorne

Clergy absent:

The Rev. Jack Karn

The hybrid in person and virtual meeting started at 5:32 pm and ended at 7:07 pm.

1. **Opening Prayer.** Danna opened the meeting in prayer.
2. **Community Sharing.** David R. encouraged community sharing.
3. **Dwelling in the Word.** Galatians was used for the exercise.
4. **Approval of Minutes.** The minutes from May 17, 2022 were approved with no corrections. Motion by Abigail, second by Rand, and the vestry voted to approve the minutes.
5. **Vestry Councils.**
 - a. **Good News.** Lam reported that the council has not met since the previous meeting but there has been overlap with outreach council for the summer activities.
 - b. **Worship.** Andy said that as of Trinity Sunday, the 10am service will change to Rite I until August 7th. There have been discussions to continue with the summer schedule through the fall (with 8am and 10am services only) and the Rite I and II will change every 6-8 weeks. The 8 am service will be a spoken service. The council will resume meeting in August. There will be relief priests present for a few services to support Ryan and Jack during the summer. Ryan said the summer schedule has been conducive to regathering and Jim added that it is helpful for getting enough volunteer support. There was also concern expressed with what reducing the number of services conveys about the health of Palmer. The 4 pm service may resume in September when school starts. At the end of the year, the change in service times could be re-evaluated.
 - c. **Outreach.** Rand stated there has not been a meeting since the last vestry meeting. Danna said that there is a food drive event that Palmer may be invited to participate in with other church communities. Jerusalem Peace Builders events will be held this summer headed up by Jack at Camp Allen and Palmer.
 - d. **Communications.** Melanie said the council continues to meet monthly and push out information about upcoming events over the summer.
 - e. **Building/Grounds.** David C. said the 2 unplanned expenses for a chiller compressor (~\$15,000) and Nave ceiling (~\$24,000) have been the main focus. Tara is working with

Trane about the chiller as it was not expected to fail so soon. There have been discussions on how to raise funds for these unexpected expenses. David R. encouraged a larger strategic plan in place that is in coordination with the fall stewardship campaign. Ryan suggested education before stewardship on where funds go to support the entire parish in operational funds vs restricted funds.

- f. **Finance.** David R. relayed the report from Pam and Posey, with the discussion on how to pay for the 2 unexpected building repairs with an ongoing deficit.
 - g. **Stewardship.** Margie reported they are working to recruit people for the committee, but the committee will start meeting next week. Margie has been working to compile data in preparation for the upcoming stewardship season. She noted there are fewer pledges but the pledge amount is higher and emphasized the smaller gifts are just as great as the larger gifts. There was brainstorming and discussion regarding vestry campaign strategies.
- 6. Warden Reports**
- a. **Senior Warden.** David reported that the Bishop Quin foundation gave a \$50,000 grant to the visioning project. Additionally, \$20,000 has been provided by anonymous parishioners so the funding has been met for the project.
 - b. **Junior Warden.** Danna and Ryan discussed with Tucker on having a friendlier name than a “strategic process” and came up with some options for a tagline. Email Danna with suggestions.
- 7. Clergy Reports**
- a. **The Rev. Ryan Hawthorne.**
 - i. Palmer is participating in Pride this Saturday with 5 other churches to represent the Episcopal church.
 - ii. The database verification and updates has been successful so far, but the work is ongoing. To encourage participation, nametags will be created after people have verified their information. There are upcoming weddings and baptisms in the next several months.
 - iii. Since mid-May, the attendance has been low to no people for the 4 pm service. Ryan would like to suspend the service until September. The vestry supported suspending the 4 pm service for the remainder of the summer.
- 8. Old Business.** David R. will inquire with the diocese about meeting with other vestries as suggested by the bishop in his meeting with the vestry.
- 9. New Business.** None.
- 10. Closing Prayer.** Ryan closed the meeting in prayer.