

VESTRY MINUTES
Sunday, April 21, 2024 – 11:41 a.m.

PRESENT: Linda Bourque, Katie Chipman-Bergsma via phone, Nikki Clark, Bruce Lynn, Ruth Neveu;

ABSENT: None; **GUEST:** Diane Horst, Gin Mannisto, Cal Woodard

1. **Opening:** Linda Bourque opened the meeting at 11:41 a.m. with the vestry prayer.
2. **Review Agenda:** No additions or deletions.
3. **Public Comment:** Gin Mannisto passed out a copy of the Solar Faithful Interest form. Diane Horst expressed an interest in filling out the Solar Faithful Interest form, so that we can be informed in what the possibilities are regarding a Solar energy system. She indicated Solar Faithful would do an assessment of the roof as well as assessing the solar possibilities. Discussion regarding historical designation and what effect that may have on any decision as to whether we would go ahead with any solar projects. Discussion of whether you would put solar panels on the roof or on the ground. Discussion of heat pumps. It was reported that it has been at least seven years since Chris Piche of Kaysner Roofing assessed the roof. When he assessed the roof, he found that there were some problems with some joints, and they were repaired. Katie Chipman-Bergsma was asked if she would take the lead on filling out the Solar Faithful Interest form and Cal Woodard indicated he would like to form a work committee to evaluate the project.
4. **Ministry Support Team:** An initiative of MST and Katie Chipman-Bergsma is to have a two community garden plots for the church. The Garden will be planted on May 11. June 9th there will be a picnic. Carl Deplonty has agreed to be the grill master and bring a grill. A support letter for David Cook's discernment was signed during the meeting. Gin will be going on vacation on May 12 and will be back on June 2. Discussion of discernment for the congregation. They were unable to find a person to convene one, therefore Gin Mannisto has agreed to be the convener of the discernment. There will need to be four to five meetings spread out sometime after June 2. The diocese will be having visioning and dreaming for the congregations and diocese, the gathering will be held in Marquette on June 8, 2024. An outside consultant will be coming in to help with this process.
5. **Review/Approval of Vestry Minutes of March 21, 2024. Motion to approve the March minutes by Nikki Clark seconded by Bruce Lynn. No opposition or abstentions, motion carried.**
6. **Treasurer's / Endowment / Budget Approval:** Bruce Lynn reported the finances, and the report will be put on file in the office. He used the same format that Sandy Deplonty the former treasurer had been using to report the budget along with expenses, etc. Discussion of how the Endowment and Killan accounts work.

7. Committee Reports

- a. **Christian Education** – The formation classes put on by the diocese were attended by several members of the diocese including five or six people from St. James.
- b. **ECW Report** – Discussion of what should be done with any funds that are still in the ECW account.
- c. **Outreach** – The movies will be coming up next weekend regarding *Common Ground* and *Kiss the Ground*. Also, May 11 is the planting day at the community gardens. There is also a seed library available for interested gardeners.

8. Senior Warden's Report: None

9. Junior Warden's Report: Cal Woodard and Linda Bourque will be getting together to get rid of the bald-faced wasps in the furnace room. Cal Woodard reported that he will be getting together with Albert Heating to run another control line from the boilers to the thermostat. There is a cement walkway area that is cracked and needs replacement, and he will be looking into the cost, etc. Cal Woodard is looking into the cost of weatherizing various entrances (new or refurbished doors, etc.) He may be getting two or three proposals on the cost of these projects. Cal has turned off the heat in the various vestibules as heating was causing some issues with the walls, etc. Another project that Cal is looking at is the electric stair stepper to see if a platform could be created that would help individuals get on and off the electric stair stepper. He has been talking to Ed Castor to see what kind of platform could be created along with possible handrails. Cal shared a final report regarding the Thermal Recovery Project. This report will be put on file in the office. Depending on the cost of various projects we may need to take out another loan from the diocese.

10. Old Business: None

11. New Business: None

12. Next Vestry Meeting: Sunday May 19, 2024

13. Adjournment and Closing Prayers: Motion to adjourn made by Nikki Clark with a second by Bruce Lynn. No opposition or abstentions, motion carried.

Adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Ruth Neveu
Clerk of the Vestry