

Church of the Nativity
Minutes of the Vestry
May 18, 2021

Attending: Stephanie Allen, Stephanie Sumner, Rene Garces, Cheryl Waechter, Josh Booth, John Oldham, Kim Stoke, Beth Crow, Anne Krouse, Bill Sena, and Gail Christensen.

The meeting convened at 7:02 pm with a discussion of Acts 2:1-12 via Zoom video-conferencing due to all in-person meetings being suspended because of the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.

Approval of the April 2021 minutes:

The minutes of the April Vestry meeting were submitted for approval. Anne moved to accept the minutes as written; Cheryl seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Rector's Report: Stephanie Allen

The Bishops have not yet made changes to the Diocesan policies regarding Covid-19. Although the CDC and the NC Governor now allow vaccinated persons to go without masks everywhere, we will still be required to wear masks indoors. Stephanie believes that we will move to Phase 3 of the guidelines within the next couple of months.

Stephanie asked the Vestry members about moving indoors for the 10:30 service in June, as the weather gets hotter. All agreed this would be necessary. All attendees would be required to wear masks. Doors and windows would continue to be opened, and the new HVAC system will provide improved airflow. Live streaming will be much easier if we do both services indoors.

The Diocese may soon permit congregational singing, but there was a little less enthusiasm for that among the Vestry members. We might phase in singing over the summer, beginning with the choir, who are more than eager to regroup.

Stephanie thanked the members for the presentation of gifts to her on Sunday to mark her 10th anniversary at Nativity. There should have been cake, but that will happen perhaps in the Fall.

Stephanie will be on vacation June 7-19, and so will Church Coordinator Megan Miller. If you need anything, get it done before then.

The Vestry went into executive session to discuss personnel matters.

Senior Warden's Report: John Oldham

John congratulated Stephanie on her 10th anniversary and thanked the Vestry for their suggestions and work on her gifts.

There is no finance report this time, but John said he can report we are running ahead of pledge income. The regular giving is behind projections, but they will be taking a hard look at those numbers and if need be, make adjustments to the budget.

Rental income is picking up: the Kinder Garden has been meeting on a limited schedule, and will hold summer camps and return to a full schedule in the Fall. The Raleigh Ringers have used the facilities often during the pandemic. There is no word on whether the Bulgarians will resume meeting in our buildings. If anyone knows of other groups that would like a place to meet, let them know about Nativity.

John will be looking for input and participation from the Vestry and others to begin some long-term financial planning.

Junior Warden's Report: Rene Garces

There was a smaller turnout for the Spring workday held recently but lots of work was still done.

They are still waiting for Duke Power to convert the parking lot lights to LED to improve the lighting and save money.

There have been no volunteers yet for the Safety and Security post, so Matt Chytka is still helping out. If anyone knows a person in the congregation who is attentive to detail, let Rene know.

Thanks were expressed to Rene for all the work he has been doing for Nativity.

Scholarship Fund: Beth Crow

Beth reported that Nativity's campaign to raise \$1000 for one scholarship for the NC NAACP exceeded all expectations, raising \$8025, which will fund eight scholarships.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned with prayer at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Christensen
Clerk of the Vestry