

**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
Elyria, OH**

**Minutes of Vestry Meeting, May 13, 2020**

Present: Rev. June Hardy Dorsey, Jean Hays, Bill Hebble, Amy Kellogg, Jon Quisenberry, Doug Skladan, Leanne Taylor, Hans Van Wormer, Anne Yug

Excused: Rev. Greg Stark, Jim Jablonski

Guest: Rev. Aaron Gerlach

Welcome, Check in and Opening Worship

Call to order 7:17 pm

Meeting Minutes

February corrections need to be sent to June

Hans VanWormer moved to accept April's Minutes, Jean Hays seconded, accepted

Report on Follow up on Actions from Feb and April Vestry Meeting

Job Descriptions for Bookkeeper, Music Director, Parish Administrator and Sexton are being provided for inclusion in your Vestry Notebooks. With these additions Vestry should have job descriptions for all clergy, staff and independent contractors except the Nursery Attendant. (That can be provided once it is revised to meet new standards when we return to in-person worship.)

Banner 1 ordered at \$54+ "Love Your Neighbor..." The design is vertical and we have one place for vertical placement. More can be ordered once we decide about other messages.

Christ Church Gift of \$10,000 - Thank you letter written and hand delivered by June Hardy Dorsey

Volunteer sign up list for the pantry/community meals room remodels

Need a list of skills/tasks from Building and Grounds. Then we will send out a survey of skills needed asking who has the skills. Once dates and times and schedule are confirmed, we can send to those who are interested. (We sent out a building clean up sign up at the beginning of the suspended worship and had to cancel due to building occupancy circumstances.)

Poad investment transfer to Youth Ministry

Financial Reports – see attached

Accepted for audit, Anne Yug moved and Bill Hebble seconded, motion passed

Sr. Warden report – see attached

The question was raised about sending a representative from St. Andrew's to City Council meetings. The next meeting is Monday, May 18, at 7 pm. Bill Hebble offered to attend.

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St. Andrew's Vestry Meeting Minutes

May 13, 2020

Jean Hays reported that she compiled statistics on pledges and giving since we last met in person for worship.

**PLEDGED**

- already gave total pledge for the year: 2
- stopped giving: 4
- pledged but haven't given anything in 2020: 6
- lowered frequency and/or amount: 8
- stayed the same or raised amount: 29

**NONPLEDGE**

- gave for the year: 1
- stopped giving: 5
- lowered frequency and/or amount: 0
- stayed the same or raised the amount: 3

Curate's Report – see attached

Rector's Report – see attached

June advised she is meeting with the County Health Department to stay up-to-date and learn more about the Covid-19 pandemic. Bishop Hollingsworth has not set a recommended return date.

Jim Jablonski sent a letter of resignation from Vestry. Doug Skladan moved to accept Jim's resignation and Jean Hays seconded. Motion passed with 1 dissent. Jean Hays will contact Jim.

Anne Yug reported that she is resigning as the Coordinator for our Food Pantry which is currently on hiatus due to the pandemic.

Guest presenter: The Rev. Aaron Gerlach, Rector, Old Trinity, Tiffin, presented on innovative and enriching community relationships and the use of a downtown building.

New Business

Need discussion on replacing Jim Jablonski on Vestry  
Follow up discussion on presentation of Rev. Gerlach

Closing Prayer

9:05 pm Business meeting concluded

Respectfully Submitted,  
Michelle VanWormer  
Vestry Clerk 2020

Rector's Report to Vestry May 13, 2020 Zoom Vestry Meeting 7 pm

1. Prayer, Bible Study, Writing and creating on-line worship for Sunday and mid-week services (sermons, Power Points with art and music, enews, website info, FB posts, creation of a Spotify playlist for collaboration and for use in worship etc)

2. Working with Worship "Fresh Look" Task Group which pivoted to address specifically "suspended in-person worship" context. Working with Joan Van Wormer to provide some "live" worship music along with the recorded music used in Zoom Worship.

3. Pastoral Care - telephone, Zoom, notes and cards, Facetime when possible  
(The Rev. Nancy Roth – death)

Please encourage any parishioners experiencing financial hardship due to the pandemic to reach out to me. There have been generous gifts to the Discretionary Fund.

4. Communications - with leadership, staff, parish-wide, Diocese and larger community – met in virtual meeting with Lorain Co. Health Director and clergy, Urban League Committee, Census and Faith Leaders and Interfaith group of upcoming Service of Hope (Jewish, Muslim, Christian)

5. Creation and Curation of worship and formation resources  
(remote, virtual and snail mail)

6. Strategic Plan Implementation and Reporting (especially with new commissions)

7. Diocesan and Mission Area Work (Clericus, Clergy Conference, Commission on Ministry, NCMA Council)

8. Administration- working with Parish Administrator and Financial Secretary to ensure that priority tasks around communication and finance continue without interruption during this time of gathering restriction due to Co-Vid 19. Working with Parish Administrator on unifying directory information across platforms for communication (MailChimp, Flocknote etc.)

9. PPP loan- research, application and procurement of supporting documents

10. Outreach – Continued dialogue with Outreach Ministry leaders regarding the continuation and/or suspension of Food Pantry and Community Meals during this time. (Ann Yug letter to Vestry)

Other Items

Jim Jablonski Resignation from Vestry

(Please reach out to Jim to thank him for his ministry on the Vestry and commit his health to your prayers.)

Encourage participation in Pandemic as Portal: Soul Tending Virtual Retreat at Bellwether. Sunday 5/17/2020 Registration Info sent to your email.

Anti-Racism Emphasis to Continue with book study and discussion group

Bellwether Summer Camp 2020 Season Cancelled

St. Andrew's VBS Moved to "At Home" VBS with VBS Boxes provided

Curate's Vestry Report  
May 2020

In April and May we bring our academic calendar to an end and start shifting gears for summer. Students graduate, we thank our teachers and formation leaders, and we prepare for Vacation Bible School. While it is finally warming up and the sky is clear this afternoon, I am sad that so many of the ways we mark this time – the ceremonies, the pomp and circumstance, the time together – cannot happen. Or they are being reimagined. We are making do and we are adapting our programs to ensure that our mission, our vocation as a church, continues. As we keep saying, we aren't closed, we are doing church at a distance.

In some ways, I feel like I am more active and engaged in the community despite spending so much time at home. I continue to help both as a board member and with ordering for Oberlin Weekday Community Meals, picking up food once a week. I have been helping on Thursday evenings in Lorain at Church of the Redeemer with their meal program. I am now serving as one of the community coordinators for the LGBT Task Force of Lorain County's SafeZone training program. I was scheduled to do a training for Genesis House in April, but COVID-19 kept that from happening. On Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>, the Youth Ministry Commission gathered over zoom and we are corresponding over email to identify next steps as we have accomplished most of the goals from the strategic plan (setting up the lay leadership commission, integrating youth into the leadership of the parish, and connecting youth with programs in the diocese). We are setting up a time for youth to check in with each other, with me, and with the Youth Ministry Commission on either Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup>, Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup>, or Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup>. We are also exploring options for an online service (perhaps noonday prayer) for which the youth could take particular leadership.

With this week's announcement from the Diocese and from Bellwether that camp programming will not be proceeding this summer, we have made the decision to adapt our VBS programming to households. I am working on a grant request to the Mission Area (meeting this upcoming Saturday) for \$750 to supplement our \$845 in designated funds for VBS. We will be offering VBS at Home kits, based on the already ordered materials and materials from SALT Collective (whose materials we used for Lent). We are also going to explore how we could extend this offering to families who have come to our feeding programs. I have met with the Urban League coordinator for youth and education to discuss opportunities for collaboration (over phone), and we are brainstorming ways to specifically engage Lorain County youth on anti-racism and social justice programming, with an openness to interfaith dialogue. We will be following up in two weeks to explore some summer options.

I have continued to serve as an affiliate with the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, and I am excited that one of Christ Church's active students and Oberlin College Graduate-to-be, Madeleine Gefke, will be a student speaker for the Baccalaureate service. As Christ Church continues its transition in the search process, we are discerning how we are called to minister with and for students during their time here in Oberlin. How we will adapt this vocation in the time of the coronavirus is still to be seen. One of the exciting opportunities that we started this may was a zoom bible study of the book of Acts for our 20s and 30s folks. We had five total participants for our first meeting, and we have settled on Tuesdays at 6:15pm. If you or someone you know is in that age bracket and would like to join the study, please email or text me. Thank you for all that you do to answer God's call to serve our community and proclaim the hope of salvation in Christ.

Faithfully Submitted, Greg+

Resignation letter

1 message [jjjablon@aol.com](mailto:jjjablon@aol.com)

Fri, May 8, 2020 at 9:53 AM

Reply-To: [jjjablon@aol.com](mailto:jjjablon@aol.com)

To: "revjunehd@gmail.com"

Rev. June Hardy Dorsey,

With regret I must inform you that I need to resign both from St. Andrew's vestry and the Creation Care committee. Recent health problems related to discontinuing an anti-depressant medication have caused symptoms that make it impossible for me to continue in those roles. I have changed both anti-depressant and psychiatrist and hope to get these problems under control within a matter of weeks, although I have also been told it can take months.

As for my involvement on Vestry, I always doubted my ability to perform effectively in that role. However, I intended to stay with my three-year commitment. I regret that I cannot fulfill that promise, my peace of mind requires that I leave that group even if I should fully regain my health in the near future.

The Creation Care committee was something that matched my interests closely. I had planned to become very involved in planning the activities of that group as soon as I returned from my March vacation. As we know too well, I returned to a different world with social distancing firmly in place, putting an end to face to face meeting and group activities. With little planning so far and with the advancing season, it seems best to put the Third Street garden on hold until next year, unless others feel they can take it on. I do look forward to returning to this committee at some point in the future, if possible.

I am very sorry to make these decisions, but I firmly believe they are best for both St. Andrew's and myself. Thank you for all your help over the last five years and more.

Very sincerely,  
Jim Jablonski