



# Holy Family Episcopal Church

## Vestry Meeting Minutes May 17, 2023

Attending: Fr. Bruce Gray, Senior Warden Tom Clines, Junior Warden Bethany Paden, Kristine Canter, Chris Beldin, John Manuszak, Gary Synder, Jessica Largent, Katie Hamon, Betty Bogeman, Tina Vawter, Sharon Naatz

The meeting was called to order approximately at 7:10 p. m. with prayer led by Father Bruce.

### Celebrating Little Wins

- Flower Sales went very well, credit card sales made approximately \$573 after fees and cash negative balance. Currently waiting for Ruth's Venmo total to add. And Lorri could have some cash to add. So very good event! Bethany is working on getting the Church Square account up and running for next year!
- Mother's Day service and Brunch was very well liked according to Facebook replies from parishioners.
- Mary McCorkle was affirmed, and Jessica Largent was received at a confirmation service with Bishop Jennifer. Welcome Ladies!
- After a season of heavenly angelic music, the choir will be finishing up for the year. All choir members were retained for the whole season. A big thank you for providing such soul lifting tunes! They will start the new season near the end of August.
- To help the choir's burst of joyous singing is the new church soundboard graciously donated by the Paden and Bruns families. A timely needed addition to our outreach online to the community and world! Thank you!
- Also wrapping up for the season is the successful Music and Meditation 33 and 1/3 with Joel Bruns.
- John Manuszak was very thankful for all the prayers for his father who is going to be starting outpatient cardiac therapy after open heart surgery. This is more of a Big Win and we're so happy John's father is healing well.
- Karen Smith is slowly recovering also from a nasty bout of pneumonia and serious lack of sight. She is seeing ranges of black and grey right now while gaining her sight.

### Parish Gossip Chain

- There are grumblings of people who are ready for summer break.
- Volunteers for collections are much happier with how easy and quicker the counting is of the offerings since it has become automatic. On a side note, Peter Mulhall has joined the finance committee and there still is an opening for Treasurer if you are interested in helping the church in this capacity please volunteer!

### Old & New Business

- This upcoming Sunday our 3 High School graduates will be celebrated and prayed for by the congregation. There will be Bibles and Prayer Shawls/Throws/Lap Blankets/Cozies given to all the hard-working graduates. Congratulations and Blessings for your future endeavors!

- May 28<sup>th</sup>, Pentecost Service will be taking place outdoors at the 10:00 a. m. service. Everyone is encouraged to wear red and to bring a pet to enjoy the outdoor activities.
- On June 11<sup>th</sup> the Hamilton Southeastern Equal Rainbow Tea Fundraiser will be hosted at the parish. Parish hosts are welcome to support such a great cause for equality for all. Along with the inclusion of the LGQBT students this group also supports physically and learning-disabled students who live on the outskirts of society's population and deserve an equal chance at being celebrated and included at school.
- June 19<sup>th</sup> will be the Goddard School graduation.
- On June 24<sup>th</sup>, The Brotherhood will be preparing burgers and franks for the parade and a potluck will provide additional fixins for the fun day. There is still a need for the lawn games chairperson to head up fun additions like corn hole or the like.
- Much prayer is needed for the upcoming proposed sales exploration agreement. Many discussions are occurring between the diocesan attorney and buyer's attorney and standing committee and developer. The city will also be involved, and no firm decisions have been made yet. Fr. Bruce is our contact person with the standing committee for this project and it has been several years since the diocese has had to go through an extensive sale that could cause major shifts in the status quo on economic, environmental and spiritual strongholds in our community. There were suggestions of public gatherings for prayer over the land in question that would put all in God's hands as we go forward with this endeavor.
- The money the Nickel Plate Trail that was given to the city of Fishers after attorney's fees and expenses totaled approximately \$87,000. This money has already been earmarked for debt reduction and investments for the furtherment of our church livelihood.
- Our focus this month is the Initiative on Adult Program. Senior Warden Tom Clines pointed out that our parish is presently in the pastoral prototype rather than a programming type church. There was discussion that Initiative #3 should be left as it is for now until we can grow. No changes are warranted currently. There is still a vision of a ministry fair soon to increase adult awareness and service to the church. There are 2 calendars on the website, one for staff and the other for parishioners who want to see what is happening in our local parish. They might be hard to access and maybe due for an update to make them more visible to the congregation. There are hard stops in changing leadership roles that need to be smoothed out to make changing leadership easier on incoming volunteers. Encouraging adults to take the reins to serve in imaginative ways, for example the recent Bible Study done by the Cantors with Ruth and Esther. More examples were given like the Pumpkin Chunkin, Chili Cookoff, Fishers petting zoo, Kissing the piggie, to the Pig Roast, and don't forget the Strawberry Shortcakes and Mundies' homemade biscuits. There have been so many fun ideas like going to the free concert but just poor participation. If anyone has any ideas to run with, reach out to Fr. Bruce or Junior Warden Bethany to get set up and get it placed in the announcements.

#### Goals from Vestry Reports

- Parking lots are dark at night. Duke is our power company. Lorri and Fr. Bruce will investigate to see if can update to more efficient LED lighting.

- Two faucets which have been partially fixed throughout the years need the attention of a real plumber to get them fixed correctly. Chris Beldon has offered to pay for one. Fr. Bruce has volunteered Cathy and Lorri to find an appropriate plumber.
- Fr. Bruce handed out copies of the report template that was created by Bethany Paden. He has emailed them out to be used by other committee heads and it would help assist in coalescing our meetings.
- Owls will be coming soon to mount to decrease geese traffic in our parking lot and grounds.
- A pictorial Directory should be available if parishioners request it. Should make available printed or by email but not on website due to privacy concerns.
- Mission Trip – box to place envelopes and letters for support for the teens going. Jolene Johnston, Ruth Everett, and her daughter, El, will be main sponsors for trip.

### Finance and Budget

- Discussions on land sale, Monon Trail property sale and investments were mentioned.
- Treasurer Betty Bogeman, (only female on the finance committee), mentioned the reapplication for the extension of the Diocesan short-term loan. Last year's vestry voted for an extension of 100% of the apportionment. The Finance committee is wanting the balance of investment to be used in CD's with at least 4.15% interest. Betty reported a \$2.00 interest amount with Huntington Bank.
- Pledge in April comes in totaling \$22,000. Pledges are on track and Income vs. Expenses looks good. Software used for finances is QuickBooks.

### Stewardship

- Stewardship committee met on the 7<sup>th</sup> and discussed the following points.
- Back to school/ministry fair in August
- Interest in finding out how many members are attending the services in person or online.
- In church survey a good question would be how you attend services
- Donating online tends to be cumbersome, looking for easier way to accomplish this.
- A definite deficit that we cannot credit people who give cash donations. Maybe including envelopes in church pews could help give proper credit to whoever deserves it. It was brought up that the cost of envelopes could be more than donations so might not be feasible.

### Rector's Report

- Outreach with Cathy, many wins, Support a Teacher and Staff, Reading the World Book Club up to 7 members
- May 21, Ascension Sunday with treats and table decorations focusing on "wings".
- Camera and warning sign now in garden area due to thief of vegetables. Very good camera on Wi-Fi and has an alarm in case there is someone in area. Mostly rabbits and wildlife caught so far.

- Christian Nationalism Adult Forum getting ready to wrap up soon. Very well attended and much interest in subject due to extensive popularity in society.
- Ruth Everett is recovering from knee surgery and had a slight scare with infection but home now well on the mend. She is a warrior and already has made it to her second floor happy to take a shower.
- Food ministry for parishioners who need it is working very well. Continued prayers and support needed for all recovering from illnesses.

The meeting ended with Compline led by Fr. Bruce at 8:40 p. m.

**Next Vestry meeting is Wednesday June 21st, 7:00 p.m.**