

## Grace Episcopal Cathedral Minutes of the Vestry Meeting – September 15, 2020

**Present:** Rick Backlund, Brenda Kebert, Tammy King, Cyndi Langston, Ron Langston, Dean Torey Lightcap, Mother Ashley Mather, Gwen McClain, Lance Royer, Chris Shermoen, Susan Weber

The meeting (held via Zoom due to the COVID 19 pandemic) opened with prayer.

**August Minutes:** *A motion was made and seconded to accept the August 2020 vestry minutes as presented.* Motion unanimously carried.

**Treasurer's report:** For the month of August, operating income was \$110,936.74 and operating expense was \$75,830.56, resulting in a positive balance of \$35,106.18. Operating income for the year to date is \$616,206.83 and operating expense was \$506,791.57, resulting in a positive balance of \$109,415.26. Cash in the bank on August 31, 2020 was \$216,850.90.

Income included a pledge payment of \$10,000, and \$46,500 from the Episcopal Endowment Fund. The large amount in the checking account is attributed to a \$51,000 deposit from the Evelyn Meade Fund. Lance and Kent had decided to leave it in checking for a short time but it can now be moved to the Capital Federal Special account. There was also an issue with checks paid to vendors that haven't been cashed. Expenses are down and income is about where it should be.

Dean Torey says he and Kent have been working on opening the Cathedral's Facebook page as an income vehicle. After qualifying as a non-profit with Facebook, we can now have fundraisers through Facebook for a nominal fee.

*A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report.* Motion unanimously carried.

**Current status of parish:** The dean reported that we will continue to hold outdoor services in September but plan to move inside the Cathedral beginning in October. After meeting with Shawnee County Emergency Management Director Dusty Nicols, it was determined that we could safely seat 126 people in the pews for one Sunday service. If things move in a positive direction, clergy would like to hold Communion of one kind in November.

### Reports from Vestry reps:

- **Outreach:** Gwen reported that the Cathedral parking lot will serve as a distribution site for the Topeka Rescue Mission's "Operation Food Secure" program on Saturday mornings in September and October.

She also reported on Outreach allocations so far this year: \$2000 to Topeka JUMP; \$5000 to Doorstep, \$451 to Let's Help; \$1927 to the Saturday Sack Lunch Ministry; \$7500 to the Topeka Rescue Mission (housing and food for homeless); \$200 to the Daughters of the King (assistance with a Topeka High project); and \$300 to Topeka High School (gift cards for personal care supplies). Concern was expressed by some vestry members regarding a lack of inclusiveness at the Topeka Rescue Mission. Gwen said Outreach Committee members were unaware of this. Gwen and the dean will continue the discussion about this subject.

The dean said he and Mother Ashley have been in discussion with Marilyn Trubey regarding a "blanket ministry" at the Cathedral. Marilyn is getting ideas and will bring them to the Outreach Committee.

- **Stephen Ministry:** Gwen reported that the Cathedral's Stephen Ministers have sent 67 cards to people, made 165 phone calls and 49 visits since January. However not many visits have been made since March due to COVID.

**Curate report:** Mother Ashley reported that she is working on a Blessing of the Animals service to be held October 4.

**Dean's report:** The dean reported that two socially-distanced weddings were held in the Cathedral this summer. Coming up, there will be a small memorial service in the Cathedral and a committal service in the columbarium.

No other business to report.

Vestry adjourned. The next vestry meeting will be Tuesday, October 20, 5:30 p.m., via Zoom.

— Respectfully submitted by Connie Vosburgh, *Vestry Recorder*