

St. Stephen's Vestry Meeting

May 11, 2021

The meeting began at 7:15 via Zoom.

Present: Craig Reynolds, Rev. Nina Pooley, Leah Luczynski, Chris Plankey, Wendy Webster Coakley, Mark Miller, Erin Sullivan, John Culver, Valerie Andersen, Angela Moon

Welcome and opening prayer: Rev. Dr. Nina Pooley opened with a prayer.

Approval of Minutes: John Culver motioned and Wendy Coakley seconded the minutes be approved for the April meeting.

Clerk's Report: We need delegates to the diocesan convention

Treasurer's Report: Leah Luczynski

Rector's Report - Rev. Dr. Nina Pooley

- a. Looking at worship through May: Erin, Craig and Nina met to discuss May worship. May 16th will be a parking lot worship with Zion and Cathedral of the Beloved. For Pentecost, Nina has talked to Michael Tuck at St. Helena's and Jenny Gregg. We might share worship outdoors at St. Helena's. This would be a 10:00 service with St. Helena's parish joining us. Parishioners can bring food and have a picnic afterwards. May 30th will be online only.

- b. Guidelines for pastoral visitations were given, so that we can move forward safely.
- c. Working teams- Please, email Nina if you have a preference of a group to join. We can take care of the building this summer and really make it ready.
- d. Member engagement: How are we going to contact everyone and make connections?
- e. Strategic vision: How do we make a strategic plan with Vestry and Search committee or Profile committee members that builds from the great work that these groups have already done?
- f. Spiritual formation: Social justice and racial justice group possibly with Paula Morey and Susan Wojtaskik. Sacred Ground is an Episcopal film based program around race and faith that we can run. We could have a book group using a book that would describe actions that the community could do.
- g. Feedback: Nina is looking for ways to have meaningful feedback and a structure to make this easy and ongoing.

Regathering Conversation: Nina, Erin, Craig, and Sarah have been trying to plan.

There is careful consideration about safety and making sure that opening the church is inclusive to all who want to gather. There is a wide range of scenarios to look at that would safely allow for gathering in the building. Diocese does not have a single blueprint in place about how to re-open. Some churches in the diocese have reopened with similar safety protocols that we had during the time that we were reopened last Summer. It was noted that some parishioners felt there was a lack of communication about the plans to reopen. June 6th is a potential reopen date. What time would we have services? Should we plan a separate time for kids and youth? There was lots of passion about going back to church. Maybe we could advertise a family church. Chris talked about ways to teach parishioners about safety protocols. 9:00 service in person in the summer. Maybe once a month family service. Possibly opening up the coloring tables? How will families feel welcome/ no nursery at this time.

Warden's Report:

Property Committee – Chris Plankey reported that, most recently, the property committee got Nina's office ready in time for her arrival. Bill Carter has come in and done a few things. The property committee is eager to get back in the building. The boilers are going to be worked on when we are certain that we do not need heat anymore.

Stewardship -Valerie Andersen: No meeting in April

Action items: Vestry members should email Nina about which group they would like to join or they will have a group picked for them.

Closing: After a closing prayer from Ephesians by Reverend Nina, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Moon