

Church of the Nativity  
Minutes of the Vestry  
April 19, 2022

**Attending:** Stephanie Allen, Stephanie Sumner, Beth Crow, Julian McKimmon, John Oldham, Bill Sena, Kim Stoke, Allison Martin, George Douglas, Anne Krouse, Perry Suk, and Gail Christensen.

The meeting was convened at 7:02 pm. The meeting began with a discussion of John 20:11-18.

**Nativity Archival Project**

Chuck Till, a Nativity parishioner and a member of the Diocesan Chartered Committee on History and Archives, recommended to Stephanie that Nativity send an interested person to the upcoming "History Keepers Workshop" sponsored by the Diocese. Scheduled for October, this workshop would help Nativity learn how to capture personal histories of Nativity's founding and administer our growing archives in terms of what to keep and how (as well as what not to keep). Our church is now 36 years old, and very little has been kept from the early days (much has been thrown out or destroyed due to mold, etc.). We were able to gather documents, pictorial directories, and other memorabilia into three archival boxes, but to promote safekeeping these should be scanned and digitized. Architectural drawings, financial records, etc. need to be cataloged and preserved.

The Vestry was asked to consider whether a committee should be formed to address this task, and who they would recommend to join it. Further discussion will be on the agenda at the next meeting.

**Approval of March 2022 Meeting Minutes**

The minutes of the March 2022 Vestry meeting were submitted for approval. Kim moved to accept the minutes as written; John seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Finance and Stewardship Report**

John said that income and expenses are proceeding "as expected" and there are no recommendations for changes to the budget as yet. However, we have two outstanding loans - the mortgage and the HVAC loan - which amount to about \$350,000 (down from \$600,000) and come due in 2024. Should we bundle them into one and renegotiate the loan? Should we consider another Capital Campaign to pay down the loans, freeing up monies for operating needs? John said the Finance Team would be considering these questions, and the Vestry should address them in the planning session in the Fall.

**Rector's Report**

Stephanie said we had a "fabulous" Holy Week and Easter, and she was thrilled to see people in person again and be the "closest to normal" we've been in more than two years of pandemic restrictions (which could happen again if stats rise with new variants). Everyone's energy and enthusiasm was high, and attendance at services was terrific (almost 300 on Easter Sunday). There were a lot of kids on Palm Sunday and Easter, when Youth Minister Kathryn planned special events for them. The nursery was open again and we have a staff nursery worker again.

The interim organist, Eddie Abernathy, will serve two more Sundays and then we'll welcome our new organist and choirmaster Bradley Burgess in mid to late May. We have been paying three choir singers, friends of Eddie's, from unused Spirituality in the Arts funds. They have been a great help to the choir, but it is uncertain whether they will continue with us.

Stephanie announced last week that Phillip Bass, our priesthood intern for the past many months, has accepted the call to be Nativity's Assistant Rector, beginning in June. This has been warmly received by the congregation. Phillip will be ordained to the transitional diaconate on June 4, and then to the priesthood in December. He will serve Nativity on a quarter-time basis, continuing his job as a therapist. He will be at three out of four Sundays each month, plus be involved in pastoral care and special duties as needed.

### **Sr. Warden's Report**

Sr. Warden John Oldham informed the Vestry that he has been offered a job at IBM Japan, and if the Japanese will issue him a visa, he will be able to move there for six months to a year. Once he receives the visa, he will resign from the Vestry, probably at the end of May. John said he is confident that he leaves Nativity in a "strong place". (But he will be back!)

Stephanie indicated that she would like to fill his position and increase to 12 members, if possible.

### **Jr. Warden's Report**

Jr. Warden Bill Sena said that there had been two Buildings and Grounds Workdays before Easter and he was very impressed with how well organized the Team was - lots of work got done in such a short amount of time. Even parents from the Kinder Garden School participated.

The biggest concern of the B&G Team has been the ongoing threat - from leaks and mice and squirrels - that we will need to replace the 30-year-old roof on Estill House, which could cost as much as \$30,000.

An inspection by the fire marshals will be held in May. A fire panel in the education building may need to be replaced - at a cost of about \$13,000.

### **Team reports**

The Peace Library now consists of 60 books. On May 1, there will be a Pysanky workshop sponsored by the library and on May 15, there will be a Blessing of the library and a book sale in cooperation with Quail Ridge Books, which may be repeated on the following Sunday.

The Youth Team has mailed cards to 55 youth in the congregation to let them know that they are valued members of the church. Vestry members were asked to help deliver "goodie bags" to the Youth in May to mark the end of the school year. An event at Two Roosters was so successful that the Team was talking about another event that could be expanded to adults.

The Communications Team will begin signing up parishioners for text messaging this week, with an announcement in Glad Tidings and signup sheets at the Sunday services.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gail Christensen  
Clerk of the Vestry

**The next Vestry meeting is scheduled for May 17 at 7 pm.**