

## **Cathedral Church of St. Paul**

*Chapter Meeting – February 27, 2024*

Attending: Amy McCreath, Kevin Miller, Jane Peyrouse, John Lane, Jen Hopcroft, Derrick Muwina, Andy Clarkson, Michael Baenen, Allison Brown, Emily Garcia, Megan Holding, Anne Stetson, Betsy Munzer, Andrew Switter-Bentley, Hall Kirkham, Chris Capaldo, Beth Grundy, Katy Denning, Kate Bast, Rebecca Spangler, Jennifer McCracken (guest)

Regrets: Sean Carpenter, Nick Carter

### Agenda

Welcome & election of Michael Baenen, Sunday Congregation Representative

- Michael has served a variety of roles with Compline, the Sunday Congregation, and MANNA over years at the Cathedral. Most recently has served as the co-convener of Sunday Council.
- Michael is pleased to represent the Sunday Congregation on Chapter.
- Amy called for a vote on Michael's nomination. Nomination accepted unanimously.
- Members of Chapter were given the opportunity to introduce themselves to Michael.

Prayer and Breakout Discussion – Rebecca Spangler

Approval of Minutes from Annual Meeting

- Kevin moved to accept the minutes, Betsy seconded.
- Minutes accepted unanimously.

Chapter Shared Agreement Review/Revision

- Shared Commitments were composed over the last few years and most recently emended in February 2023.
- No additions or emendations proposed to the Shared Commitments.

Strategic Planning Update/Next Steps

- Strategic Plan feedback survey was sent out earlier this month and 17 responses were received. Survey sought to figure out what parts of the 2020 Strategic Plan we ought to reaffirm or rethink.
- Responses centered on the themes of continuing anti-racism and social justice work, building communities, and financial/personnel sustainability.
- Celebrations of the Cathedral's adaptability during four years of great upheaval and challenge. Mourning of the great loss and turnover that the Cathedral has experienced during that time.
- Hall shared a spirit of apprehensiveness as we look to continue to pursue our mission in the face of questions around financial stability.
- John advocates for doubling down on our core mission right now. Celebrating the adaptability and expansion of recent years but being honest about what we can do at this moment in time, and emphasizing the strength of our existing ministries.

- Kate emphasized the importance of grieving, and noted that there were few mentions of God and Christ in the survey responses. What separates our plan from a non-faith-based nonprofit? Re-center the vision of being “a house of prayer for all people.”
  - Andrew worries about this as well. The church should be about making people whole, and needs to distinguish itself from other nonprofits who do similarly great work.
  - Jennifer: MANNA is definitely a faith-based community and is different from neighbors in the care community in this respect. God is at the center of MANNA’s work, but we are also welcoming to people with no faiths.
- Amy paused to thank Megan and Katy for their work in tracking progress on the Strategic Plan over the last four years.
- Next steps: listening to the community, diocese, and ourselves to figure out what our new needs and gifts are. Some Chapter members have agreed to gather information and report back at the March meeting of Chapter.
  - The neighborhood: Anne Stetson and Allison Brown
  - The diocese: Hall Kirkham and Andy Clarkson
  - Our congregations: Representatives of each congregation (Michael Baenen, John Lane, Rebecca Spangler)

#### Endorsement of Molly Minnerath for Ordination to the Diaconate

- John and Michael both served on Molly’s postulancy committee and offered a resounding endorsement of Molly’s candidacy. The opportunity to minister and lead a congregation will be one of her greatest joys.
- Emily noted Molly’s great wisdom and trustworthiness.
- Chapter votes unanimously to endorse Molly for ordination.
- Amy closed with a prayer for Molly.

#### Whistleblower Policy & Conflict of Interest Policy

- Both policies approved as drafted unanimously.

#### MANNA Update – Jennifer McCracken

- Tuesday afternoon closure beginning after Holy Week. It was a particularly painful and challenging decision for MANNA.
- In order to continue this ministry, a dedicated staff member to manage the kitchen would be needed so that pastoral staff do not need to fulfill that role. Kitchen experience is a must, but ability to navigate the interpersonal relations within MANNA is also very important.
- The community will be informed next week.

#### Meeting Review/Closing