**Vestry Minutes**

**February 24,2021**

Present: Rich Connell, Denise Cabana, Bob Dugger, Erin Perrelli, Allison, Joyce Reynolds, Cheryl Turner, Mitch Chester, Deb O’Donnell, Allison Banker, Becky Lee, Don Hamer (Interim Rector)

Absent: Sam Hoyt

Opening Prayer

Learning Experience – Love is the Way, Chapters 1, 2 & 3

**Checking In –** Welcome to Don, Debbie, Alison and Erin

**Discussion**

* Minutes from January Meeting. Lisa motioned to approve the minutes, Becky second. The January Vestry minutes were unanimously approved.
* Treasurer’s Report – Bob Dugger
  + Revenue:
  + General Fund – Good standing, $35,550. This larger balance reflects pre-paid pledges for the year. These paid pledges will move into pledge line item. January has been low pledge income Further increase to the General Fund when the Triple P loan moves into the General Fund.
  + Expenses less descriptive too early in the year
  + Motion to accept Treasure’s Report Joyce, second Becky. Unanimous approval following a vote.
* Reopening update – HVAC & Guidelines draft guidelines attached
  + Allison motioned to accept the Re-opening guidelines, Rich second, Unanimous approval following a vote.
  + Denise and John Korber met with technicians for internet, new technology and equipment. They are ready to begin.
  + Re-opening Committee has authority choosing vendors.
  + Vestry and Don Hamer will make the decision regarding an official opening
  + HVAC two options complete re-do ($150,000) or modify our system ($75,000) Either option will meet the air flow purification in order to open the church. Does it make sense to modify old equipment? Consultant will re-evaluate the integrity of existing equipment. Joining Jesus Funds were designated for this purpose. $615,000 anticipated/spent $85,060 (Faith N Action, Roof, Trim repair) Possible loan available through ECCT 3.5 % to complete HVAC renovations. Details are not available to yet apply.
  + Opening the church is dependent on these upgrades. Possible construction over the summer.
  + Finance Director expressed caution on taking any loan given the tough budget situation for 2022. Bob clarified that if it was a bridge loan the finance committee would support
  + Allison Motioned that St James apply to ECCT for a loan up to $150000 at 3.5% for 60 months to modify/replace HVAC system required to safely reopen the church. Second Mitch; unanimously approved by the Vestry.
* Parochial Report Due Monday March 1, 2021
  + Average attendance 88 counting only nine Sundays 2020
  + New form this year. Jeanne and Jodi attended a training in order to complete the report
  + “The Vestry is committed to working on racial justice and reconciliation.” Don suggested that when a rector goes on sabbatical the vestry takes on a project. Is this a project the vestry wants to consider. Evangelical opportunity to develop a new community. Answer “Agree”
  + Deb motion to accept the parochial report with question 12 answered as “agree. Becky seconded. Unanimous approval by the Vestry.
* Next Vestry Meeting March 24 Rescheduled to accommodate Holy Week
* Cell Numbers shared in an email
* $1685 funds donated to Denise for her sabbatical

**Closing Prayer**  - Mitch Adjourned 9:03 PM