

# Vestry Meeting Minutes

## May 21, 2024

**Vestry members present:** Senior Warden Gail Kase, Junior Warden Peggy Wilson, Claire Gillespie, Carol VanVoorhis, Deb Carlson, Mike Robinson, Amanda Hilty, Bendik Clark, Rebecca Sharp (Zoom)

**Others Present:** Rev. Dena Whalen, Clerk Deidre Soileau

**Opening devotions:** Claire Gillespie read “Mindful” by Mary Oliver

**1. Approval of April minutes**—completed on April 22, 2024 via group emails.

**2. Treasurer’s report:**

**ACTION ITEM:** See printout of Sam’s report to review (attached). Montalvo Fund: Cash collected for sister church in Cuba, to be transferred to and managed by Mark Siler.

**VOTE:** Approved unanimously

**ACTION ITEM:** Financial assistance fund. Used three times in 7 years? Forgive two current outstanding loans and transfer remaining to General Fund

**VOTE:** Approved unanimously

**3. Interim Rector’s Report.** See page 3.

**4. Senior Warden’s Report.** See Page 4.

**5. Junior Warden’s Report.** See page 5.

**6. Committee liaison reports.**

- A. Property: None.
- B. Finance: Gail. No meeting last month. Next: May 30.
- C. Stewardship Mike. No meeting this month.
- D. Celebration: Carol. Celebration has not met since the last Vestry Meeting
- E. Outreach: Carol. Outreach has not met since the last Vestry Meeting.
- F. Church Caring Crew: Bendik. None.
- G. Communication Committee: Amanda. May 16 will be to discuss and plan for the Mountain Spirit.
- H. La Esperanza: Rebecca. Raised \$4000-4500 for woman with breast cancer, will be offering Health and Wellbeing classes as well as summer camps days for kids
- I. Welcome ministry: Claire. See her report on page 7.  
Question: *Can Vestry reps help with getting birthday cards out? Response is yes, and Claire will think about how best to do that and report back next month.*
- J. Christian Ed: Deb. See her report on page 7.

## **7. Discernment Committee Report.**

- a. Waiting until after the May 30 retreat
- d. Vestry expectations: boundaries and requirements:  
*Amanda is the liaison. No other responsibility for any Vestry Members other than as a member of the congregation.*

## **8. Ice breaker.**

After a month, have your answers changed from to what leads to an inner state of calm or anxiety?

**9. Vestry Rep responsibilities.** Vestry Rep duties: Some closing-up duties have been slipping. Lights left on in bathrooms and sanctuary. Coffee pot still plugged in and hot (found on Wednesday—it was clean, though.) Vestry Reps need to be double-checkers.

## **11. Treasurer search:**

- a. Benton respectfully said “no.”
- b. Other prospects? Please continue to submit ideas.

## **12. Pastoral concerns or addenda.**

Prayers of intercession and thanksgiving (In silence) - Rev. Dena Whalen

Next meeting: June 18

### **To do:**

Claire will come back to vestry next month with a plan for vestry participation in sending birthday cards.

All are to be thinking about someone for the Treasurer position.

## Interim Rector's Report

### Pastoral Care:

Eucharistic Visitors and I are alternating so that home communion will be offered every two weeks.

### Formation & Fellowship:

Attended one of the supper groups. Great time!

### 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays at Holy Spirit this Summer

Three gatherings this summer for fellowship and food and fun!

June 5 6:00 pm      Movie Night    (to be announced)

Please bring your own sandwiches and drinks of choice. Popcorn provided!

\*July 3            6:00 pm      Wolf Laurel Pavilion.

Potluck dinner and a fire in the fireplace. Maybe a nice walk.

\*August 7      6:00 pm      Game night at Holy Spirit

Bring finger foods and tapas and drinks of your choice, and enjoy an evening of your favorite card or board games. PLEASE INDICATE ON THE SIGN-UP SHEET WHAT GAMES YOU CAN BRING.

Sign-up sheets will be in the cubby at church. Or contact the office.

\*These two evening events may be switched, depending on which date we can have access to the Pavilion at Wolf Laurel.

### Worship:

Recognition of Lorrie Cooper's ministry as Editor of the *Mountain Spirit* took place during the 10:30 service on Sunday May 12.

Sisters In Spirit are planning to celebrate Mary Magdalene (Feast Day: 7/22) on Sunday, July 21. Susan Sherard will be preacher and celebrant.

### Time Away:

Sunday, May 21 – away with family

## Senior Warden's Report

Greetings!

Since we entered the Discernment process with the commissioning of our DC members on April 14, we've had a time of waiting. At our upcoming meeting, we will discuss the boundaries as well as communication between Vestry and DC. The Discernment Committee will have a retreat with Shepherd Rev. Joslyn Schaefer on May 30, which will set the stage for the official start of the discernment process.

As I think about our course over the past year and a half, I'm struck by how smooth things have been. Even though there has been a good bit of anxiety and emotionality at times, we seem to be doing just fine. Our energy is high and our attendance is up. We have Dena to thank for this, but it also tells me that our church (and our church's leadership) is strong, resilient, and cohesive during this time of change. We have a good bit of change yet to come, but I expect that our ship will be just fine until we have a new Priest installed—and beyond! Dena will be with us until we have a new Priest.

The Discernment Committee members and participants of surveys and coaching are in place. However, it's not too early to consider crew changes coming up in January. Peggy and I will be replaced by new Wardens. (We'll need to consider how to restore the every-other-year stagger). Sam will be replaced by a new Treasurer. AND, Carol and Rebecca will cycle off, replaced by 2 new crew members. Please hold these changes in your mind and heart until the time comes to offer names.

If you are the liaison to a committee, please remember to submit your reports by Friday, May 17th, even if the committee has not met since our last meeting. This gives everyone a chance to read them before the meeting, and allows Deidre time to include them in her minutes. Please send them to Vestry members, Dena, Deidre and Martie, and include the name of your committee.

Please send me anything that you would like to add to the agenda by the end of the weekend. I trust that the vestry will continue to be a body that guides and supports our Holy Spirit community: helping us all to keep our hearts and minds open to discern what Love asks of us.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gail Kase

## **Junior Warden's Report**

1. Contact was made with two different commercial appliance service companies in regard to our dishwasher and the refrigerator.

An appointment will be set up for both.

2. I met with our service guy, Cody, to service AC units on Monday May 13 at 10am. No problem found, all systems operating as designed.

When I arrived to meet Cody, the lights were on in the main hall, the men's room light and fan were running and the sanctuary fan was still on, not returned to "auto." It is easy to walk out and miss something. We need to make sure to double check our "vestry to do list" on our given duty Sunday.

3. Various grounds teams have been very busy this spring trying to keep ahead of the weeds and grounds maintenance. These include the memorial garden team, landscaping folks and the mowers and weed whackers.

## **La Esperanza**

Report provided by Rebecca Sharp

None provided

## **Property Committee**

Provided by liaison Peggy Wilson

None provided

## **Finance Committee**

Provided by liaison Gail Kase

No report this month

### **Stewardship**

Provided by liaison Mike Robinson

The stewardship committee will not meet again until September.

### **Celebration Committee**

Provided by liaison Carol VanVoorhis

There has been no meeting since the last Vestry meeting.

### **Outreach Committee**

Provided by liaison Carol VanVoorhis

There has been no meeting since the last Vestry meeting.

### **Church Caring Crew**

Provided by liaison Bendik Clark

None provided

### **Communication Committee**

Provided by liaison Amanda Hilty

None provided

## Welcome Ministry Report

Provided by liaison Claire Gillespie

Welcome committee: Pam Hayhurst has joined the team. The English tea has been postponed until fall because of a conflict with the holiday weekend. Members will be sending birthday cards to each church member. Church visitors will receive a call from a team member. Loraine and Claire will meet with MHU representative to learn how ECHS can connect with summer students and will meet with the whole team to make those plans.

## Christian Education

Provided by liaison Deb Carlson

Great discussion with wonderful ideas, currently looking at several offerings on Sunday Mornings 9-10:30 and Wednesday Evenings 6:30-8:30 daylight permitting.

Here is a tentative line up:

Walt Whitman Poetry; Sundays June 9 and June 16	Presenter Mark Holland
Doctrine of Inner Authority; Wednesdays Sept 4, 11, and 18th.	Presenter Starr O'Hara
Devine Feminine; Wednesdays Oct 9, 16, 23	Presenter Pat Mahon
Impact of Translation; TBD 1 session	Presenter Lee Ballard
Art: Great Moments in Faith; Wednesdays Nov 13 and 20	Presenter Ty Jones
Advent Series; Wednesdays TBD	Presenter Dena Whalen
Christian Radicals; Lenten Series TBD	Presenter Staff O'Hara