

Vestry Meeting 12-16-2023

Attending: Jennifer Khaleel, Ted Ruchalski, Bernadette Matthews, Marck Morman, Valerie Curry, Erica Harris, Cecilia Midzi, Marlaina Grant, and Kevin Lee. Also attending were Fr Fabio Sotelo, William Paasewe, Diane Van Slyke, Shirley Carrega, Al Tubman, Charles Rogers, and Mary Lu Rogers.

Absent: Martha Cuenca, Teresa Guzman, Brenda Tamba-Dahn

The meeting was opened at 9:10 am with prayer followed by breakfast in Nickelson Hall provided by our Senior Warden, Jennifer Khaleel.

At 9:32 am, the meeting was opened officially with excerpts from Morning Prayer.

Bill Paasewe and Diane Van Slyke gave the financial report: our income is down some from November, attributed to the pledges to pay off the mortgage. The congregation will be reminded tomorrow to make an effort to pay their regular pledges before year's end if possible. When we do our audit for 2023, our income from pledges will be important for calling a rector. Remaining due now is \$22,668 for this year. We have a month left. The committee is also looking at other potential sources of income for the church, including the Fall Festival which made money despite the weather. Ideas are welcome. Expenses are also down. Our bank balance has been fairly constant; we are doing okay.

At a Zoom meeting yesterday with the finance committee and canons of the diocese, where we found out that we are an "aided parish" and so not eligible to call a rector at this point; they would like to see our budget in the area of \$400,000 and stable, and no longer receiving financial support from the diocese. At that point we may be able to name Fr Fabio as our rector. The bishop was not aware of the financial situation at his earlier conversation with Jennifer.

Jennifer moved for a cost-of-living increase for the staff of 4%. Valerie seconded and the motion carried.

Marvelle can no longer lift the garbage to take it out. She still cleans Nickelson Hall. Jennifer and Fr Fabio have decided to hire a male person to do the cleaning; he will come in on Sunday mornings. Renters are charged a cleaning fee as part of the use of Nickelson Hall. The vestry agrees.

The Annual Meeting will be January 28th. Ministry Head reports are still not in.

Junior Warden Ted reported that we have purchased some new lights for the parking area and some new toilets, not yet installed.

Fr Fabio reminded us that Christmas morning service is Morning Prayer; at 4 pm will be a bilingual service, and Christmas Day service will be at the usual time. Valerie reminded him that the pot luck will be right after the service. Fr Fabio asked if people are bringing food on Christmas Eve.

Those leaving the vestry in the new year are asked to help find replacements. Jennifer presented a “token” gift to each of the vestry members leaving in 2024. Shirley Correga is retiring and also received a gift.

Meeting closed with prayer at 10:33 am.

Our next meeting will be January 20th. Vestry retreat will be February 10th.

Submitted 12-16-2023

Mary Lu Rogers