

**Church of St. John the Evangelist
Flossmoor, Illinois**

**Minutes of the Vestry Meeting
April 15, 2020**

Evening Prayer and Attendance

Vestry met via a Zoom videoconference because of the extended shelter-in-place order caused by the pandemic. At 7:04, Fr. Jeremy Froyen called the vestry meeting to order. Members present via videoconference were Fr. Jeremy Froyen (rector), junior warden Eric Turnquest, senior warden Donna Blackburn, Chris Pfeifer, Kathy Basil, Bill Moser, Noboru Nakamura, Tonya Eisenberg, Deacon Mike Bond, Candice Barrera, Mike Madden, Rob McManamy, treasurers Laura Brady and Debbi Huggett, and clerk Tracie Moxley.

Acceptance of Minutes

Bill Moser moved to accept the March vestry minutes and Donna Blackburn seconded. The motion passed.

Co-Treasurer's Report

Co-Treasurer Debbi Huggett reported that people are mailing in their pledge or giving online so the parish has been receiving money. Thus far, St. John's is keeping pace with revenue and expenses are lower because the building is not being used. The financial picture is solid at this time.

Bill Moser asked about the rector's discretionary fund and how people can give to it since there is no loose plate offering. There is an online option for giving to that fund, or any check mailed in with a note in the memo will be deposited in the fund.

Donna Blackburn moved to accept the Treasurer's report, and Bill Moser seconded. The motion passed.

Rector's Report

Fr. Jeremy reported it was good to see people participating in the Holy Week services, such as they were. For him (and for all of us), it was a bizarre, disjointed Easter and Holy Week.

Leo Hickman passed away on Friday after a prolonged illness. Please keep Janice in your prayers. Also keep Ginny Eysenbach in your prayers; she is especially grieving the fact that she wasn't able to be with Geoff when he passed.

The most recent conference call with Bishop Lee provided no real update about how long the churches will be closed. Bishop Lee doesn't expect churches to open anytime soon; he will follow guidance from civil and medical authorities. He did say churches should think about how we're going to re-open and the changes necessary around things like communion to limit contact with people.

Confirmation has not been cancelled yet, but there are signs it will be cancelled soon and will be rescheduled. The visit from Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori and confirmation at St. John's has been cancelled.

Fr. Jeremy thanked everyone for making their pledges and he suggested that when we're making our calls, to thank people for their generosity.

Fr. Jeremy encouraged everyone to start thinking about what our "new normal" might look like when this is over. Are there changes we want to consider? Are there things we thought were important that now don't seem to be? Or things that did not seem important and now are?

Fr. Jeremy requested that when vestry is making calls to parishioners that we ask people if they receive the e-vangelist and if they don't, find out why. We need to make a list of people that are not on email so we know who to call when the parish has news to share. Please continue to call your list and pass along any parishioner news or concerns to Fr. Jeremy.

Senior Warden's Report

Donna Blackburn had no report.

Junior Warden's Report

Eric Turnquest reported there are some options for church Wifi. Tracie Moxley suggested a mesh system and will send Eric the information.

Long Range Planning Committee Report

A one question questionnaire will be going out in the next couple days – to help us focus our vision and passions as a church. The LRPC is trying to determine where the congregation's spiritual energy is.

Finance Committee Report

No report.

Communications Committee

Tonya Eisenberg mentioned that she will be looking into a sign to promote when we are able to do church again.

Old Business

Music Director search update – continues. The director we hired as an Interim is still looking for other jobs. Fr. Jeremy received a call from Paolo Castro, his situation has stabilized. He and Fr. Jeremy will talk next week.

Safeguarding God's People – the links in last month's email did not work with the new diocesan website. Fr. Jeremy just sent a new email with updated links; please complete the training by next month's vestry meeting.

Update on Special Electing Convention – the June 20 convention has been cancelled. The Bishop election will take place at the annual convention in November instead. Bishop Lee has extended his retirement but has not said how long he will remain.

New Business

Update on Vestry calls – see above.

Adjournment

At 8:06 Rob McManamy moved to adjourn the meeting and Bill Moser seconded. The motion passed. The next regular vestry meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracie Moxley

Clerk of the Vestry