

Vestry Meeting 3-18-2023

Attending: Jennifer Khaleel, Bernadette Matthews, Ted Ruchalski, Valerie Curry, Marlaina Grant, Erica Harris, Kevin Lee, Cecilia Midzi, Teresa Guzman, Martha Cuenca. Also attending were Fr Fabio Sotelo, Bill Paasewe, Mary Lu Rogers, Nicole Harris, Christina Mahoney and Leslie Nystrom.

Absent: Marck Mormon, Brendalyne Tamba-Dahn.

Meeting opened at 9:06 am with Fr Fabio leading the Daily Office followed by a discussion of the article "Vestry as a Life-Giving Team" by Chris Holmes.

Bill Paasewe presented the financial report: unusual expenses included repairs on the plumbing system, so that at the end of February we did not come out as expected. We will have a better picture at the end of the first quarter, but overall, the finances are doing well.

Leslie Nystrom presented a planning page on funeral planning that she and Fr Fabio have been working on. This follows some confusion with funeral homes and families in recent funerals. All the funeral home will do is bring in the casket and flowers and take them out again. There will be a meeting for anyone in the parish interested in end of life planning with a revised worksheet for funeral planning. This includes increased fees mostly due to increased cost, particularly of flowers. The cost for members is less than for non-members. Valerie requested that the document be available for review before any vote. Leslie will send it out to the vestry.

Christina Mahoney, the social worker from Oakland Meadow K-12 School, introduced us to Oakland Meadow school as a place for medically fragile or severe or profound disabilities, so a much smaller school. Ages run from 3 to the day before 22. Many itinerant programs are based in the building as well, so the staff is larger than would be expected. Volunteers are needed for entering the codes on Cole caps, part of a fund-raising effort, or reading to the students, or dancing with the students. Collecting Coke caps and soft drink tabs would be helpful, as would financial aid for alumni on feeding tubes who have no help getting the formulae needed for feeding tubes, which can run to over \$1000/month. Christina stated that the OMS staff of 70 would love to be treated to Digital Learning Day snacks or lunch. Jennifer and Fr Fabio thanked Christina and we will be thinking of what the vestry and church will be able to do to help.

Ted reported that the plumbing repair was to the septic system for Nickelson Hall which has very deep tanks. It is fixed for the time being, and we are getting estimates for a more permanent fix.

VPOD is in effect. After the 12:30 service, the VPOD can leave after making sure all the buildings are secure: that all the exterior doors are closed and locked, accessible still be key card only. And the lights in the church are supposed to be turned off. Outdoor lights are supposed to be left on.

He recommends that we begin using Realm as the primary communication tool for the vestry.

We will waive report on the Strategic Plan until next meeting.

Jennifer reported that the healing service has been implemented and is running well.

The Lenten Series is running well.

Vestry members need to sign up for Safeguarding God's Children and get certified.

We are planning a Fall Festival: there is a meeting tomorrow at 2 pm for those interested.

Head of Ministry meetings need to resume, but not until after Easter. Hospitality may be in charge of funerals, too.

NA meetings will move after July for Saturday meetings due to the smoking and mess that is left after the meetings. Marlaina expressed disappointment that this decision was made without vestry discussion. Bernadette responded that she talked to the groups about cleaning up, but they have not taken responsibility.

We are looking for people to plan and implement Adult Educational Ministry.

Parish Hall has been cleaned up.

Fr Fabio reported on his discussion with Canon Alicia concerning Mother Karen. They have made a decision: Mother Karen has decided not to come back to St. Edward's. She will continue working as a chaplain, but they are still working on where she will celebrate as a priest. We are asked to continue her salary, but that money will be returned to St. Edward's. We will be assigned a seminarian and/or deacon to assist Fr Fabio. This leaves the question of what to do with the pledges made through June for Mother Karen's support. Brief discussion followed. Fr Fabio has another meeting with Canon Alicia on Tuesday and will have suggestions to make after that.

Sarah Rosser is resigning in 2 weeks, so we will need another parish administrator. Fr Fabio had noticed this year that she is very busy and also tired. She has a full-time position.

Meeting closed at 11:15 am with prayer by Fr Fabio.

Next meeting is April 15, 2023, 9 am via Zoom.

Submitted 3-18-2023 by Mary Lu Rogers, Clerk.