Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the St. David’s Vestry
April 28, 2020

Members present by Zoom: Eric Malnassy, Lee Parker, Martha Newton, Rex Hunt, Christine Burdell, Britton Gregory, Sarah Kapostasy, Alex Knapp, Mary Rose, Martha Salazar, Jennifer Joslyn-Siemiatkoski, Linda Gebhard, Joy Harris Philpott, Billy K. Thomson, Doug Bell

Also present by Zoom: the Rector, Rev. Dr. Chuck Treadwell; Associate Rector, Katie Wright; Curate, Cameron Spoor; and Parish Administrator, Jim Lamm.

Senior Warden Eric Malnassy called the meeting to order and Fr. Chuck led the group through the first half of the Compline service.

The Vestry approved the minutes from the March 24 and April 7 meetings.

Linda Gebhard gave a brief Junior Warden’s report. The Vestry discussed technical difficulties in streaming of worship online. Linda reported that a committee was working to identify short- and long-term improvements to the online worship experience.

Lee Parker and Jim Lamm gave a financial report. Jim discussed the March financial report, which reflected a decrease in expected pledge revenue. He reported that the numbers for April were looking better and that some parishioners had paid their pledges early to help the church with cash flow.

Jim also addressed revenue from the parking garage. Most of the garage revenue comes from long-term parking contracts rather than hourly parking, so we have not seen much of a decrease in revenue yet.

Jim gave an update on the Paycheck Protection Program loan that the church obtained under the federal CARES Act. We have received $609,700, which is about $4,000-5,000 less than expected because we could not get money for clergy housing allowances. The loan will cover pay periods through the end of June.

We also received a grant to cover three months of our diocesan assessment.

Fr. Chuck gave the rector’s report, addressing COVID-19 first. Bishop Doyle has released a plan for reopening churches. It is not as aggressive as Governor Abbott’s plan for reopening businesses. The Diocese of Texas is coordinating with with other mainline Protestant denominations and the Catholic church.

Chuck is putting together a task force to create a plan to reopen St. David’s. When finished, the plan will be submitted to Bishop Ryan for approval. Joy, Mary, Jennifer, and Billy K. volunteered to be on the task force.

Next, Chuck gave an update on the St. David's staff. Everyone is doing ok. The clergy and musicians are working. The sextons, baristas, and kitchen staff are still not coming to work. Chef Ray is planning a carry-out operation that will start when the church building reopens. The hospitality staff is working remotely to prepare for that.
Chuck acknowledged recent technical difficulties with online worship. The church is working to improve Wi Fi and computers. Going forward, we'll probably have just one clergy member and one or two musicians in the sanctuary, so one getting sick won't affect the others. The church will continue to stream worship even after in-person worship resumes.

Chuck explained that the reopening process will be slow and rigorous. We probably won't have communion at the beginning. We'll clean the worship space between each service.

Chuck has cancelled his sabbatical plans for 2020 and is hoping to take a sabbatical in summer 2021.

Eric turned to old and new business. Jim reported that the church hopes to have hired an architect for the historic church renovation by the middle of June. The garage restriping project is almost finished, and the garage walls that are currently color coded will be painted off white.

Upcoming dates:
Finance Committee May 20
Vestry May 26

Fr. Chuck led the Vestry in Compline’s closing prayers, and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Newton
Clerk