



ST. PHILIP'S CHURCH IN THE HIGHLANDS
1101 ROUTE 9D + P.O. BOX 158
GARRISON, NY 10524
STPHILIPSHIGHLANDS.ORG
(845) 424-3571

Youth Ministry Liaison Report to Vestry

Date: 5/21/2021

Author: Jennifer Sandlund

Ministry/Action Items Completed this Month:

Cross Trainers:

On May 9th the Cross Trainers met for breakfast before the Mother's Day service and later helped with the Mother's Day craft of planting flowers in decorated pots. There was some lovely interaction between the older and younger kids.



Sunday School:

The Sunday school kids performed a song for their mothers during the 10am service on May 9th.



Phoebe is still not able to be in-person for safety reasons and continues to have parents stand in for her. We don't have anyone to lead Sunday school this Sunday, but Phoebe has prepared a lesson and craft that we will have available for the kids to do on the playground or at home.

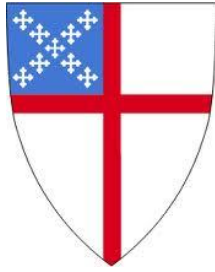
Ministry/Action Items in Progress/Pending:

The Cross Trainers will be gathering to blow up red balloons for Pentecost Sunday and also will be hosting coffee hour this weekend.

Plans were developing to host a youth group from St. Michael's Church on the Upper West Side of NYC, but the visit had to be postponed due to students on crutches and overwhelming school schedules this month. We hope to host them in the fall with a hike and a meal and are also considering a trip into the city to tour the Cathedral of St. John the Divine with this group.

If other committees can think of ways the Cross Trainers can help your committee, please contact Jennifer Sandlund or Kari Bentley.

Items Requiring Vestry Vote:



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Buildings and Grounds Committee Liaison Report to Vestry

Date: May 22, 2021

Author: Paul Kantor

Action Items Completed:

Shed reorganized and cleared of many storage items to create open space for outdoor meeting.

Repair of slate on PH and rectory completed.

Action Items in Progress/Pending:

Weekly church heat start responsibilities during winter months among B and G members were continued in May, along with monitoring of humidity.

Estimates are being obtained for water/septic piping to church, as per project approval in principle by vestry on March 27. Presently, professional advice suggests installing only a water line at less cost than previously estimated, with a waste line to follow in a separate project. Chris N. to provide details.

Work to repair the wall south of the parking lot entrance started by John Benjamin.

Spring planting around church and columbarium in progress (directed by Anne Symmes).

Annual campus tour/inspection by B and G committee is scheduled for May 29.

Plan to prepare and install an existing generator for emergency power at rectory is under way. Chris N. is working to make the generator operational and is obtaining servicing/repairs. He will look into installing a crossover switch and perhaps place the generator in a nearby shed for weather protection. The cost is expected to be minimal.

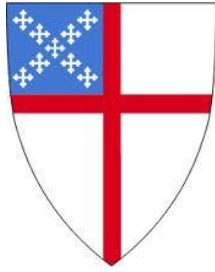
Chris N.'s preliminary plan and estimates for handicapped access to PH and bathroom in Parish House is deferred for now. It will be brought forward to the vestry for their consideration at a later date.

Plan for additional office space adjacent to the secretary's partition office in the PH is being assessed. Since the cost for constructing this is minimal and will be needed by the NS director soon, the committee agreed that it should be undertaken as soon as possible under supervision of Chris N.

Proposal for additional AC unit(s) in rectory is being assessed in respect to cost and alternatives.

Items Requiring Vestry Vote:

Proposal to install a split unit to provide AC/heat in Amanda's office at an estimated cost of about \$3,500.00.



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Worship Liaison Report to Vestry

Date: 11th May 2021

Author: Fred Osborn

Ministry/Action Items Completed this Month: As COVID restrictions continue to mellow, St Philip's worship has continued to grow in-person, with services at 8am and 10 am on Sunday mornings. With the able volunteer help of Daniel Bentley and Will Felder (ongoing thanks), we also continue to live-stream the 10am service with music and holy communion – with thoroughly professional production values. Participants remain masked and a single singer (and our thanks to those who volunteer!) presides.

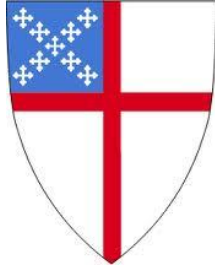
The communion is still performed in a limited fashion, with the wafer only distributed by the Rector whilst parishioners stay in their seats.

On Sunday 2nd May Joe Plummer read a Morning Prayer Service and Preston Pittman preached a sermon while Amanda and her family were on a week's holiday.

On Sunday 9th May, the rector presided over a children's service in which eight children performed a musical offering under Carolyn Copeland's direction. A children's sermon was delivered. The return to Sunday School followed.

Ministry/Action Items in Progress/Pending: The Highlands Choral Society continues to hold a competing service at what they are calling the "Highlands Chapel" at 10:30am on Sundays. Their program bleeds a growing number of St Philip's congregation and poses a serious risk to St Philip's viability. Vestry members are reminded that this crisis will be discussed at the "Mutual Ministry Review" sponsored by the Diocese of NY and scheduled for Saturday 5th June 2021 on Zoom - all vestry members are making special plans to attend.

Items Requiring Vestry Vote: Vestry members are asked to reflect on the crisis in the questionnaires that the consultant will ask them to complete.



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St. Philip's Nursery School Liaison Report to Vestry

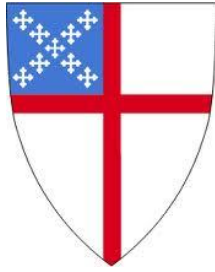
Date: May 2021

Author: Sarah Bayne

The transition from Anita Prentice's leadership as director to Betsy Alberty is underway. Betsy has visited the school, danced with Micki in dance classes, participated in parent coffees, an Open House last Saturday, with another coming up this Friday. Her first official day is June 1, with Anita remaining off and on through graduation on the 15th.

A strong parent committee consisting of Alli Levy, Kate Calligaro, Phoebe Geer, and other parents, is planning a celebratory party for the end of the year on June 12. All vestry should have received invitations to the event, which is partly a fundraiser for the school, with a quiet phase of fundraising ahead of time, and a wish list for items needed for the program at the event itself, and a thank you to Anita and a welcome to Betsy. The cost of the party is privately funded. I think that any excuse for an outdoor party event for adults at this point will do much to improve morale and raise support for the school, which has weathered a difficult year very successfully, thanks to a dedicated staff and Anita's calm hand.

Thanks to Chris Nowak we are purchasing an IKEA desk for Betsy and will determine its location as soon as she settles in.



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Communications Committee Report to Vestry

Date: May 21, 2021

Author: Terri Akbas

The Communications Committee is comprised of Rev. Amanda Eiman, Micki Bless (Parish Admin), Terri Akbas, Daniel and Kari Bentley, Joe Plummer Anita Prentice, and Jennifer Sandlund.

Action Items Completed:

- Simplified newsletter presentation (colors and font improved for mobile viewing)
- Analysis and discussion of the parish communication survey results
- Exploration of using Realm platform for text communication to parish
 - Determined to be prohibitively expensive
- Discussion of parish-wide rollout of Realm Connect App
 - Will wait until ministry leaders are on board with utilizing Realm for communication

Action Items In Progress/Pending:

- Audit of existing communication materials utilized by the church and NS – including logos, fonts, letterheads
 - Discussion of development of a logotype and consistent font/color scheme for all communications
- Rollout of the first issue of new quarterly newsletter scheduled for June
 - “The Messenger” name will be revived for this publication
 - Ideas for content include Rector’s Message, Parishioner Spotlight, Ministry Spotlight, NS Update, Calendar.

Items Requiring Vestry Vote: None