

## **In Brief - Grace Leadership Meetings -**

### **Notes from the Program Ministry Council (PMC) Vestry--October, 2020**

All meetings open and close with prayer, and often a reflection on a reading.

#### PMC - Oct. 14

Stephen led a reflection from a reading of a William Stafford poem.

September minutes were approved unanimously.

Wren sent a Rector's Report.

Stephen referred members to his Curate's report, sent in advance.

- Prayers of the People- The committee is working to co-write a single set of prayers to be used each week in Advent.
- Youth groups are active! About 10 kids are attending each middle school and high school event. Leaders are feeling good about the meetings.
- Parenting Connection Group-Parents are leading the agenda.

#### Membership report

- Mairead and Amanda are checking in with new people who attend Sunday worship multiple times.
- Mairead is supporting annual giving during a lull in membership activities

#### Parish Life

- Pegge reported on the Homecoming Blessings parishioners found in the trees at Grace, September 13. About 50 blessings and "wisdom quotations" were posted. Florrie noted that several days later only two blessings remained, so many blessings were received.

#### Pastoral Care

- Florrie reported that things are going well, but it's hard to do in person visits; the team prays, provides prayer shawls and listens. The team has built on Caregiver Appreciation Week with a Caregiver Forum first Fridays, at 4pm. They are working with Kim on the upcoming End of Life series.

#### Faith Formation

- Kim reported on the planned End of Life series and Sacred Ground dialogue circles, all of which is detailed in the e-News. She also reported that Poetry as Prayer is restarting following church on selected Sundays. She noted that Earth and Spirit is active: Building Bridges Across the Divide. She mentioned some All Saints Day activities under consideration. Discussion ensued about myriad possibilities. Advent -Kim has 25 advent calendars + booklets for people to purchase

#### Outreach

- Heather reported the addition of Edith Coburn to the committee. She noted a need for a food truck for Chaplains on the Harbor. Also, the need locally for donations to food banks. She mentioned Peace Trees Vietnam fundraiser

upcoming. She reported that Cindy had delivered a carload of donations to Iglesia de la Resurrección, in lieu of our usual summer day camp with them.

#### Youth Group

- Faith reported on the youth program "Movies that Matter," which has included several films with themes of personal reflection, world issues, and more. Getting attendance from a broad group of kids and considering extending to high schoolers. Youth have expressed interest in working with Pastoral Care through note writing.

#### Memorial Garden -

- The PMC reviewed the design sketches for an expansion of the memorial garden currently under consideration by the vestry.

## Vestry - October 21

After the opening prayers, the Vestry was joined by parishioners Nate Thomas (former Warden) and Cassie Picha (garden designer), to discuss the design, costs and proposed schedule for a potential expansion of the memorial garden. The vestry had previously funded the project sketches rendered by landscape architect Alana McWhorter, through a special project gift.

The project began over a year ago with a small team of Nate, Cassie, David Moen, Molly Griest and Susan Morss. The design includes large boulders set in a circle and centered by an inset cross; a rill of water emanating from the existing fountain would flow down the cross, be re-collected and returned to the fountain. Large boulders near the existing mature maple at the base of the meadow would hold names of those remembered there. The design completes original design elements, starting at the avenue of trees, reaching the baptismal font, following the zinc line up to the cross in the nave and referring toward the existing memorial wall, garden and the meadow beyond. The Vestry expressed thanks to Cassie for the thoughtful donation of the design.

To date, about \$15,700 in special gifts has been received for this project. Because estimates far exceed the current gifts, the vestry asked many questions about the bid process, materials, and the proposed addition of an ADA accessible path from the existing church patio to the proposed circle.

The vestry discussed next steps and endorsed the appointment of a committee (Wren, Deborah and Krista) to present funding options to the vestry. If funding is confirmed, a process will follow to develop any necessary policies or procedures.

#### Rector & Curate

Stephen and Wren summarized the curate and rector reports and noted the success of recent small group programs. Grace's reopening plan has been accepted by the diocese and we have permission to hold in-person services. There does not appear to be significant interest in indoor in-person services at this time.

#### Development

- Ann reported that annual giving has reached 80 percent of goal. Individualized efforts will be necessary to reach the final 20 percent.

#### Treasurer

- Deborah reported that pledge payments remain steady and there are not currently any budget issues to be concerned about. She anticipates a possible surplus for 2020 due to the PPP loan and decreased expenses. The vestry discussed how to address confusion between 2020 and 2021 pledges.

#### Human Resources

- Judy reported that the HR committee is in the process of posting the church administrator position to hire a replacement following Diane's retirement at the end of 2020. She also echoed Stephen's report, in noting that the Diocese of Olympia is helping to review the current Strategic Plan draft.

#### Leadership

- Krista reported that she has developed a Vestry orientation process; she will send a draft to the Vestry for comment/feedback.

#### Place for Grace

- Mike reported that the bike rack is soon to be installed. He also reported that a Facilities Review process is underway, with a checklist of areas of Grace to be considered, as well as a user list for Q & A about uses/needs of specified parts of the building and grounds.

Minutes of each meeting are approved at the following session.

Please send any question about "In Brief" to: [daphnehdavies@msn.com](mailto:daphnehdavies@msn.com)

Daphne Davies, Warden.