

# EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT MAY 18, 2021, VESTRY MINUTES

Action/Date Due  
for Review/  
Assigned To

**Date:** May 18, 2021    **Time Started:** 5:32 pm    **Time Ended:** 6:55 pm

**Next Meeting:** June 15, 2021, 5:30pm.

**Members Present:** Peggy Wilson, Junior Warden; Loraine Hilty; Pam McNally; Mary Maupin; Mark Holland; Dick Jordan; Kathleen Phillips; Barbara Schauer; Debra Alexander

**Members Absent:** Nancy Larkin

**Other Attendees:** David McNair, Rector; Bill Sewell, Treasurer; Lorrie Cooper, Clerk; Linda Tull; Ann Smith; the Haagas; Jay Schauer

\*\*\*\*\*

## DISCUSSION/FINDINGS/CONCLUSIONS

### **Call to Order, Prayer or Reading** *(David McNair)*

Thoughts from Mother Theresa.

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

#### **AGENDA ITEM: Regathering** *(David McNair)*

The Re-gathering Committee was unable to meet this week until Friday and will take into consideration new gov't changes. A report with recommendations will be sent to the Vestry. The Rector and Vestry will have final say on protocols for the Sunday services, taking into consideration the recommendations of the committee. After receiving the committee's report it may be necessary to call a special Vestry meeting.

Discussion topics focused on who can sing without a mask and future safety provisions for children and unvaccinated persons who attend in-person services. Jay Schauer entered the discussion about Sunday's in-person service, receiving feedback and giving explanations.

Minutes from the April 20 meeting were approved.

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, MAY 18, 2021**  
**VESTRY MINUTES**  
**DISCUSSION/FINDINGS/CONCLUSIONS**

<b>Action/Date Due for Review/ Assigned To</b>
--

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

Attached [to the email] are the reports that will be reviewed in next week's meeting [May 18]. They were reviewed by the Finance Committee at their meeting this morning [May 13].

—April YTD pledge receipts totaled \$80,020, 44% of the annual budgeted amounts. Open offering receipts totaled \$3,690, 53% of the annual budgeted amount. Operating expenses totaled \$60,426, \$3,872 below the April YTD budget. We should perhaps be prepared for some increases in spending as we start to reopen our building, but this is very good news.

—The Montalvo Fund for benefit of *Fieles a Jesus* Church in Mantanzas, Cuba, has \$167,168. Mark Siler reports there may be a possibility that we can begin to forward some of these badly-needed funds to Cuba. We are hoping to learn more in coming weeks.

—The Living Gifts Fund at the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina had \$55,920 at the March 31 quarterly report. We should hear very soon the current amount of funds available for grants. The Living Gifts Fund Board has been reactivated and is exploring how to begin making outreach grants as funds are available.

—Regular payments are being made on the Financial Assistance Fund loan outstanding. The Rector Sabbatical reserve is currently \$13,495 and will exceed \$14,000 by summer. The funding provided by the forgiveness of the Payroll Protection Program loan have been included in the balance sheet as a separate "To Be Determined" line item.

—We will also need to review the list of approved signers on the church bank accounts. The policy is that all checks exceeding \$500 on the operating account have two signatures. With David's sabbatical coming up and Lynda's resignation, we need to approve some additional signers and record those names at the bank.

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

The Jr. Warden has nothing to report.

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

The next [Outreach Committee] meeting will be Sunday, June 27, following the 11:00 service. The only new item at this time is that Mary Jo Sparrow will be collecting breakfast items for Room in the Inn, May 24-31. Items may be left at church or at her house. She requests that people call her before bringing the items: 828-691-8601.

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, MAY 18, 2021**  
**VESTRY MINUTES**  
**DISCUSSION/FINDINGS/CONCLUSIONS**

Action/Date Due for Review/ Assigned To
---

**AGENDA ITEM: Christian Education** *(Mark Holland)*

- The committee finalized plans for movie nights in June, July, and August. The June film will show on the eighteenth and be *My Octopus Teacher*. The church youth will offer popcorn and drinks for the film nights.
  - For the fall, the committee plans at least one meeting on processing the pandemic. These will likely take the form of an initial presentation and discussion and then small group discussion, followed by a review of the session’s discussions. Topics could include how we define and experience “the new normal” and what gifts the pandemic has brought us.
  - A proposal was made to do a session on ways in which Christianity is adapting to a changing world. Another proposal would cover the pandemic and climate change.
  - Another suggestion was to collect ideas for meetings on cards that members of the congregation would turn in after the service.
  - The Rector plans to invite Professor Marc Mullinax to do a presentation on his recent book, perhaps in November.
  - The Rector would also like to discuss his sabbatical at a meeting in December.
- The committee’s next meeting will take place 11:30a.m., Wednesday, May 26, at the church.

**AGENDA ITEM: Rector’s Report** *(David McNair)*

**1. Pastoral Care issues:**

**Suzan Bergland** – She is very weak and likely nearing the end of her life. One of her caregivers, Carol Garvey, said that she is mostly not communicating verbally. Her Episcopal priest in Naples has been offering her pastoral care.

**John Doran** – Doctors continue to monitor John after tests revealed that the cancer in his throat was no longer present.

**Taylor Barnhill** – Taylor had a PET scan at the end of April that revealed that the prostate cancer has NOT metastasized. He has begun radiation and hormone treatment that doctors believe will be effective in treating the cancer.

**The family of Kathleen Phillips** – Kathleen’s brother Jim and his wife, Rose, lost their only grandson, fifteen-year-old Ryan, to suicide last week. Ryan’s immediate family lives in California. We pray for God’s comfort, healing, and peace for all affected by this tragic loss.

**Roy and Donna Turnbaugh** notified me last week of their plans to move their membership from ECHS. They indicated that they most likely will return to the Lutheran Church, to which they have belonged in the past.

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, MAY 18, 2021**  
**VESTRY MINUTES**  
**DISCUSSION/FINDINGS/CONCLUSIONS**

**Action/Date Due  
for Review/  
Assigned To**

2. With the resignation of Lynda Miller as Sr. Warden, we are currently in need of filling this essential role, which I hope will be filled very soon! Until then, please contact me as needed.
3. Please continue to stay in contact with those people on your Vestry call list to encourage them to re-engage in our ECHS life and ministry. Also, continue to stay abreast of any concerns/needs they may have related to the changes in our ECHS Covid-19 guidelines, etc., and our efforts to regather for in-person worship..
4. Martie Carson's monthly time sheet reveals that she has been consistently working more than 30 hours per week throughout the 14 months of the pandemic although she is contracted to work 24 hours per week. The ECHS Finance Committee (FC) discussed this last week at our FC meeting, and the FC unanimously approved a recommendation to the ECHS Vestry to compensate Martie financially for the overtime work she has worked according to her submitted time-sheets (using PPP funds) and to consider how she will be compensated for her overtime work going forward.

David asks for all to respect Martie's time and is seeking a way to lessen her load.

5. The ECHS Black Jesus book group is scheduled to meet Wednesday, June 23, 4:00 p.m., at ECHS to review its work over the past three years and to consider plans going forward related to its efforts to address/confront racism and white supremacy and the centering/reading of black authors. Susan Sherard, Mark Holland, and David McNair are the current leaders of the ECHS Black Jesus Book Group
6. In keeping with diocesan policy, my Letter of Agreement with ECHS entitles me to a sabbatical every five to seven years. It has been six years since I last was granted a sabbatical. After six years of service as a parish rector, eleven weeks of sabbatical are granted in addition to regular annual vacation (four weeks). As of April 30, 2021, the ECHS Priest Sabbatical reserve has \$13,495. This fund will finance a supply priest(s) while I am away in addition to my sabbatical related expenses. I am planning to be away on sabbatical July 21 – October 18, 2021 (thirteen weeks) and to spend a portion of the sabbatical walking the Camino de Santiago in northern Spain.  
Rev. Jennie Lou Reid has agreed to serve as the supply priest while I am away July 25 – Sept. 12. Ty's wife Carol will cover additional needs.  
Rev. Susan Sherard has agreed to supply three Sundays while I am away. I am currently in conversation with other priests regarding serving the final two weeks that I am away. Barbara Moloney is chairperson of the Church Caring Crew, and she and the CCC will be prepared to assist with providing support to the supply priest if any needs arise in the congregation.

David will function as Sr. Warden or until a replacement can be found to step in for seven months.

Motion to compensate Martie Carson for her overtime. All voted for the compensation.

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, MAY 18, 2021**  
**VESTRY MINUTES**  
**DISCUSSION/FINDINGS/CONCLUSIONS**

<b>Action/Date Due for Review/ Assigned To</b>
--

I will be meeting with the CCC prior to July 21 in order to assist them with preparations for my absence. Barbara and I will be encouraging new people to join the CCC so that they have an ample pool of volunteers to call on (for meal trains/visits/check in's, etc.) as may be needed in the weeks I am away.

I will attend the June and July Vestry meetings before leaving on Sabbatical.

**7.** FYI: I have agreed to serve as a Camp Henry chaplain July 4–9 (grades 6-8 camp). I plan to be present to preside at the Sunday services on July 4 and 11.

**8.** The Reverend Debra Rice, a member of a Celo Friends meeting group, contacted me with a request to use our building for a bi-monthly Friends Meeting on Sunday afternoon or late evening. Currently, the group consists of 5-10 people. They are willing to pay a fee if ECHS would like them to do so.

**9.** The ECHS Regathering Committee is scheduled to meet this Friday, May 21, to discuss revising our Covid-19 guidelines in light of the updated CDC and NC Covid-19 guidelines. I would like to receive recommendations and feedback from the Vestry prior to that meeting.

**10.** ECHS wishes to recognize graduates from high school, college, and graduate school at a Sunday worship service in June. Please contact Martie if you know of members of ECHS who will be graduating this spring.

**11.** On July 3 there will be a celebration of life for Cal Wilson.

**AGENDA ITEM: Next Vestry Meeting Date**

Next meeting: June 15, 5:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lorrie Cooper, Clerk

---

At the request of David McNair, an action by the Vestry is noted (see the following page):

All were in agreement about allowing the Friends group to meet at the church

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, MAY 18, 2021**  
**VESTRY MINUTES**  
**DISCUSSION/FINDINGS/CONCLUSIONS**

<b>Action/Date Due for Review/ Assigned To</b>
--

On June 1, 2021, the Vestry voted unanimously (via email) to authorize the following as signers of the Church of the Holy Spirit checking accounts at First Bank:

**Account 070300414:**

William Sewell, Treasurer  
Peggy Wilson, Junior Warden  
David McNair, Rector  
Mark Holland, Vestry Representative  
Pamela McNally, Vestry Representative

**Rector's Discretionary Fund 070007953:**

William Sewell, Treasurer  
David McNair, Rector  
Susan Sherard, Rector's Representative