

The Episcopal Parish Church of Saint Michael & All Angels

3233 Pacific View Drive
Corona del Mar, CA 92625

The Rev. Susan Pinkerton, Interim Priest in Charge

Minutes of the Zoom Vestry Meeting Dec. 14, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rector – the Rev. Susan Pinkerton
The Rev. Barbara Stewart
Treasurer – Jan Faller
Clerk – Susan Brown
Christian Education – Anne Conover
Stewardship – Keith Lumpkin

Senior Warden – Louise Stover
Communications – Clyde Dodge
Junior Warden Jim Palda
Ombudsperson – Steve Morris
Mission – Mary Bailey

Absent –Gail Haghjoo (Fellowship)

Buildings & Grounds – empty
Evangelism – empty

1. Opening
 - 1.1. Prayer by Barbara Stewart opened the meeting at 5:34 p.m.
 - 1.2. The Dwelling in the Word, led by Susan Brown, came from Matthew 13:10-17 on the Matthew Effect.
2. Matters of General Consent
 - 2.1 Minutes of the Vestry meeting of Nov. 9 were accepted as submitted.
 - 2.2 Reports of commissions were accepted.
 - 2.3 Upcoming Parish Events
 - 2.3.1 Worship commission agreed to two services beginning Jan. 2 at 8 and 10 a.m. as a pilot and will revisit this in February. While some were concerned that even one service was not full, others thought the flexibility of two services would draw more parishioners.
 - 2.3.2 All inside activities will require a mask as of Wednesday (Dec. 15) per the state of California.
 - 2.3.3. The staff meeting will discuss the role of the choir on Christmas Eve in case we need to adapt.

2.4.4 Zoom services will continue and should gradually become more polished.

3. New Business

3.1 Clergy Housing

3.1.1 The Vestry unanimously passes its annual resolution on the parsonage allowance. Steve Morris moved for passage, and Clyde Dodge seconded. The wording of the resolution is as follows:

Whereas the Rev'd Susan B. Pinkerton is employed as a minister of the Gospel by St. Michael's and All Angels Episcopal Church, Corona del Mar, CA, which does not provide a residence for her, the Vestry resolves that of the total compensation of \$40,650 (salary, housing allowance and Social Security allowance) to be paid the Rev. Pinkerton during 2022, that \$20,000 be designated a parsonage allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the IRS Code of 1986; but, in any event, until further notice the parsonage allowance shall be \$1,667.00 per month.

4. Reports of Officers

4.1 Interim Priest in Charge (Susan Pinkerton)

- 4.1.1 Susan Pinkerton and Melinda Rader are organizing a newcomer packet and hope to hold a gathering for newcomers around Epiphany. Vestry members are welcome.
- 4.1.2 A letter is going out about Christmas services.
- 4.1.3 We are using the calendar to avoid double-booking. Vestry commissions will get place markers for their events. Adult education can be scheduled for 9 a.m. if we have two Sunday services.

4.2 Senior Warden (Louise Stover)

- 4.2.1 We have signed a deal with Verizon to upgrade their equipment. Maile and Susan Pinkerton are trying to schedule the work, and once that is complete, we will bring in a service to repair the leaky roof.
- 4.2.2 Vestry commissions should think about their contributions to the annual report.

4.3 Junior Warden - Jim Palda

- 4.2.3 Attendance is running around 70 to 80 people every Sunday, including Zoom.

4.4 Ombudsperson – Steve Morris

- 4.4.1 An announcement about seeking rides to church has gone out. So far, one person in Irvine needs a ride, but nobody has volunteered.

4.5 Clerk – Susan Brown – no report

5. Finance Commission

5.1 Stewardship (Keith Lumpkin):

5.1.1 As of now, we are \$37,000 short of our budget. But last December, we got more than \$31,000 in pledges, so the gap should close. Fifty-eight percent of pledges have renewed, and we received new pledges, so we are 86 percent of our way to our \$290,000 goal. If we get more than half of the pledges in from people who haven't renewed – some of whom have died – we should make our goal. At the suggestion of the Finance committee, he will provide a weekly update for the bulletin.

5.2 Income (Jan Faller)

5.2.1 Year-to-date income is ahead by \$25,000 as of the end of November, thanks in part to a \$10,000 donation that was not part of pledges. Pledge income was somewhat lower in November, as it usually is, and is expected to normalize in December.

5.3 Budget update

5.3.1 Finance commission and Maile have adjusted the 2022 budget, which resembles the 2021 budget except for the rise in the rector's compensation. That compensation, even for only part of the year, will lead to more trouble in passing a balanced budget. We will review line items at the next Vestry meeting and are approaching a time to consider the imbalance of income and expenses. Our reserve keeps us in manageable place, but the revenue streams from St. Monica's and Harbor Day School will end.

5.3.2 The presence of the gym and other facilities as well as nearly four acres gives the parish opportunity to try many new ventures, such as community gardens or Section 8 housing. The diocese also offers training in use of church properties. Steve Morris offers to serve on any committee set up to consider how to gain revenue from the property.

5.4 Diocesan Audit

5.4.1 The Finance commission is reviewing the transition audit report from Daniel Valdez and may need to seek clarification on some of the observations before showing the Vestry the audit and the accompanying notes. There were no red flags. Parish size governs what some kinds of things parishes can do; we have grey areas.

5.5 Organ repairs

5.5.1 The organ needs two types of costly repairs. The first repair would make it functional. Thanks to a donor, that \$6,000 cost is covered. In addition, the organ will need an overhaul, which Susan Pinkerton and Ray Urwin are discussing. One estimate for that overhaul is \$50,000.

5.6 Confirmation of spending

- 5.6.1 Jan Faller seeks confirmation that budgeted items don't need spending approval. No one responded.
- 5.6.2 Absent any objection, the \$500 continuing education scholarship for Susan Caldwell will be applied to her doctoral studies. The money could not be used this year for continuing education like Godly Play. The expense is already approved and would be considered a gift from the parish rather than money from a continuing education fund.
- 5.6.3 Jan Faller moves to spend \$2,500 for electrical work in the parking lot and outdoor signage. Steve Morris seconds. The motion carries unanimously.
- 5.6.4 The Finance commission recommended \$1,500 as a threshold for approving expenses that have not been included in a budget before letting the Vestry know. Jan Faller moves to permit the Finance commission to authorize unbudgeted expenses from designated funds up to \$1,500 and then advise the Vestry. Jim Palda seconds. The motion carries, with one opposed.

6. Old business

6.1 Rector search

- 6.1.1 Corrections have been made to the Parish profile.
- 6.1.2 The Vestry determines the geographical scope of the search, since moving costs vary, and decides whether to pay for an extra listing in the search process. The Vestry also must complete a form from the National Church OTM (Office of Transition Ministry). To speed up this latter task, Louise Stover recommends the following people to answer the following questions:

1. [Clyde/Louise](#) Describe a moment in your worshipping community's recent ministry that you recognize as one of success and fulfillment.
2. [Clyde/Louise](#) How are you preparing yourselves for the Church of the future?
3. [Clyde/Louise](#) Please provide words describing the gifts and skills essential to the future leaders of your worshipping community.
4. [Steve](#) Describe your liturgical style and practice for all types of worship in your community.
5. [Steve](#) How do you practice incorporating others in ministry?
6. [Clyde/Louise](#) As a worshipping community, how do you care for your spiritual, emotional and physical well-being?
7. [Mary](#) How do you engage in pastoral care [[i.e. Mission](#)] for those beyond your worshipping community?
8. [Clyde/Louise](#) Describe your worshipping community's involvement in either the wider Church or geographical community.
9. [Mary](#) Tell about a ministry that your worshipping community has initiated in the past 5 years. Who can be contacted about this project?
10. [Keith](#) What is your practice of stewardship and how does it shape the life of your worshipping community?
11. [Clyde/Louise](#) What is your worshipping community's experience of conflict?
12. [Clyde/Louise](#) What is your experience leading/addressing change in the church? When has it gone well? When has it gone poorly? And what did you learn?

- 6.1.3 The posting for the rector gets posted.
- 6.1.4 The search committee will be confirmed; so far, of 17 invitations for a committee of six to nine members, five have accepted, six declined, two are considering, and four have not replied.

6.2 Vestry nominations

- 6.2.1 These are Brooke Pauley for Communications, Margie Blevins for Christian Education, Stacie Tibbetts for Finance, and Collette Spence for clerk. Evangelism and Buildings and Grounds remain open. Susan Pinkerton seeks suggestions.

6.3 New bylaws and staggered terms

- 6.3.1 These issues were tabled until January.

6.4 Next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 18 [NB: This was a slip of the tongue I failed to question; it should have been Jan. 11 -- skb]

7 Concluding prayer by Susan Pinkerton at 7:09 p.m.