



"Disciples of Jesus, Discipling in love"
VESTRY MINUTES- Tuesday, December 10, 2019

Attendees:

The Rev. Joseph Acanfora, Rector
Kerry Bremmer
Philip Chakram
Bill Collins
Mary Edwards, Registrar

Gayle Fischer, Senior Warden
Andy Harris, Junior Warden
Stephen Klein
Phil Rooney, Treasurer
Tawnia Wheeler, Absent

The December 10, 2019, meeting of the vestry of Church of the Apostles came to order at 7:15 P.M. with opening prayer, singing, and a devotional discussion from Session 5 of Book study "I Once Was Lost."

Guiding Scriptures: Mark 4:14-20

The sower sows the word. ¹⁵ And these are the ones along the path, where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them. ¹⁶ And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: the ones who, when they hear the word, immediately receive it with joy. ¹⁷ And they have no root in themselves, but endure for a while; then, when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away. ¹⁸ And others are the ones sown among thorns. They are those who hear the word,¹⁹ but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the desires for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²⁰ But those that were sown on the good soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirtyfold and sixtyfold and a hundredfold."

Seed is just planting the idea. From that something either grows or it dies. When we hear the word of God it germinates and we either take it in or reject it. The rocky ground is being closed to change in our life. The soil could be four different types of people or the same person in different seasons of their life.

5 steps and the movement they represent in someone's life.

1. Movement from mistrust to trust
2. Movement from complacent to curious
3. Movement from being closed to change to open to change
4. Movement from meandering to seeking
5. Movement into the Kingdom itself; becoming a Christian and the change that means in someone's life.



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Don't harvest plants before they are grown. Don't push someone to make a Christian commitment before they are ready to make an informed commitment. There is a call to be patient and persistent.

1. **Finance/Building:** Phil Rooney began his report by presenting us with several housing allowance proposals. For the year 2019, a partial housing allowance for Nick Braunschneider, beginning when he joins us on December 15, 2019, through the end of the year. For the year 2020, full housing allowances commensurate with salary were proposed for Nick Braunschneider, Ryan Betwy, and Viet Le. A partial housing allowance for the first six months of 2020 was proposed for Joe Acanfora. Stephen Klein made a motion for us to accept all these housing allowances. The motion was seconded by Kerry Bremmer and approved by all.

Phil went on to present our current Income and Expenses Report. With the various bills coming due for the completion of the building project, money is especially tight right now. Phil suggested that 2020 will be a challenging year, and that we need to be careful and reign in our credit card expenditures.

Phil proposed giving a \$1,000 bonus Pam, Jenny, Kristin and Chris. After some discussion about the current tightness of our budget, it was decided to give them a bonus of \$500 each. Tyler Aberle made a motion to give a \$500 bonus to Pam, Jenny, Kristin and Chris. The motion was seconded by Kerry Bremmer and passed with one vestry member opposed.

Everyone gave feedback on our first two services in our new space . We counted 183 attendees on Saturday night. Bishop Guernsey said that it feels very intimate the way our space is arranged. Joe had a palpable sense of the Holy Spirit coming into our space during the consecration. The flowers, designed by Ellyn Heppelfinger Rothgeb, that decorated the altar were beautiful. We still have some gluten free issues with sharing communion that we need to solve.

2. **Plans for moving into the new building.** We are tentatively planning to move the remaining church furnishings and equipment on Saturday, December 14. We are using Gibbs Movers, the moving company that Wilbert Smith works for. The plan is to start moving things from the French's barn on Friday, and then begin staging all the things from Pender Drive, which will be moved to 11717 Lee Highway on Saturday. Volunteers will be needed at Lee Highway for unpacking, cleaning and setting up furniture in various rooms, and supplies in the kitchen, etc.

Christmas services are scheduled for December 24 at 3:30 PM and 8 PM. The 3:30 service will be geared towards families with young children. The 8:00 service will be a traditional service based on a Lessons & Carols format. Nick will be giving a short message.



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New Year's Day we plan to be at Christ Church Lutheran to put on a lunch for the guests at Hypothermia Day.

Joe suggested the possibility of having a New Year's celebration at our new church with a potluck meal, and a short praise and worship service.

3. **By-laws Committee Update:** Kerry Bremmer reported that we are about two-thirds complete with the by-laws update. We plan to have it completed so that it can be reviewed at the next vestry meeting on January 28th.

4. **Nick's arrival Wednesday afternoon and initial plans:**

Nick and family are arriving in the area from Florida on Wednesday, December 11. Their household furniture and goods will be delivered on Friday, December 13. We would like to provide meals for the family for several days to help them get settled? We will provide some basic items, (table, chairs, games, TV) to help them through their first few days.

This is the plan to ease Nick into the life and work of the church, all while building relationships with staff, vestry, the congregation, community and diocese.

(Joe = I, Nick = You)

| <u>Steps</u> | <u>Rough Time-line</u> |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| - I do, you watch (Model) | Balance of December |
| - I do, you help (Mentor) | January |
| - You do, I help (Motivate) | February |
| - You do, I watch (Monitor) | March |
| - You do, others watch (Multiply) | April |

Proposed Meetings for 2020: 1/28, 2/11, 2/25, 3/10, Annual Meeting 3/22

Adjournment: Philip Chakram moved to adjourn the meeting. Tyler Aberle seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.