

# EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AUGUST 17, 2021, VESTRY MINUTES

Action/Date Due  
for Review/  
Assigned To

**Date:** August 17, 2021    **Time Started:** 5:37 pm    **Time Ended:** 6:20pm pm

**Next Meeting:** September 21, 2021, 5:30pm.

**Members Present:** Kathleen Phillips, Senior Warden; Peggy Wilson, Junior Warden; Debra Alexander; Dick Jordan; Mary Maupin; Nancy Larkin; Loraine Hilty; Mark Holland; Pam McNally (late arrival)

**Members Absent:** Barbara Schauer

**Other Attendees:** Bill Sewell, Treasurer; Lorrie Cooper, Clerk; Ty Jones, Deacon; Rev. Jennie Lou Reid, supply priest during David's sabbatical.

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## DISCUSSION/FINDINGS/CONCLUSIONS

**Welcome and Opening Prayer** (*Rev. Jennie Lou Reid*)

### Brief Check In

AGENDA ITEM: **Vestry Minutes Approval: July 20, 2021** (*Clerk, Lorrie Cooper*)

AGENDA ITEM: **Financial Report** (*Bill Sewell, Treasurer*)

Pleased with switching from Verizon to French Broad Electric's phone service. Savings arose from minimal use of the building. The propane tanks were replenished. Budgeted expenses greater than actual expenses. Although a break-even on operating budget is preferred, it is nevertheless good to see where the church is in the seventh month. Bill has applied for reimbursement of sales tax for first six months of this year. Finally, reserve should cover David's expenses during his sabbatical.

AGENDA ITEM: **Esperanza** (*Mary Maupin*)

English classes for Spanish speakers have been ongoing for the past four Monday evenings. The attendance has consisted of four to six Latinas and four to five volunteers from ECHS and the Madison County community.

Minutes from the July 20 meeting were unanimously approved.

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Unfortunately this class was cancelled for August 16 due to possible rain—the classes meet outside—and Covid. All activities have been postponed.

Note: a family member of one long-term La Esperanza Latina member has been diagnosed with Covid. Please add our Latino community to your prayers.

**AGENDA ITEM: Adult Formation** *(Mark Holland)*

The Adult Christian Formation Committee has been planning a pandemic workshop for 25 September but will almost certainly need to postpone that workshop until the Regathering Committee allows meetings inside the church. Hopefully that will happen later this year. Vestry will be informed of the committee's plans as they develop.

**AGENDA ITEM: Outreach** *(Nancy Larkin)*

Nancy Larkin gave an update on the Joyful Jars project for the upcoming Heritage Festival. Information about the Festival and jars will be placed in *Mountain Spirit* and *Weekly Spirit*.

**First Sunday Open Offerings for 2022:**

We have received requests from La Esperanza, Homeward Bound, Consider Haiti, and Neighbors in Need. Crellin Byrd will check with Phyllis, our Guatemala contact, on the current situation with the school in Guatemala. Roger Hartner has contacted Beacon of Hope. Two of the First Sunday offerings were used for Outreach Fund and Rector's/Deacon's Discretionary Funds. Decisions about funding for 2022 will be made at our September meeting.

**First Sunday Recipients (2021):**

July was Beacon of Hope. A check for \$990 has been sent.  
August: Church of the Advocate.  
September: Homeward Bound.  
October: Pisgah Legal Services.

Genevieve Burda reported that twenty-nine backpacks have been filled by church members. Genevieve Burda and Roger Hartner will deliver them to the Madison County Department of Social Services.

**Christmas Angels:** Marnie Wilson will lead this activity with assistance from Susan Sewell and Gen Burda.

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**Homeward Bound Breakfast:** Mary Jo Sparrow will coordinate another breakfast for September. Food should be brought to the church by August 27.

**Next meeting September 19,** following the church service.

**AGENDA ITEM: Jr. Warden's Report** (*Peggy Wilson*)

We are partnering with folks from the Church of the Advocate, headed up by Rhonda Chandler, for an ECHS outside workday. She has a group of five volunteers who will work with ECHS volunteers Saturday, August 28, from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Information about this volunteer opportunity been sent out through publications of *Weekly Spirit*. We have a need for five or six ECHS volunteers in addition to folks willing to make sandwiches and snacks for that workday. A second workday similar to this one is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 9, also with volunteers from Church of the Advocate.

**AGENDA ITEM: Sr. Warden's Report** (*Kathleen Phillips*)

The **Regathering Committee (RC)** met weekly to evaluate and modify protocols for the church based on data reported by the CDC and NCDHHS. (Details are under "Old Business") They continue to monitor the status of the Covid virus and its variants in the three counties where most of Holy Spirit's parishioners reside.

The **Finance Committee met on July 19, 2021**, to review the budget. It was found to be in good shape. Bill Sewell is providing full report to the Vestry at the August meeting. The next Finance Committee meeting is September 15, 2021.

The **Stewardship Committee** met July 21, 2021, to move forward on preparations for the drive this fall.

A schedule of actions was approved:

- 1.) Article for the October issue of *Mountain Spirit*.
- 2.) Season officially begins on Sunday October 24th, with distribution of Packets.
- 3.) Testimonials on Sunday October 31, November 7, and 14.
- 4.) In-gathering on Sunday, November 21, and Monday, November 22.

Stewardship met to discuss the fall drive (see her report)

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**AGENDA ITEM: Rector's Report** *(Jennie Lou Reid)*

She was impressed by Dana, the Church of Advocate preacher who spoke at Sunday's service. She is also impressed by the persistence of ECHS during this time.

**AGENDA ITEM: Old Business**

- 1.) The Regathering Committee recommended changes to the guidelines for in-person Sunday services. Approval was granted by the Vestry via email.
- 2.) The RC advised a return to Zoom Sunday Morning Prayer due to increased health risks from the Delta variant. Vestry approved via email.
- 3.) The RC revised guidelines for use of the church grounds and building. Vestry approved via email.

**AGENDA ITEM: New Business**

Dick commented on the ministry schedule, which will cover services done via Zoom. Nancy Larkin expressed concerns about the mask protocol and shared several concerns from her Vestry people. These concerns will be relayed to the Regathering Committee.

**Closing Prayer** *(Rev. Jennie Lou Reid)*

**AGENDA ITEM: Next Vestry Meeting Date**

September 21, 2021, pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lorrie Cooper, Clerk

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