

St. Michael and All Angels' Episcopal Church
Mission Council Meeting Minutes - May 20, 2020

Call to Order

Father Charles asked everyone for prayer requests before opening the meeting in prayer.

- Karin Mauldin
- Janet Martin
- NHC staff and residents
- Father Charles' mom and sister
- Kathy Darlunde
- Cathy Cook's Aunt Barbara

Members in Attendance

Rob Martin, Jim Lawler, Donna Andreo, John Phillips, Karin Mauldin, Sandy Rains, Cathy Cook, Pat Brandon, Pie Sharpe, and Hugh Wilson.

Also in attendance: Father Charles, Deborah Carlson, and Christopher Johnson.

Thank You Note Reminder

Father Charles asked the MC to remember to send out notes, emails, and make phone calls to members of the congregation. He reminded the group that this is important so that the church can stay in contact with everyone. He also reported making calls and sending messages to members as well.

Two Questions to Consider for SMAA Way Forward

Father Charles read a passage from John 17 and led the group in a discussion about its interpretation.

1. For whom does the church exist?
 - To those we send texts and emails?
 - To those who watch our virtual services?
 - For others we pray for?
2. For what purpose does the church exist?
 - The world?
 - For our church members?
 - Greater Columbia and the surrounding area?

Guiding Assumptions:

- Bishop Andrew is our Apostle appointed by Jesus.
- All of our plans must work hand in hand with the bishop's wishes for the diocese.
- Sacraments are life-giving and essential.
- Scripture, Tradition, and Reason are our lodestar. These things become more important during times of crisis. We should look to the best practices of medical experts. Practices may change as information changes and as such, we need to be flexible enough to change with them.
- Returning to the Sacraments is very important to Father Charles and the Mission Council.
- Scripture governs us.
- Being grounded in our understanding.

Points for the Parish to Consider:

- Worship must first glorify God.
- Worship must help us Preach, Teach, Heal, and Make Disciples.
- We should implement a plan for the celebration of the liturgy with safe practices in mind (COVID-19).
- We should display a clear outline of safe practices.
- We should develop an integrated approach for confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the church and a plan to communicate with the parish, diocesan officials, and public health authorities.

One shouldn't attend the liturgy if they experience any of the following:

- are in a high-risk group as defined by Appendix c of the EDUCS guidelines
- a temperature above 100.4
- cough or sore throat
- shortness of breath
- recent loss of smell or taste
- chills
- new muscle aches

- gastrointestinal upset and diarrhea
- a general sense of feeling unwell
- those who may feel they have been exposed to someone with COVID-19

What's Next?

- team working on a plan for public worship
- worship will be outside
- likely a non-communing Holy Eucharist
- waiting on clarity from diocese regarding the maximum number of worshippers
- congregational singing not possible at this time
- no time table for Christian Formation, breakfast, coffee hour, or other parish meals
- Livestream of the service or recording and posting afterward for those whose health will not permit them to attend
- full compliance with EDUSC guidelines
- must wear masks
- no passing of the peace (in our traditional method)

Report from Committee on Resuming Public Worship

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Coordinator needed.
- PPE Supplies and budget needed - Karin Mauldin offered to purchase latex gloves.
- Public Worship Monitors needed.
- HVAC Engineer needed to evaluate system with possible upgrades - JC Pundt will contact someone to complete this evaluation.
- Committee will work with Fr. Charles to make a decision on what direction to take.
- Significant number of volunteers needed for cleaning before/during/after services or re-work Harry's schedule to accommodate Sunday cleaning needs
 - If it is not possible to reschedule Harry or get sufficient volunteers, we would need a cleaning service.
- Will work on a survey to see who would come to public worship given restrictions of EDUSC guidelines - should go out soon and will ask the congregation if they would be comfortable attending an outside or inside service or would prefer online to continue.

- Hand sanitizing station needed

Recommendations/Report from Finance Committee

- Recommend paying \$1,750 towards the 2020 Diocesan Pledge with reevaluation at the end of May - MC agreed and decided that a month to month decision would be made about this payment in the future.
- Recommend approval of submitted ELC June Tuition plan (discussion/decision) - full tuition will be paid by parents that are sending their children to the ELC and ¼ tuition will be charged to parents that are not sending their children right now and are still working (to hold their spot).
- CARES Act PPP Loan update - John reported that four out of the next five payrolls are covered through this loan. Money that is left over has to be paid back.
- Recommendation for further study on hiring HVAC engineer to inspect our system and make recommendations for upgrades for better air filtration to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 (EDUSC guidelines recommend this for reopening of church) - John reported that GC Pundt will contact someone to complete this evaluation.
- SMAA Parish and ELC income/expense trends - John reported that the April operating statements include losses for the church of \$2,629 and the ELC of \$11,308. These results reflect the first full month's impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, with the church closing and moving to online services and the ELC closing. Both experienced sharply lower giving and tuition incomes. The church is showing a year-to-date loss of \$14,572, while the ELC has income of \$15,544. Receipt of the Paycheck Protection Program funds in late April bodes well for much improvement in May and June.

Motions

- A motion was made by Pie Sharpe and seconded by Sandy Rains to approve the recommendations of the Finance Committee. **Approved**
- A motion was made by Cathy Cook and seconded by Jim Lawler to approve the minutes and financials. **Approved**

MC Concerns/Comments:

- Chris Johnson and his wife have purchased a Monstrance for the church.
- Karin Mauldin offered to buy plastic gloves for the church.
- John Phillips will email us about details if our building will or will not be used for voting in June.
- Next Meeting: June 24th at 5:30 pm
- Meeting ended in prayer at 7:36 pm