

## Vestry Meeting 10-21-2023

Attending: Jennifer Khaleel, Ted Ruchalski, Bernadette Matthews, Marck Morman, Marlaina Grant, Cecilia Midzi, Valerie Curry, Kevin Lee, and Martha Cuenca. Also attending were Fr Fabio Sotelo, William Paasewe, and Mary Lu Rogers.

Absent: Brenda Tamba-Dahn, Erica Harris, Teresa Guzman

The meeting was opened at 9 am with a reading from Exodus. This was read first sentence by sentence by the vestry, then again in entirety. Then members of the vestry spoke of the phrases and ideas that spoke to them in this scripture. Fr Fabio shared his reflection on the reading.

Bill Paasewe reported that financial activity in September was very healthy compared to last year. Even with the special donations, income was more than expected, and it looks like October will also pick up to normal. He reminded the vestry that it is the time of year to consider next year's budget.

Jennifer requested that all members be present at the bishop's visit on 10-29-2023 to greet him and welcome him. She requested that all wear their name tags. There will be potluck after the service, so members need to bring a dish to share. The bishop plans to arrive 10 am and will stay for the service and the meal. If he has time, Valerie will lead a tour of Promise Haven.

Trunk or Treat will be on Saturday, October 28 from 4 to 7 pm. There are seven volunteers so far to decorate their cars and one volunteer to donate candy. Bernadette requested that more volunteers sign up. Kevin volunteered but will need to leave early. Marlaina volunteered to help decorate.

November 5 at 4 pm will be All Saints celebration. Jennifer requests help from the vestry for this.

Bernadette reported a net profit of just over \$8,000 from the Fall Festival. She will have the final figures for the next vestry meeting.

Jennifer reminded the vestry of the Annual Council meeting coming up November 10-11. Fr Fabio reminded all of the Pre-council meeting on October 24. All are welcome to attend online.

Valerie and Marlaina volunteered as subs as needed for Sunday School.

Jennifer will have a meeting on Wednesday with the coffee hour group, and she may be asking for volunteers from each service to help in Nickelson Hall for combined services and special events. There followed an extensive discussion on the need for roles in the group and communication within the group and between the group and the congregations.

At the end of the year there will be four vestry positions to fill. So far there are two people who are willing to serve on the vestry, and those four may run again. Fr Fabio added that any vestry member who felt he/she could not serve would be welcome to talk with him.

Fr Fabio was glad to see Jennifer improving after her bout with Covid.

He announced that we will have one baptism, twelve teenagers being confirmed, seven adults for confirmation, and six for acceptance at the bishop's visit.

Jennifer announced the ECW Annual Meeting at Mary and Martha. The luncheon is filled, but we can have women attend the meeting. They are also asking St. Edward's to donate nonperishable foods, gift cards from grocery outlets to help students at university, and sneakers, socks, and blankets to go to Common Ground. These need to be delivered by November 13. Valerie suggested that the first Sunday of November the red wagon donations should go to this ECW collection. Fr Fabio and Jennifer will get more information and send it out to the vestry.

Valerie brought up the idea of a potluck Christmas Dinner at Nickelson Hall. This is a way of our church welcoming people on Christmas Day. The committee includes Valerie, Etta Cole, and Denise Robinson.

The December meeting will be in person, a celebration of a year of hard work, on the 16th.

The meeting was closed with a prayer to the Holy Spirit at 10:25 am.

The next meeting will be November 18, 2023, at 9 am via Zoom.

Submitted 10-21-2023

Mary Lu Rogers