

**ST. THOMAS VIRTUAL (Zoom) VESTRY MEETING**  
**November 24, 2020**

**Present:** The Rev Canon Lisa Fry, Rector; The Reverend Abby Pettee, Deacon; Carlos Mello, Senior Warden; Edmund Hartt, Junior Warden; Brother Donovan Bowley, Bill Freeman, Sarah Groman, Dean Jackson, Jen Johanson, Elizabeth Moran, Eileen Morelli, Terry Mello, Treasurer; Shirley Fierro, Clerk.

Meeting opened at 5:33 p.m. with Prayer led by the Rector.

A motion was made by Donovan and seconded by Edmund to accept the minutes of the Vestry meeting of October 19, 2020. The vote was unanimous in favor of accepting the minutes.

**Rectors Report**

Private Prayer time in the Church on November 8 and 15 had no attendees. The next prayer time in the church will take place on November 30<sup>th</sup>. If no attendees again, Private Prayer in the church will be cancelled.

**Treasurers Report**

Pledges are down \$13,000.00. Heating fuel costs are also down. Mostly those who donate larger sums have kept up their pledge as well as some of the summer residents.

In January, the end of year letter will be sent to all parishioners. In the meantime, the treasurer will solicit parishioners to complete their pledged goal for 2020 through the Tidings.

The Donate button on the website is once again working. There is a fee for donating online and approximately 90% of donors are offsetting the fee by including it in their offering.

The Treasurer is requesting 2 or 3 people to validate all checks received have been deposited correctly since church has been closed. The Church Secretary makes a copy of all checks as they are received. Please contact Susan Fockler, Chairperson of the Finance Committee, if you are interested in helping with the audit.

**Senior Warden Report**

The Creche without figures has been assembled on the front lawn of the Church. The figures have not been placed yet.

**Junior Warden**

The two streetlamps in the Church owned parking lot are not lit. As per the lease with Camden Bank the bank is responsible. This is also a public parking lot from 5 pm to midnight daily, all day Saturday and Sundays from noon to midnight. The Junior Warden is working with the town regarding the electricity bill as this is used as a public lot.

Building and Grounds: The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 3:30 p.m.

**New Business:**

Christmas Eve services, Blue Christmas and Christmas Day Services are in the planning stages. Watch the Tidings for further information. There will also be a Christmas Eve service video, complete with original pageant by all our kids.

Terry continues to seek assistance with the duties of the Video Ministry. Please see the memo of November 23, 2020 for further information. Some folks have stepped forward, but additional volunteers are needed. Over 100 people take advantage every week of the video of the Service – people both local and out of state. This is a

wonderful opportunity for people who have not been able to attend a service, some for many years, once again to feel part of St. Thomas. This, as it turns out, is an especially important Ministry that blesses many.

Stewardship: The first video will be vetted and filmed some time next week. The stewardship form is on the website and that information is also in Tidings. Those desiring to know where they stand with their 2020 pledge please request this information from Terry directly.

Vestry: There are four vacancies to be filled on the Vestry for the 2021 year. The Vestry will make phone calls to prospective candidates to appear on the ballot for the Annual Meeting in January 2021.

The Rector adjourned the meeting with prayer at 6:39 pm.

The next meeting will take place on December 21, 2020 at 5:30 pm.

**Upcoming activities for the congregation:**

- Every Sunday: Holy Eucharist Rite 2/sermon/music Open timing
- Coffee and Check-in M-Th 9:30 am
- Monday-Friday: Noonday Prayer (w/Sarah, Lisa, Donovan, and Shirley)
- Wednesday and Saturday - Compline at 8 pm (w/ Jacqueline)
- EFM Wednesdays (Donovan and Rosalee)
- Bible Study: Wednesdays at 10:30 am (w/Brother Donovan)
- Rector's Class Sundays at 4:00 pm
- Food pantry open
- Loaves and Fishes continuing
- Phone tree calling parishioners at risk, without internet
- Pastoral visits with Rector continuing
- Tidings weekly-brand new format-great for phones!
- Christmas Pageant plans in the works-filming
- Planning for Christmas Eve-all 3 services
- Blue Christmas airing December 20th