

The Vestry was called to order at 7:00 pm, once a quorum (2/3) was present.

Attendance

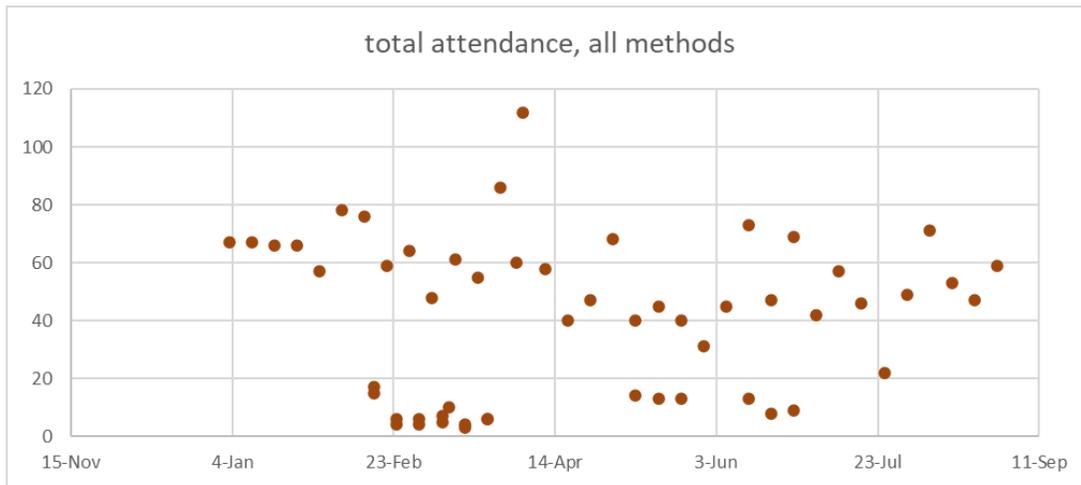
Nicholas Morris-Kliment (Rector)	X	Dusty Hecker (Warden)	X	Brian Mukherjee (Warden)	X	Vacant (Treasurer)	
Duncan Allen	X (zoom)	Jim Black	X (zoom)	Bob Begin	X	David Carnahan (Clerk)	X(zoom)
John Carr		Bob Keener	X	Ingrid Melvin	X	Ginny Yerardi	X
Annie Russell	X (zoom)	Alyssa Kence	X	Joe Sweeney	X (Zoom)	Christina O'Connell	X (zoom)
Cecile Leroy	X (zoom)						

Opening Prayers (7:05-7:25) - Nick lead us in Evening Prayer, with a reading from Matthew

Updates: (7:25-8:00)

1. Opening of Program Year/Attendance,

Nick reported that we have had two Sundays in the program year, with and 8:15 and a 10:00. We had a baptism two weeks ago, Owen Rocco, which was a wonderful way to begin the year. A bounce house and ice cream truck made last weekend more fun. Several families with young children were there to enjoy the festivities.



2. Ministry with Children, Youth, and Family

There is a good crop of youth (7-9th grade) interested in a confirmation class, to be taught by Nick, with assistance by parents. The bishop's assistant said that it is possible that there will be a service to welcome new church members in the spring.

Katie Lysaght is interested in finding some service projects for the youth group (older teens).

We hope to add activities with the Carter Methodist youth group, but they cancelled some of their trips in the near term due to Covid concerns. Nick hopes to connect with that group around service, later in the year.

3. Assistant Treasurer's report

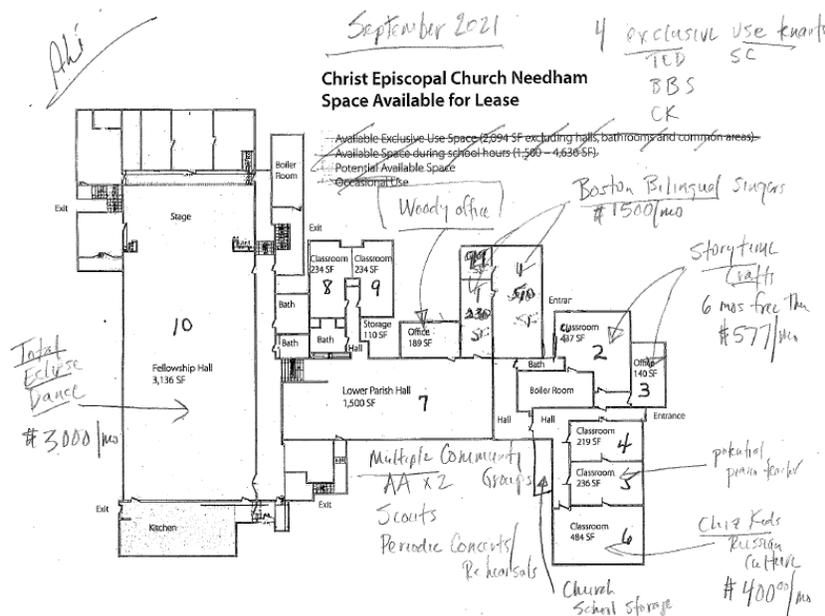
Duncan indicated that he was not aware of any significant change from our signancial status last month from his ongoing communications with the controller. *A motion was made to transfer the amount of \$379.00 from the earnings of the Scripture Study Fund in the endowment of Christ Church to the checking account of Christ Church to reimburse Tracy Rubin for book purchases made at her direction. Motion Passed*

4. Stewardship

Kim Rocco will serve as a first co-chair for the stewardship committee, and we are seeking a second. The 17th and 24th of October are potential launch dates for the Stewardship campaign.

5. Rentals

Nick reviewed the current tenants within the building. Some spaces are renting at much higher rates. The Total Eclipse lease is ready to be renegotiated, with a slight CPI increase, perhaps capped at a percentage. We did note that they did pay some rent during their shutdown. Joe suggested that they submit financials. David asked about securing the building internally, so tenants could only access their spaces. Brian also cautioned that fire exits should be kept clear. Nick mentioned that security cameras are planned to keep watch on the church spaces. In August, within Fellowship Hall, there were several days when the church was being used by a famous performer (Mick Jagger) for choreography work!



Common Life, Outreach (8:00-8:45)

1. Haiti Motion:

Resolution presented to Vestry, September 21, 2021 To promote international peace and friendship, Christ Church renews its partnership with St. Luc's parish in Lazil, Haiti for a term of three years, beginning January 1, 2022. The program will continue to focus on providing financial support for St. Luke's school and related needs such as the music program and classroom equipment. St. Luc's will be asked to account for all expenditures from the funding provided. The Needham side of the relationship will be conducted by a Council of at least five parishioners and the Vestry will provide active sponsorship. Toward the end of the

three-year term, the council and Vestry will consider whether to conclude the program or to renew it for another defined period of time.

For the calendar years 2022, 2023, and 2024, the Church will fund the general teaching staff at the school in Lazil as part of its operating budget for outreach. The annual amount will be 23.3% of the 4.5% annual endowment draw from the Mission/Outreach Fund of the endowment (the 'Four Points' fund recently designated by Vestry as the source of the outreach line item in the budget). This amount is projected to be in the range of \$3,000 to \$3,500 per year. Funds for the music program and other identified needs will be provided from sources other than the operating budget, including donations from individuals. The Council plans for raising funds from the parish in general will be coordinated with the Vestry.

Discussion: Bob B. asked about travel to Haiti to monitor this expense. Duncan Allen replied that we have made it clear that we expect accounting that indicates our funds being used as we directed. Eventually there will be someone to go visit and maintain the contact and oversight. There is no date for such a trip at present. We have already sent our last wire payment for this year, and our first for next year is planned for February 2022, assuming we receive the accounting we have asked for. Fr. Milor has provided us the teachers' names and their pay rates, but it can take him a while to get into Port-au-Prince and then out to Lazil.

Motion passed

2. RJJ

Bob Keener reported that the group is meeting monthly and will return with a revised statement soon. They are also working on offerings for the parish. A couple members moved or could not continue, so other new members are sought.

3. Bylaws

Having observed the election cycle, we are considering a reduction of the Vestry from electing 4 new persons/year to 3 persons/year, or changing the term. This would take a revision to the Bylaws. Such a revision is due, as we are no longer as large as in 2004. We are looking also to make some revisions to relax requirements around leadership in the Church. There is a process that requires a Diocesan review, so their standing committee will need to approve any changes we propose. David asked if the Treasurer position could be re-tasked to a paid professional in our bylaws? It would entail bylaw changes and the review process. We could leave ultimate check signing authority with a parish member, but have other accounting work done by an employed individual.

4. Vestry Service Project

Brian and Nick have discussed alternatives to an overnight retreat, a Vestry service project has been proposed to let us gather together and spend time team building in service. Brian will accept suggestions via email.

Parking Lot/Other Business

none

Prayer and Adjourn (8:45)

Dates

Sunday, October 3rd, 4pm: Blessing of the Animals

Tuesday, October, 19th 7pm: Vestry

Sunday, October 24th 1 service @ 10am—Memorial Organ Dedication

Sunday, November 7th 4:30pm: Lighting of the Advent Tree

Minutes taken by David L. Carnahan, Clerk of the Vestry



September 21, 2021

Attachments/links

Haiti Partnership Resolution/Testimonies

Appendix A:

Statements from CCN Haiti Committee Members

Margaret Pantridge

I have been involved in the Christ Church Haiti program for about 6 years and visited Lasil twice, once in the company of my 19-year-old son.

The Haiti program has provided me with more knowledge about the world than any other experience, trip, or course. I learned that the disparity of wealth between the US and Haiti is shocking, yet the spirit that animates the Haitian people is strong. As Christians we need to bear witness to the inequities of this sorry old world and do what we can, in our own small way, to address them. The Christ Church Haiti program provides this opportunity to our parishioners.

Our focus on St. Luc's school means we are helping to give children the possibility of a better or at least a better informed life. I feel more comfortable with the potential "multiplier effect" of education than I would if we were simply giving money away (not that there is anything wrong with out-and-out charity). Visiting Lasil has been a moving experience for me, my son and many other Christ Church members-I am guessing dozens over the years. The partnership has enriched both sides, in different ways.

If the vestry opts to continue the program, I will continue to support it. My personal goal is to develop new leadership for this important mission by expanding the number of Christ Church folks who are actively involved in some way.

Duncan Allen

Our Haiti connection stems from the parish's decision to respond to the 'Millennium Development Goals' during Skip Windsor's time with us. A choice was made then to direct 0.7% of our parish operating budget towards the needs of the 96% of God's children living outside the borders of the US. Our parish partnership with St. Luc in Lasil has brought us personal connections in ways that might not otherwise have happened. The spiritual benefits of maintaining and building on such connections in my opinion massively leverage the material aid provided. V: Let not the needy be forgotten, O Lord. R: *Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.*

Cecile Leroy

Some of my family is from Haiti and I have been wanting to find a way to contribute to Haiti's well-being. I have seen how important education is for giving people new opportunities, and I also think we have a lot to learn from stepping outside our bubble and maintaining relationships with people whose lives are very different from ours.

Heidi Fieldston

I made a number of trips to Haiti as part of the medical missions led by Dr. Emilie Hitron. I am distressed and moved by the scope and depth of the issues across the board in Haiti. I profoundly believe in education as absolutely foundational for building stronger lives, communities, institutions, and societies. Our church has a long connection with the community of Lazil and the education of its children. Continuing this ministry enables us to touch individuals and families and - in some small (or possibly very large way) make a real difference.

Rich Gatto

Claudia and I were part of the team to visit Lazile in August 2015. I was struck by how simple and basic the needs of Lazile's families were, and how genuinely appreciative they were for our help and our interest. Enabling elementary education, and selfhelp thru the Goat Project, seemed to make a real difference. Staying along the way in the so-called Matthew 25 House underscored the purpose of our mission: "for I was hungry...thirsty...a stranger..." We are called to serve in these ways.