

VESTRY MEETING – 13 JUNE 2022, 19.30, in-person & on Zoom
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, WATERLOO

Present: In-person: Rev. Sunny Hallanan (Rector), Rev. Katie Osweiler (Curate), Susan Downhill (Senior Warden), Paul Hirsch, Derek Pullinger and Kathi-Sue Rupp.
Staff: Fiona White
Online: Nick Fern (Junior Warden), Vincent Musschoot, Jane McBride and Mike Breton (Treasurer)

1. Sunny Hallanan opened the meeting with a **prayer**.
2. **Absences:** Sylvette Norré, Carole Ducastel.
3. **Approval of minutes:** The minutes from 9 May were approved. with one addition and one correction.
4. **Vestry check-in:** Sunny Hallanan asked what had happened when she was away for two months. Susan Downhill said that quite a lot happened as reflected in the minutes of the last two meetings. Katie Osweiler said that we did a lot of group and community work, and people stepped up to the mark. Fiona White left the computer at home one Sunday so we got the hymn books and worship guides out and the service went ahead without being online. Convocation education: did anyone take part? No one said they had. Jane McBride put together a weekly action during Lent with spiritual food. There was a music crisis on Palm Sunday due to Fiona having Covid, but with a few days notice, Katie used videoed hymns, ASC's video of the Passion and handbell videos. Holy week was a very busy week for Katie, with both our services and the missions. Good Friday with Our Lady of Mercy went well, but there was a very small number at the Easter Vigil so Katie turned it into a very intimate service. We had a garden party and a clean-up. Jane, Greg Stark and Jack McDonald preached; it was good to hear different ways of preaching. The war in Ukraine was just starting. Now Kathi-Sue Rupp has a refugee family, and the son read in his own language at Pentecost. Susan said that everyone accepted that we weren't going to be able to do everything. If it happens again, Katie would ask for more help with the missions, especially with the French for Mons. Susan felt that maybe we would contact Sunny more...
5. **Committee reports:**
 - 5.1 **Building & property**
 - a. Paul Hirsch had sent in his report (attached). The boiler replacement is coming up next week. Details preparing for the work were discussed.
 - b. The creche is unlikely to get their grant for a new floor until early 2023. However, they will finance the work themselves in August and when the grant comes through ASC will pay the creche the amount agreed at last month's meeting (€600).
 - c. Paul has seen three candidates about repairing the damp wall and each has given a different reason for the damage: water ingress, water outside the wall and water inside the wall (pipes leaking). He feels the third is the most likely. This could then involve the insurance; Mike Breton will check to see if we're covered for pipe leaks in walls. The boiler people could also check the damp walls to see if it's caused by heating, although this would be extra to the cost of the boiler.

5.2 Outreach & service

- a. Derek Pullinger sent in a report (attached). Yesterday, Nancy Evans was in church and presented Lina's Project. It was agreed to send €250 to this worthy cause.
- b. Relay for Life is this coming weekend. There are still places available to support the cause. We also need volunteers to sell books.
- c. Nick Fern wanted to know if the €450 euro for Romania had arrived safely. Confirmation has been received.
- d. Sunny reported from the Council of Advice meeting with the Bishop that Episcopal Relief & Development has donated \$300,000 to help refugees from any country. This amount of money means we can think creatively about what we can do. The Anglican Council of Belgium and St Egidio are partnering with other denominations to sponsor refugee families. We've been asked to again contribute to or house a Syrian family. We could work with St Mary and St Martha's Anglican Church in Leuven.
- e. Katie said that Felicity Handford is in contact with Promote Ukraine about offering our building space to Ukrainian mothers and children for them to get together and socialize. Susan felt it would be good for Felicity to go to the commune offices to enquire if something is going on in the locality. Transport was felt to be an issue so cash would be helpful for that. Mike had information on a van that could be covered in advertising and be driven around for free.

5.3 Our Community

- a. Kathi-Sue Rupp reported that the church picnic is coming up on 3 July at her home. She has prepared a sign-up form on Google and will send the info for the eBlast. Everyone should bring a side dish or a dessert plus meat to share, which will be cooked on the BBQ. Tables and chairs can be taken over a few days before. Games and activities will be organized by Katie.
- b. Blessing of the backpacks will be 28 August. The Welcome Back Sunday will be on 11 September.
- c. Kathi-Sue is hoping that Joëlle Vanopbroeke can give a piano concert in October. Daniel Blumenthal has also offered to give a joint piano recital with Joëlle. Kathi-Sue will talk to Carole Ducastel who will talk to Joëlle.
- d. Sunny said that we are in full communion with the Old Catholic Church. There is an OC church in Luxembourg province and on Saturday, 8 October, at 15.00, we are hosting the ordination of their deacon as priest by Archbishop Vercaemmen. Their congregation will be bringing most of the food but they would like ASC to provide an organist. Fiona has offered to play.

5.4 Education & environment

- a. Vincent Musschoot reported that they haven't made much progress since Lent. They'd like to focus on one subject from the Lent education and will make a decision when Sylvette Norré returns from holiday.

5.5 Finance

- a. Mike Breton reported that we have received the initial €10,000 from Paris for the grant. The second amount (a loan of €10,000) should have arrived in the bank today.

b. He has paid for the boiler with 6% VAT and for Ores so €9,000 of the money from Paris has already been used.

6. Other business:

6.1 Crisis in Ukraine: See above.

6.2 ASBL update: Susan had nothing to report. She's presuming that Bill Bythell will have gone to Nivelles to file the minutes. They are now looking to update the statutes.

6.3 Praesidium Academy update: Fiona reported that Mike is now complete, as is Vincent. Sylvette and Carole have not done any courses yet, and Felicity and Nick still have a number to do.

6.4 Church cleaner: Mike has heard back from M. Borlee, who can offer 3 hours every other week on a Monday or Tuesday at €25 + VAT per hour. Katie suggested we have someone come in and do a deep clean at the end of the summer. Fiona will talk to Mike about this.

6.5 Any other business: Mike wondered where are we with Covid and consecrating the wine. Sunny said we are not going back to a single chalice in the near future, and no intincting is allowed.

Kathi-Sue wondered about the state of the technology. Each week there are very few, probably only one, watching the service live and very few on Facebook. Sunny said that we have a new parishioner who has come in via the online service. However, our current sound quality is not very good. Sunny suggested that the readers need further training with using the microphone. Sunny experienced a church in the USA who projected the bulletin but used much larger text. We are endeavoring to enlarge our text as a result.

The next vestry meeting is 25 July, with a BBQ, then 29 August (not 5 September). The meeting will be moved to 10 October.

7. Curate's report: Katie reported that she had a great time in the Azores, traveling via friends in Lisbon. She had a 12-day tour of military duty.

She is doing Relay for Life so she will be there the whole 24 hours and more.

She's out of town 20-24 June but back for the weekend. She has no travel plans in July but then Victor's family arrive so she will be spending time with them.

8. Rector's report: Sunny offered special thanks to everyone for pitching in whilst she was a grandmother for 2 months.

Last week she was in Augsburg for the Mission Festival. Sunny met with Jack McDonald to outline a plan to get worship space in Namur and re-start the St Servais mission. There is a meeting about St Servais at Vincent's house on Saturday.

She told Jack that St Esprit Mons is a really happening place and he is attending a service this coming Sunday. There is a need to apply to Wallonia to make Mons a recognized parish, which will be a lengthy process. A big challenge is to get them a bank account. This parish recognition will require them being a Fabrique.

Charleroi is still running but with very small congregations.

On 25 June she will be in Tbilisi and the Bishop will be present to receive 17 people and confirm 2.

She is a deputy for General Convention in Baltimore in mid July.

She asked about the Mutual Ministry Review. Do we have any news on timing? Susan said it had been established that it would have to be October or November. Who is to organize it? Sunny said that the Cathedral is getting a new dean and she has been asked to liaise with Linda Grenz over a part of this. She will ask because she has a meeting with her tomorrow evening.

- 9. Closing prayer:** Sunny offered a closing prayer.

The meeting ended at 21.43.

Committee reports, 13 June 2022

Outreach

To date we have paid €250 to the Tonga Relief fund and €415 for the Ukraine refugees in Romania. We have also donated two hundred beverages for distribution to the homeless by Nativitas in February.

As many of you know, Nancy Evans and her husband worshipped with us yesterday and after the service presented their project “Lina”. The project finances summer activities for underprivileged children living in Brussels (Marolles) and also assists with schooling costs (see attachments).

This worthy cause is local, non-discriminatory, has zero overheads and has administrative support from Nativitas. An amount of €250 can be financed from our Outreach funds without jeopardizing repeat funding for the various projects supported in 2021, Domisum, Oasis, Natagora, Cecily’s fund, Protestant Centre etc.

The other Outreach activity this week is Relay for Life at St John’s International school. If you can spare an hour or two please sign up.

Derek Pullinger

Building & property

In view of the coming Vestry meeting, please find hereunder the overview of the group's progression and agenda:

Ongoing.

- Garden upkeep and weed removal. Derek and Maryse are bravely fighting off the weed intrusion and garbage irruption. Alas, a never-ending task.
- Garden furniture clean and refurbish. Mike has given a new life to the chairs and table.
- Door and window frame repaint.
- Library humidity. So far three possible suppliers have come to see the damage and each have come up with diverging diagnosis and have suggested their own countermeasures (!). A fourth candidate is planned for 14th June, perhaps with yet another opinion or, hopefully, an idea going in the same direction of one of the predecessors. Please feel welcome to join the fun and confusion.

Planned.

- Weed removal, garden furniture refurbishment and door/window frame repainting.
- Basement storage area clean-up to clear a passageway allowing for the removal/delivery of the heating furnaces.

Heating boiler replacement.

- Start of work: 8 am, Monday 20th June. Duration presumably 5 days (plus additional time to replace defective thermostatic valves). Nick is supervising the operations.
- Removal and delivery of the heavy equipment presumably via the crèche.

Thank you for your continued interest and support. Remaining at your disposal for all further info.

Paul Hirsch