

Vestry Meeting 2-18-2023

Attending: Jennifer Khaleel, Bernadette Matthews, Marck Morman, Valerie Curry, Ted Ruchalski, Cecilia Medzi, Marlaina Woodward, Brendalyne Tamba-Dahn, Martha Cuenca, Teresa Guzman, and Kevin Lee. Also attending were Fr Fabio Sotelo, Darcy Tatum, Mary Lu Rogers

Absent: Erica Harris

Meeting opened at 9:04 am with a reading from Romans, read aloud by phrase and then in entirety. This was followed by a discussion of what in the reading caught each one's attention, then what each thinks God is telling us through this text.

The financial report was left open for the vestry to read and comment on; neither Bill Paasewe nor Diane VanSlyke were present at that time. Bernadette noted that we need to wait for the numbers at the end of the first quarter to see more precisely where we are, but so far it looks good. We need to begin looking at refinancing the mortgage, as that has to be done by October.

Darcy reported that we have had donations to help pay down the mortgage, and asked if we want to make a special request for money to pay it down before refinancing. He went through some of the other special categories, and wants to continue the campaign for another 30 days or more. He wants phone calls to 56 people who pledged or donated last year and have not in this year. He and Fr Fabio have already talked to most of the pledged previously (11 out of 14), but wants the others contacted.

Bill Paasewe had joined the meeting and was asked to add to the financial report. Overall, we have done well in the first month of this year. He stressed also that we need to see the numbers for the whole first quarter to assess how we are doing with our budget.

Ted reported as Junior Warden on some work we have had done on the septic system to remedy the problem of water in the basement of Nickelson Hall. The same company came out and pumped the tanks, replaced a hose, and checked the system from outside; this was about \$1200. Our plumbing company ran a camera from inside and found grease clog which was jetted out, but mostly found that the pipe to the septic tank has dropped and will have to be dug out and reconnected. We are getting quotes on that. Zern plumbing agreed to donate their work.

Your key fob or card will now also open the side door to the office. In time, the lock to the counting room will be electronic also.

As to the Strategic Plan, he wants two vestry members assigned to each of the goals and go over the goals before the next meeting. He reviewed the email (attached) that he had sent out yesterday. Since so many new members are unfamiliar with this, he suggested that all the members look this over and get back with him within a week with at least 2 choices. Jennifer will continue with Ted on welcoming; Brenda will join Valerie on our passion; Martha also volunteered.

VPOD schedule was also included in the email. Valerie will switch with Jennifer for April 2 when Jennifer is not available. Valerie volunteered to do orientation for the number of new members.

Sign up with realm: we will be using it for messaging in future.

Jennifer on her report requested any unfinished business: none brought up. Marilyn Emmons is going to open the Women's Meeting for Lent. The Wednesday evening Lenten series will begin again this year with different people facilitating each week. Fr Fabio will begin.

Michelle Alexander has been approached to head Pastoral Care. Jennifer will set up a meeting with Gabrielle and see if they can transition.

Fish Fry begins next Friday; vestry encouraged to support this.

A healing service may be offered during Lent. Interested vestry members please contact Fr Fabio.

All vestry members need to complete the safety courses for God's people and God's children, with certificates to go to the office.

Fr Fabio reported that Mother Karen cancelled their meeting last week, and is not ready to meet yet. Her month off is over this weekend, and he hopes to hear from her soon.

Canon Lang will be here March 26 and will be preaching, and speaking to the vestry about Endowment.

In the Vestry Handbook, there is a Covenant of Mutual Expectation. He read out the 12 parts of the covenant and requested discussion. Jennifer requested that the vestry members be known to the congregation by wearing their name badges every Sunday. Valerie requested that we post photos of vestry members in Nickelson Hall.

Ted moved that the Covenant be accepted with corrections; Valerie seconded; the motion was passed unanimously.

After the meeting, Fr Fabio will be going to the hospital to be with Lydia Mendoza who will have life support disconnected today. He asked for prayers for Jorge and their children, and for Graciela (recently passed), Rafael, and Jeannette. Other members were mentioned as well for prayer. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer at 10:54 am.

Next meeting will be March 18, 2023, at 9 am via Zoom.

Submitted 2-18-2023 by Mary Lu Rogers, Clerk