**Parochial Church Council Meeting**

**July 4, 2020**

*On the occasion of the church building reopening for public worship after 15 Sundays of closure*

The Meeting will open at 6:30pm with a Celebration of Holy Communion (BCP)

The Parish Eucharist will be held for the first time on July 5 at 10:10 (*Common Worship*)

**DRAFT FOR CIRCULATION**

**Public Worship**

The Eucharist will be held Sunday mornings at 10:10 from July 5. This will be a short said-service with no music following COVID-secure guidelines. Please make sure you have read the documentation on the church website.

The weekly Parish Eucharist will be the only service held in July and August.

A new schedule for private prayer will be published for the summer holidays (July 16 – September 4) based on staff working hours and availability.

It is uncertain when we will be allowed to sing in church. Communication with Gary Peacock and Eleanor Franzén about possibilities and limitations will follow as soon as we have more information.

**Pastoral Care**

I am grateful to the team of people who have spent the past 16 weeks constantly communicating with the church family and ensuring strong pastoral relationships and support networks. More members of the PCC need to take this level of communication to heart please – but I am grateful to those of you who made an effort in this time of crisis.

**Junior Church**

Ella Burns, our Children's Champion, has stayed in touch with the Junior Church families over the past 16 weeks. Many of the core members use a Whatsapp group on a regular basis. This communication has been especially supported by Sophie Stout, Louise Wilson (Safeguarding Officer) and Briony Mackie.

Sophie Stout has extended her brilliant work with the junior church engaging with local charities which started with the Upper Room Project and has now continued with WLAC. ALMA will be the next charity for consideration, including our link parish in Angola.

The Junior Church will resume its ministry with the usual Registration Sunday in mid-September and new COVID Secure Protocols in place.

Briony Mackie is away now and upon her return to London will begin her training for the ordained ministry and start her official new parish placement. It has been wonderful having Briony with us as she reflected on her Calling to ordination and shared in our family life at The Church of The Holy Innocents.

**ALMA and Charities**

The Bishop of London's Lent Appeal for ALMA still managed to figure in our lockdown ministry with a stellar art competition led by Joe Gordon. It was a fantastic event supported by many people across our diverse church community. The works and information can be found on our website.

Our charitable efforts need to be reviewed and new leadership is required to relaunch this important ministry.

**Halls and Lets**

Most of our regular users of the halls hope to return from late-August. Some groups may not be able to follow COVID-secure guidelines based on the nature of their activities (singing, dance, physical exercise). More guidance is required from the government as we re-open.

All theatrical and operatic rehearsals for 2020 have now been cancelled. It is impossible to know when our arts and music rehearsals will be possible or required again.

Our Alcoholics Anonymous group would like to resume meeting as soon as possible. I have suggested this will be allowable based on guidance and with protocols in place from July 14 or July 21.

We have several schools and educational groups trying to work out business plans and needs. It is impossible to know at this stage if we will have new relationships and new income in 2020 or not until 2021. Negotiations are on-going but complicated by changing OFSTED and COVID-secure requirements.

**Finances**

Based on Q2 and Q3 projections we will sustain about £70K in lost income.

Regular giving is impacted by the lack of services for the past 15 weeks and now summer holidays. Regular Giving income may also be impacted by economic uncertainty in Q3 and Q4.

Our *Season of Gifts* stewardship campaign is now half over and we have reached 50% of our target of £30K. It is essential people support and highlight this campaign over the next four weeks as the second half of the climb is always more difficult than the first. *Giving* pages are now live on the website with thanks to Caroline Gordon and Jane Jales for their efforts to get this done.

Outgoings have been kept to the lowest possible level since March. These will start to increase as we return to economic activity and renew previous contracts and commitments.

**Fabric and Gardens**

Health and Safety reports and Churchwardens reports are up to date as of June 2020. Service contracts and the building management team will be reviewed as new appointments are required after the retirement of Michael Denis and Chris Brown.

The Community Gardening Scheme will continue care of our church gardens.

The structural survey of 125 Dalling Road is now almost completed.

**Development Projects, Conservation and Artists in Association**

I have kept in regular contact with Historic England, Victorian Society, RBKC, London DAC, and Camping Properties about our Building Project. While there is financial uncertainty there is also urgency as we reach the end of our planning consent. RBKC is likely to extend the consent until April 2021.

Our conservation reports are up to date, as is our Inventory and Terrier (Log Books).

It is unclear whether or not finances will allow us to have any art project or commission in 2020. This will be the first time since the scheme began in 2004 if we are unable to find/fund a possibility.

**Staffing and Service Providers**

Jo Shears is currently on furlough. She will return for one day a week (four working hours) starting next week.

Michele Barrow Johnson has begun cleaning the church sacred space in advance of the re-opening for private prayer on June 13.

All service contracts and needs will be reviewed as the year unfolds.

**Governance and Policies**

Susan Roberts has resigned from the PCC. This will be the last PCC meeting for Michael Thomas, Stella Griffiths, Ella Burns (she will continue as Children's Champion), Larry Squire, Jo Friedrich, Jacquie Boyce and Sam Davies (he will continue as head server).

The PCC will now be comprised of:

* Father David Matthews, Mother Paulette Mullings, Jane Jales LLM
* Deborah Wadham (churchwarden – to step down at APCM), Rhys Jones (secretary and lay chairman), Caroline Gordon (treasurer), Chris Bates (Deputy churchwarden and H&S Officer)
* Stephen Farrant, Sandra Murray, Robyn Gray, Janis Cammell OBE, Kim Benson, Oliver Pearcey

Apologies have been received for this meeting from Deborah Wadham, Michael Thomas and Stephen Farrant. Past churchwardens and Beryl Gutteridge have been invited to the Holy Communion Service this evening but will leave the building before the meeting begins.

I request you co-op Peter Smith and Marcia Hill as new members of the PCC.

I request ordinary members of the PCC hold our Deanery Synod votes if a Synod is called and voting is required. Our number of votes is based on the number of members on our Electoral Roll.

Jane Lawrence, Louise Wilson and Claire Walker remain officers of the PCC but are not members of the PCC.

It is my hope communication amongst a smaller PCC will be better and allow for more informed members to achieve better results on practical matters and actions points.

I am working with Rhys Jones and Caroline Gordon to integrate church charities and charity accounts to refocus the purpose of our church-run charities and to rethink their mission purpose. This includes rethinking the relationship with Shepherd's Bush Housing Group and the curtilage of the church.

I am grateful for all your responses to my request of June 6. I will be in touch to speak with each of you about the road forward and setting targets and priorities as we know more

**Mission, Fellowship and Communication**

We are at a crucial time where changes will be constant, fast and furious - in laying a strong foundation for the future we must all work together to be informed, connected and aware. We will work together to deepen our faith, build our community, care for our resources and heritage and ensure the safeguarding of our strong tradition.

We must produce better and more engaging content to make our church website a living place. People must become part of and participate in the community in all its formats and facets.

We must complete our Mission Action Planning, Parish Directory and Gazetteer and Parish Audit. Mother Paulette, Jane and I have started work on the Contrade Project – a way of uniting our parish by dividing it into 12 manageable distracts (as in Siena) named after gemstones found in Scripture. I suggest our PCC members be kept to the same number (12 – representing the Disciples and our Contrade), not counting licensed ministers.

We must continue our work on the parish archives and oral history project as well as our 2041 Time Capsule.

The Art and Architecture tour is almost finished in first draft. I hope it will be live on the website by Advent Sunday.

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