

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting

April 3, 2022

Members Present: Rev. Keith Yamamoto, Nick Adams, Carol Morgan, Sharon Muehlbacher, Marcia Godwin, Jay Chok, Karin Brown, Dean Billman, Kimberly Cortner, Barbara Nalbach, Vicki Levario (clerk)

Members Absent: None

Meeting called to order at 1:05 PM

Jay Chok gave the opening prayer.

Spiritual Development: Kimberly Cortner talked about this morning's newcomer session. She presented a prayer in song.

Leadership Development: Karin Brown discussed the types of leadership continuing on with her presentations previously. Goal is to create ownership and community among the parishioners rather than leading them. Teaching, guiding and supporting is key. See attached presentation. Karin sent out a survey for all to complete previously. Responses were:

- Roles and responsibilities of leaders – 5
- Working as a team – 5
- Financial management – 3
- Property management – 5
- Human resource management – 4
- Safeguarding our community – 0
- Stewardship and vision – 5
- Addressing conflict in Christian community – 5

Approval of Agenda

Consent Agenda – M/S/A

Finance – Church and school financial statements for file and audit for February – Approved

Three flower funds requested to be combined (Easter, Christmas, General) by Finance Committee. Suggested that we educate our parishioners about flower funds and how monies are used as well as donations for memorial tributes. Motion approved.

Old Business – Appreciation for the 7 preschool staff members: Jay Chok asked for ideas to show appreciation for the staff. Amazon gift cards, Annual Teacher Appreciation Week is coming up, solicit the congregation for contributions for flowers, morning coffee for parents and staff weekly, inviting them to attend church to keep the door open to them, do something different each day that week, Lakeshore Learning gift cards, salon gift cards, need to show the appropriate admiration for their commitment, on-line card to show appreciation to include graduates as well, seasonal baskets from Armstrong Nursery, ask them what their order is the day before for Starbucks so they get what they want. Teacher Appreciation Week is May 2-6 or spread it out through April, May and June. Kimberly is willing to assist

Jay in coordinating this effort. Parents could be a part of this we well. This would require coordination between the parent's group and the church.

Input for the Parochial Report: An accounting of what we have done, mostly with our money, average attendance, reporting to the larger church.

1. We invite you to tell stories of how you have spent the last year naming, addressing, and dismantling the injustices of racism in yourselves, congregations, and your community – Attended My Work to Do Program and put together our commission on racial justice listing the activities we did. Book club and zoom breakouts. In person fair and zoom presentations. Consortium of churches for the Stations of the Cross. Gender equity prayers. Inclusive languages. Reading of books pertinent to this subject. Daughters of the King – Church Cracked Open.
2. Looking toward the future, what changes do you hope to see in your faith community? What does your community need in order to bring about these changes? This is directed to clergy and vestry. Hope to see our faith community grow and be open to diverse members. Welcoming Head Start. Revisiting WAM (Worship, Art, Music) approach. Aspirational hopes and strategic planning. Our denomination has been the most vocal and visible in support of women's rights, LGBTQ issues, current political issues. We need to find our voice and use it for marginalized groups/communities. There is a larger global approach to consider as well.

New Business – Rank and assign action items from vestry retreat to be completed email.

Offer child care on Easter Sunday at 10:00 service - We can use the preschool space. Carol's grandchildren will be caretakers and will complete the required training. They will not be paid by the church for their work. Will announce this on Palm Sunday.

Approve B&G request for \$1,200 for stove/oven cleaning – Pro-clean is the vendor for this. Approved.

Archive vestry reports and minutes – please send all your reports to Carol that you have previously sent.

Confirmation of Rachel Kujawa Holbrook – This will occur in 2023 at St. John's in Los Angeles. Date to be announced later.

Forum for preschool and Head Start – Need to listen to members of our congregation without the County personnel in attendance. In person forum between 8 & 10:00 services. Get their input, listen to their concerns, planning on sometime in May. Bringing a forum together without the ability to impact the outcome may have a poor result. This needs to be clear that decisions have already been made. Perhaps this may not be the best approach, but rather an Open House approach. Vestry members may not have all the answers and the County may need to be there to address specific issues/questions. The parishioners may want to question the "why" without the County there first. So round tables first with the parishioners may be necessary both in person and on Zoom. Use all three Sundays available in May as well as a zoom opportunity (except Mother's Day and Memorial Day). Use classroom 16, after both 8:00 and 10:00 services. Explain the construction activities to happen over the upcoming months.

There may be a need to electronically vote on roofing repairs. Look for that in email. Still getting bids currently.

Action Items:

Marcia – utility bill analysis completed; PPP still in progress for forgiveness application

Dean – Get up on Breeze; still on Finance and Stewardship Committees, read up on all the Capital Campaign materials

Carol – Newcomer Ministry growing; Capital Campaign consultant presented in February

Sharon – Same as last reported; Head Start work stepping up, meeting with them tomorrow

Jay – Help plan the appreciation events for the preschool staff

Karin – review the input from the survey and address identify top issues and make appropriate plans

Barbara – Check in with outreach groups

Keith – Connect with Barbara to look at the parochial report; Connect with the Newcomer Group to complete their orientation of the campus

Kimberly – Continue the communication audit, implement the Connect cards, help Jay with the preschool teacher appreciation project

Next vestry meeting is April 24, 2022

Joke of the day – Carol gave Kimberly's joke of the day (as she had to leave the meeting)

Closing Prayer – Marcia gave the closing prayer.

Meeting adjourned at 3:08 PM

Submitted by:

Vicki Levario, clerk