

## — MINUTES —

### ST. ANNE'S VESTRY MEETING

APRIL 28, 2020

\*Meeting held by Zoom videoconference\*

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Present: Fr. Lonnie Lacy, Mary Alice Applegate, Chris Beckham, Nancy Bryan, Sarah Cook, Brenda Doss, Carl Duncan, Donna Falcone, Allen Lamb, Brandon Medley, Linda Moore, Kathy Moreno, Jessica Patrick, Shelly Schmeisser (Treasurer), and Pam Leonard (Clerk)

Absent:

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1. OPENING PRAYER – Fr. Lonnie opened the meeting with prayer.

2. FINANCIAL REPORTS

- a. Treasurer Shelly Schmeisser presented financial reports for the month ending March 31, 2020, which are good, all things considered. She shared concerns about shortfalls in weekly giving for April to date:

Week	2020	2019	2018
04/01-04/06	\$ 23,819.00	\$ 7,531.50	\$ 10,002.00
04/07-04/13	\$ 5,634.00	\$ 8,467.00	\$ 6,600.00
04/14-04/20	\$ 3,057.00	\$ 5,557.00	\$ 5,900.00
04/21-04/27	\$ 4,360.00	\$ 5,366.00	\$ 5,803.00
<b>Totals</b>	\$ 36,870.00	\$ 26,921.50	\$ 28,305.00

- b. Shelly also brought a request from the Finance Committee to the Vestry regarding the building loan. The bank has offered two options for assistance during this time:
- Option 1: No payment on principle or interest with no penalties for 90 days. This option would basically extend the loan for three extra months.
  - Option 2: Interest only payments for 90 days with no penalties.

The Finance Committee recommends Option 1. A question was asked as to whether the interest would continue to accrue under this option. Shelly will clarify with the bank and share with the group. A vote will then be taken by email. *(Addendum: Option 2 was chosen by the email vote.)*

- c. St. Anne's applied for the Paycheck Protection Program made available through the Small Business Administration by the U.S. Congress. The application was granted mid-April, but the funds have not yet been received. In the event that giving declines significantly, this will provide a forgivable, low interest loan to guarantee payroll for our employees. As payroll constitutes the majority of our budget, this alleviates some pressure. As we understand it, the loan is forgivable as long as it is used for its intended purpose.
- d. Giving statements are scheduled to be mailed in coming days. Fr. Lonnie asked for thoughts on what should be included in the accompanying letter considering the effect the COVID19 situation has had on the incomes of many parishioners. Suggestions included:
  - i. Wording should be sensitive to this situation. For example, "give as you are able."
  - ii. Remind parishioners the Church is not just the building. Worship and work continues even though we are not meeting together.

3. FORMATION – In lieu of formation, Fr. Lonnie asked Vestry members to share signs of resurrection and grace experienced during the COVID19 pandemic.

#### 4. DISCUSSION

- a. Considerations for a future return to in-person worship
  - i. Bishop's Guidelines – Fr. Lonnie discussed the main points of the guidelines (see attachment) and asked Vestry members for initial thoughts on these procedures. He also suggested naming a small group to begin a conversation on a soft reopening for services, then send recommendations to the Vestry. The group will include, but is not limited to:
    - Chris Beckham, Senior Warden
    - Alan Lamb, Junior Warden
    - Kathy Moreno, Worship Liaison
    - Linda Moore, Newcomers Liaison
    - Stan Smith, Choir Director
    - Bettie Sue McDonald, MC/EM Coordinator
  - ii. Tiftarea Pastors' Coalition – Fr. Lonnie participated in a Zoom meeting with approximately 30 local pastors. Their general consensus is that,

even though Georgia Governor Brian Kemp has lifted the ban on worship services, resuming in-person worship at a later date is preferable.

b. Parish needs/responses to coronavirus issues

i. Worship

- Plans are to continue Sunday Morning Prayer
- Compline with The Lacys has been very well received
- Fr. Lonnie asked for ideas on how to celebrate Pentecost under the current conditions. Suggestions included:
  - Virtual Holy Ghost Weenie Roast: parishioners submit photos of their at-home weenie roast for sharing
  - Drive-in Worship: service where parishioners stay in their cars for worship, then are given hot dogs as they leave
  - Red Ribbon Photos: parishioners submit photos of their COVID-19/Pentecost red ribbons displayed at their homes
  - Origami birds

5. INFORMATION

a. Rector's Report – no report

b. Senior Warden's Report – As editor of the parish e-newsletter, Chris Beckham asked for items or photos of interest to include in the publication.

c. Junior Warden's Report – Allen Lamb reported that Little St. Anne's repairs and painting have been completed.

d. Liaison Reports

- i. Adult Formation (*B. Doss & D. Falcone*) – no report
- ii. Communications (*S. Cook*) – see attachment
- iii. Mission (*open*) – no report
- iv. Newcomers (*L. Moore*) – see attachment
- v. Outreach (*M.A. Applegate*) – see attachment – Additionally, emergency food bags are not being given out as the church office is closed. Fr. Lonnie and Mary Alice will work together on a plan.
- vi. Parish Life (*J. Patrick*) – no report
- vii. Pastoral Care (*B. Medley*) – see attachment
- viii. Stewardship (*K. Moreno*) – no report
- ix. Youth and Children (*N. Bryan*) – no report – In addition, the group will work toward some type of virtual Vacation Bible School. Fr. Lonnie

shared that the Diocese is working on offering a VBS-type program.  
Nancy will wait for information on the Diocesan-wide offering.

- x. Worship (*K. Moreno*) – no report
6. MINUTES – The minutes for the March 24, 2020 Vestry Meeting were approved as circulated by email.
  7. CLOSING PRAYER – Brandon Medley closed the meeting with prayer.

## — LIAISON REPORTS —

April, 2020

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### Adult Formation *(Brenda Doss and Donna Falcone)*

No report.

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### Communications *(Sarah Cook)*

Compline is streaming online weeknights at 8:30 p.m. on St. Anne's Tifton Facebook page and stannestifton.com.

Weekly worship is streamed online at St. Anne's Tifton Facebook page, St. Anne's YouTube, and stannestifton.com.

St. Anne's Facebook has reached over 20,000 people (these are the number of people who have seen any post from St. Anne's at least once) and video views are at over 19,000 for the past four weeks.

Please let me know if your ministry area can benefit from the Flock Note system or from Zoom. I will be happy to train you in either and help you implement it.

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### Mission *(no liaison)*

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### Newcomers *(Linda Moore)*

A core group has been established for the Newcomers/Welcome committee to work on expanding the process for following up with newcomers and new members. The group consists of: Kim Jacobs, Sherry McCullough, Don Webb, and myself. My plan is to orient the members of this group over this next month regarding resources available through the Episcopal website: Invite Welcome & Connect. As St Anne's readies to begin worshipping again in-person, my goal is to have a plan in place of how to assure newcomers feel welcome and encouraged to become a part of our parish.

Also, before we begin to worship in-person, the Newcomers area will coordinate with Fr. Lonnie and the Worship group to assure that ushers and greeters know and understand what will become the 'new norm' of social distancing while worshipping.

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### Outreach *(Mary Alice Applegate)*

- HOSPITAL MASKS: In response to the Corona Virus Pandemic, and at the suggestion of Kathy Moreno, the Outreach Support Group started sewing cloth masks for Southwell (Tift Regional Medical Center). A Facebook Group was formed (administered by Donna Falcone) to track the progress of finding supplies, providing sewing instructions, and

counting masks delivered to the hospital via the YMCA. From 3/20/2020 to 4/21/2020, 488 washable face masks have been delivered by this group. Members of the group have also participated in donating fabric, elastic and notions, and in sewing hospital gowns.

- **FOOD BOX:** The food box deliveries are continuing to 10 recipients, while practicing social distancing. Food boxes contain a second loaf of bread by Loaves of Love, in addition to the usual canned goods and staples.
  - **EMERGENCY BAGS:** Since the church office has been closed, only three bags have gone out. It is anticipated that more bags be needed, once the church office re-opens.
  - **KNOTS OF LOVE:** The group has delivered three shawls during the pandemic shelter in place order. There is an increase in demand. More knitters are invited to join the group.
  - **LOAVES OF LOVE:** There is a shortage of baking flour, due to the pandemic. There are no bake sales scheduled at this point. Loaves of Love is still baking and supplying bread for the St. Anne's Food Box deliveries, St. Anne's Emergency bags, Brother Charlie's Rescue Mission, Ruth's Cottage, and seniors in our congregation upon request.
  - **CANCER CARE:** The Relay for Life event, scheduled for April 24, 2020, has been cancelled. The "Date Night" raffle is still on for that day. Contact Clayton Riehle for tickets.
  - **ADOPT A MILE:** The St. Anne's group beautified their adopted area along Whiddon Mill Road on March 31, 2020. The eight volunteers practiced social distancing.
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#### **Parish Life** *(Jessica Patrick)*

No report.

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#### **Pastoral Care** *(Brandon Medley)*

The Pastoral Care Team continues to meet needs in the parish as they arise. In addition, the Can-Help/Need-Help form is still available. Brandon monitors it regularly and matches people who indicate they need help with people who can provide it. Brandon has also assembled a Care Call Team that is responsible for making weekly calls to everyone in the parish. This is to provide a social connection to church during this time, but it also allows someone to directly check on any needs. Care Call Team members are reporting needs to Brandon, and he and Fr. Lonnie are then taking any needed actions from there.

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#### **Stewardship** *(Kathy Moreno)*

No report.

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#### **Youth & Children** *(Nancy Bryan)*

No report.

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#### **Worship** *(Kathy Moreno)*

No report.