**Vestry Minutes**

**June 16,2021**

**Attendance:** Alison Banker, Rev. Denise Cabana, Mitch Chester, Rich Connell,

Bob Dugger, Lisa Gleason, Becky Lee, Deb O’Donnell, Joyce Reynolds, Cheryl Turner

**Absent**: Sam Hoyt, Erin Perrelli

**Dwelling in the Word -** Mark 4:35-41

**Checking In –** Welcome back Denise!

**Discussion**

* **May Vestry Minutes** - Motion to accept the minutes with corrections from Lisa Gleason; second Joyce Reynolds. Unanimous approval by the Vestry.
* **Treasurer’s Report** - Bob Dugger

General Fund Down $10,000 even with an increase of $6000 in revenue mostly due to a paid overdue pledge from last year

Revenue: $14,600 in pledges budgeted per month. April down $6200. In May, we have collected pledges over the budgeted amount, totaling $17000.

Expenses: well in line with budgeted expenses for May with the exception of building expenses due to a yearly charge for elevator maintenance

Overall Net positive for income this month

Faith N Action no funds have been allocated Joining Jesus $90,000 in the account (approximately $80,000 yet to be paid in ventilation project) – 53% of the total pledged amount has been paid by members. St. James anticipates receiving $266,000 over the next four years in remaining pledged Joining Jesus Funds. (Pledged amounts were divided over five years). Overall, the previously pledged total has decreased due to individual circumstances with an inability to honor some commitments. The Vestry will need to communicate to the membership and re-prioritize the original list of planned projects.

Motion to accept the Treasure’s Report made by Deb O’Donnell; second Alison Banker. Unanimously accepted by the Vestry.

* **Outside Groups – how many?** Guidelines were sent out to previous groups meeting at St James. We have heard back from three groups
* **Ventilation issues** – use of the Meeting Room, Sunday School Rooms and Loft Discussion included purchasing free standing ventilation units in order to open and permit the use of the loft and the downstairs rooms.
* **Sanitizing on Mondays –** more recent evidence has shown that normal cleaning processes are sufficient to prevent the very low possibility of contact transmission of Covid -19. We are no longer cleaning and sanitizing between each use of the sanctuary. We will continue routine cleaning practices.
* **Service schedule and Masks –** Do we want to implement a policy of no mask wearing if you are vaccinated? Singing in church guidelines is ok when wearing a mask. Singing in church would require the wearing of a mask. Denise will invite individuals who are vaccinated to remove their masks beginning Sunday, June 20, 2021. Individuals will be requested to bring a mask to church to be worn while singing in church. The next move will be to purchase a pouring Chalise and individual communion cups both to be purchased out of memorial funds.
* **Building and Grounds** – St. Michael’s Chapel becoming in poor repair and needs to be repaired. Mitch will follow up. Memorial Garden also in need of weeding. Mitch will follow up.
* **Urgent Financial Concerns** – to maintain our current budgeted operating expenses for 2022, St. James would need an additional $40,000 over the current pledged amount for 2021, or in other additional funding, to meet necessary expenses in a budget for 2022. Denise is proposing St. James move to a part time rector position. Decreasing this position to part-time, will permit St. James to move forward within the current budgeted revenue for 2022. ECCT requires 6-month notification for any change in contract for a rector. ECCT will be requested to complete a financial assessment to plan for what St. James can sustain with their current pledge commitment moving into 2022. Denise will reach out to ECCT and investigate the process. Denise regretfully stated that her personal circumstances make it impossible for her to continue in a part time position. This discussion will need to be continued with additional information from the ECCT financial review.

**Closing Prayer**  - Debbie

Respectfully submitted, Cheryl Turner - Next meeting July 21st.