

The Vestry of St. Martin's had two meetings in August, both via Zoom.

After an opening prayer and spiritual meditation, the first meeting, August 10, focused on normal parish business. Financially, the church remains in solid shape and, thanks to continue support from the congregation, is running a \$15,000 surplus so far for the year. July pledging was down for the first time this year at 79% of budget, but is not considered cause for alarm since July is historically a very volatile month. However, the Budget and Finance Committee as well as the Vestry is keeping a close eye on revenue and expenses.

The addition of internet to the church nave (as opposed to the office building) has been completed and, once the camera equipment and software have been installed, we will be able to broadcast from church instead of from various locations as is our current practice. The Regathering Task Force continues to consider how we can have in-person gatherings. As of the August Vestry meetings, we were awaiting the results of the regathering survey to provide information about the congregation's preferences.

The Rector also asked the Vestry to consider continuing our LEVN (Lutheran Episcopal Volunteer Network) position as well as adding a part-time technology and communications position to the staff. The LEVN position would be half-time, as has been true for the past two years, and would focus on assisting in parish administration duties, at a cost of \$12,000 for the next ten months. The second position would be based on a six-month contract, at 12 hours a week, with the primary goal of incorporating our newly-acquired technology into our services to ensure we get the maximum benefit. Both the LEVN and the technology/communications position were referred to the budget and finance committee to insure we have adequate funding.

Bob Polkinghorn reported on the status of the Mutual Ministry Review, which established parish priorities for next year. SJ&O is on track in soliciting and managing the parish's Matthew 25 grants, and we have established a Landscape Planning Task Force to review our campus with an eye on improving it and having it better meet the needs and mission of the church. Finally, Stan Forbes volunteered to help Bob Polkinghorn draft a revision of the personnel handbook, which has not been updated for several years.

The Vestry also received and approved a recommendation from Building and Grounds to make some minor roof repairs on the sanctuary

The second meeting was held on August 24. The Vestry reviewed the report from Budget and Finance and approved funding for both staff positions. The next Vestry meeting will be held as a zoom meeting on the second Monday of the month, per usual, on September 14.