

## Vestry Meeting 8-20-2022

**Attending:** Bernadette Matthews, Ted Ruchalski, Valerie Curry, Marck Morman, Marlaina Woodward, Klade Harmon, Kevin Lee, Marver Browne. Also attending were Fr Fabio Sotelo, Mother Karen Anderson, William Paasewe, Mary Lu Rogers.

**Absent:** Mike Leary, Lucy Herrera, Erica Harris, Manuel Holguin.

1) Opened at 8:35 am with communal reading of a psalm and prayer.

2) Mother Karen welcomed to the meeting by Bernadette and Fr Fabio.

3) "Five Ways to Become a Transformational Vestry" by Donald Romanik read aloud in part and discussed by the vestry section by section. Major points included the importance of spiritual life in the vestry as well as administration, the importance of a broad view in the vestry, the importance of diversity in vestry members and their backgrounds, the importance of spiritual listening and growth for the vestry, and the importance of service in the community of the vestry.

4) Bill Paasewe presented the July treasurer's report which showed a drop in revenue in the month, but expenditures were kept down. Overall, we are within budget for the year. Parish Life is the exception and seems to be under budgeted. He added that we need a committee for spot checks for our internal audit (we need an external audit only every 3 years) and asked for the vestry to consider this. The audit committee will meet again after church tomorrow.

5) Ted, reporting as Junior Warden, reported that the replacement for the air conditioner in the Narthex went forward and is working well. The women's restroom in the Narthex had an exit light that is now fixed. In the process, a closet got cleaned out and 4 vacuum cleaners located. The drain to the sink in the women's restroom in administration building was replaced.

6) The expectation of the diocese is that at the end of our 3-year plan, St. Edward's will be up and running, paying for a full-time priest on our own. So Ted emphasized the need to focus our attention and aims with the plan. Ken Swansen will be speaking to us in September about how his church proceeded. Klade and committee wanted to restrict the Endowment Fund to calling a priest. Bernadette includes this in a program to keep the congregation informed on aims and amounts involved. Marlaina and Marck are working on plans for interviews of members to share in the church and want announcements for these to go out in the eblast for the next two weeks.

Valerie reported on meeting with the local school twice and the school is hoping that we will choose to include them as a local community project. Marlaina had contacted them also, and we will be donating to their clinic. Valerie and Marlaina will meet after the meeting to compare notes.

7) Fr Fabio met with Canon John: St. Edward's has been dependent on the diocese for 5 years, and it's time for us to support ourselves. He will be talking at our next

vestry retreat. Our next Parish Meeting is January 29, 2023 and vestry retreat February 4, 2023.

Stewardship month with kick off on St. Edward's Day and ingathering on Harvest Sunday. Darcy is working on how many members are participating in the church and the campaign for this fall.

Service time: a survey is needed to find out what the congregation wants as far as timing, and whether it is time to add a short early service. Fr Fabio and Carla have noticed that the 9:30 and noon services are very close together.

Christian Formation is resuming with several people handling the children's courses, and there is a need for more adult Christian Formation. We will have a 6-week course on prayer offered, and Sanya will have an opportunity to present her book to the church.

Fr Fabio congratulated all the volunteers who have been maintaining the grounds and doing such a good job of it.

We need to change the carpet in the Narthex. He has got one quote, but a family from the noon service came and asked what they could do for the church. They plan to change the carpet to tile at no cost to the church except the materials.

Jean Okunsanya has been talking to Fr Fabio about offering EFM at St. Edward's again.

8) Marver reported that Safeguarding God's Children/People are now having in person classes; the next if August 21 (bilingual) and another August 30. Contact Marver for detailed information.

Valerie reports that we have the new plate for the Memorial Garden, and now requests a way that partners or family members have their name plates placed together. Fr Fabio agreed that this could be set up.

Family Promise has Night Without a Bed next Saturday, and Valerie urges participation and donation. Bernadette requests a list of what they need for the cookout.

9) Thanks to the vestry for voting on the commitment to the diocese. We will be paying \$2,197.83 each month.

The gift collected for Mother Karen will be presented to her tomorrow.

Rental rates for Nickelson Hall need updating; all fees would go to upkeep, like the floor and getting a bathroom on the ground floor. We need a committee for this.

A prayer group will be meeting in the chapel every second and last Friday of the month, paying \$100/month. We can work with them on outreach projects.

The University of Liberia and Father Bright will be celebrating with us tomorrow. Welcome them.

All the safety committee will meet with Officer Baird for a walk around the campus and sharing information.

10) Closed at 10:05 am with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted 8-20-2022

Mary Lu Rogers, Clerk