

## **Bishop's Committee Meeting Minutes**

**April 23, 2020**

**Zoom Meeting**

### **Check-In**

#### **Review of Financials & Approval of March minutes:**

Louise reports that we have lost money in the DIF this month which is not surprising. The DIF will hopefully grow once the market turns around.

We spent \$2000 more than we received in March, but some donations arrived after March 31<sup>st</sup>. People appear to be sending in their donations later in the month. In general, we are doing okay financially, and Louise thinks we can weather the pandemic financially.

George asked about the equity numbers on the balance sheet. Louise explained that this is actually the DIF (Diocesan Investment Fund).

George brought up the idea of doing an inventory of the church asset. Deb took pictures of items in the church but did not do a value estimate. George thought we should talk to Jim Aurand about doing an asset inventory.

George also reported that he used the online donation link provided by the diocese. It is unclear how and when Faith will receive donations from the diocese link.

Steven moved to approve both the minutes and financials report, Gary seconded. Passed unanimously.

### **Old Business**

**Organ work proposal:** Th Bond Organ proposal looks good and is significantly lower than the original bid. The Bond company has a good reputation and Laura would like to move forward with their proposal. Louise suggested having Howard look at the new proposal.

Laura discussed what to do with the excess donation money. Gary asked about letting the anonymous donor know we have a lower bid. Laura suggested announcing in an email that a lower bid has been received and hopefully the anonymous donor will see the announcement. It was decided that if the donor doesn't object we will use excess funds for future maintenance and repair of the organ.

Diane moved that we move forward with the bid Bond Organ Builders and Steven seconded it. Passed unanimously.

**Household groups:** BC members report having early contact with people in their groups but less contact as the shutdown continues. Many folks have developed other support systems within and outside of Faith. It seems that everyone is having their needs met and we remain ready and able to assist if needed.

### **New Business**

**Church in light of COVID-19:** Deb asked whether Laura thought we'd open church in May. Laura does not think we are opening in May and that when we do open it will likely be limited. The details of opening will be worked out as we have more information and know we are opening. When we do open it will not be business as usual and will likely require restrictions on numbers and communion. We will continue to use Zoom once we reopen for those who are more vulnerable and do want to attend in person. Gary mentioned meeting outside and Deb suggested using the parish hall.

#### **Financial Considerations:**

**Unity and rent:** We are still charging full rent to Unity but if they ask for a rent break we will consider it and likely reduced their rent to \$500.

**Howard:** We are not continuing to pay Howard.

**Lawn mowing:** Lawn mowing continues twice a month. Steven and Deb both thought we should continue the lawn service because we want to continue maintaining the building and grounds. Louise and Diane discussed getting a bill for lawn services and Fred will be forwarding the bill to Louise.

**Pledging:** Laura is putting a reminder in the weekly blast that Faith still needs to receive pledge funds. Laura wants to reach out to pledgers regarding whether anyone needs to modify their pledge due to a change in financial situations.

**Payroll Protection:** The Diocese has applied for payroll protection and Laura has opted in.

### **What's working and what isn't?**

**Sunday Zoom:** The zoom Sunday services seem to be working. We are now doing the liturgy of the word on Sunday rather than morning prayers.

**Morning Prayer:** Morning prayer is going well.

**Reflections:** Laura is doing shorter Sunday reflections.

**Easter Vigil:** People enjoyed the live Easter service. It would have been nice to have had additional readers as well.

**Book Group:** The book group is going well and is almost done with "The Grace of Les Miserables".

**Bible Study:** Laura is exploring options for resuming bible study.

**Bishop Rickel's visit:** Bishop Rickel is still planning on a visit to Faith on May 24<sup>th</sup> although we won't be doing confirmations since his visit will be virtual. Laura wants us to consider how to make a virtual visit special. Laura suggested recording videos to send to the Bishop. Those seeking confirmation will have to go to Cathedral Day at St. Marks when it get rescheduled. Diane suggested that we cancel the Bishop's visit and the majority agreed that we should postpone the Bishop's visit. Deb suggested we do something to send to the Bishop to let him know we will miss his visit and present him with some things we are doing at Faith.

**Going Forward:** We will continue to do virtual services and meetings and we will adapt as things change.

Thank you to Steven and Raymond for all the work they are doing to the grounds at Faith, it looks wonderful!

### **Ministry Team Updates:**

**Formation:** Laura is going to get some material to distribute to kids and adults since formation studies can be done virtually.

**Outreach:** We have started work on the washer and dryer installation. Sandvik Builders came to the parish hall and opened up the walls and removed the janitor sink for the plumber. BMore Electric also came to the parish hall to look at the space and electrical work needed. Diane reports that the circuit board upgrade work is estimated at \$1335. Diane discussed moving forward with the parish hall lighting project. We do have reserved funds for building work. We have about \$3200 for building improvement work and any additional funds would come from the DIF. Diane reports that the new light costs would be \$2980 (not including labor).

**Communications:** The weekly news blast, zoom, and Facebook seems to be working well.

Other things we may need money for include the signage, exterior painting, hot water heater replacement, and ongoing electrical work.