

ST. THOMAS VIRTUAL (Zoom) VESTRY MEETING

August 17, 2020 5:30 p.m.

Present: The Rev Canon Lisa Fry, The Rev Abby Pettee, Carlos Mello, Edmund Hartt, Br Donovan Bowley, Bill Freeman, Sarah Groman, Dean Jackson, Barbara Kent Lawrence, Elizabeth Moran, Eileen Morelli, Terry Mello, Treasurer; Shirley Fierro, Clerk.

Prayer led by the Rector.

Acceptance of the minutes of July 20, 2020 Vestry meeting.

A motion was made by Edmund and seconded by Elizabeth to accept the minutes as corrected and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

The Parish is solvent. Treasurer will know more when the third quarter ends in September.

Rectors Report

The Rector talked about the prayer garden, projects in development and thoughts on reopening. Vestry was encouraged to discuss and make suggestions. Services are being considered in an outdoor space large enough to accommodate all who wish to attend – one service in September and one service in October. Rector is gratified by the ongoing positive response to the service videos each week. Numbers for all our services online are excellent. The Prayer Garden at the rear of the Church is now available to plant Chrysanthemums in Memory of a loved one. A trowel will be made available to plant the Mum in one of the boxes—thank you Elizabeth for the suggestion.

Senior Warden Report

No report.

Jr. Warden

No report.

New Business:

Vestry was briefed on the Task Force's discussion about reopening in September. Vestry had been given several documents to read that informed that decision. There was a lengthy discussion about whether or not to reopen in September, based on all the information. It was mentioned that if St. Thomas' reopened in Sept no member of the Task Force, and only one person on Vestry would be willing to attend. After much debate, acknowledging that there would be some unhappy parishioners if we didn't open, but there was a definite risk if we did, the Vestry voted unanimously to hold off on opening until November. There was further discussion about possible outdoor services as a way of taking a first step toward getting the parish back together for in person services. The rector said she would look into venues.

Edmund Hartt made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Carlos Mello seconded the motion at 6:35 pm.

The Rector adjourned the meeting with Prayer.

Next meeting: Monday, September 28, 2020 at 5:30 pm

Upcoming activities for the congregation:

- Every Sunday: Holy Eucharist Rite 2/sermon/music-Open Timing
- Monday through Friday Coffee half hour at 9:30 am
- Monday and Friday: Noonday Prayer
- Wednesday and Saturday: Compline at 8 pm
- Bible Study: Wednesdays at 10:30 am
- Rector's Class to resume in the Fall
- Food pantry open
- Loaves and Fishes continuing
- Phone tree calling people
- Pastoral care continuing as needed
- Tidings weekly
- Sunday School to resume in the Fall
- Task Force on reopening the Church