

Vestry Meeting 9-14-2024

Attending: Jennifer Khaleel, Erica Harris, Teresa Guzman, Darcey Tatum, Valerie Curry, Lorenzo Clarke, Alma Hurtado, Ruth Mannah, Brendalyne Tambe-Dahn. Also attending were Fr Fabio Sotelo and Mary Lu Rogers.

Absent: Cecilia Midzi, Martha Cuenca, Marck Morman

The meeting opened at 9:01 am with a reading from Mark, read sentence by sentence by members of the vestry and then in toto by Valerie Curry. Individual members then brought up the phrases that spoke most to them, summarized with Fr Fabio's reflections on the passage.

Jennifer led the financial report: Bill cannot attend this meeting, and Diane has no internet but sent the minutes of the meeting earlier this week. The financial committee and Jennifer are looking into the fixed asset list. The meeting included reviewing the financial activities of the month and the audit report which has now been submitted to the diocese. Darcey pointed out that one of the gaps is in the expected amount of extra collections and what income the church receives. Fr Fabio thanked the people who helped with the audit and was thankful that the audit showed nothing out of control and only a few areas that need attention like the fixed asset list. Alma and Valerie both discussed ways to study the bills and see if anything can be done to work with them (turning the lights off, perhaps installing solar panels). Timers and motion sensors were discussed and will be evaluated with Ted and Geraldo.

Darcey gave an update on the stewardship campaign for this year: there will be fewer personal testimonies and more emphasis on Tithes.

Fr Fabio reported that renovations on Nickelson Hall will begin the end of October. There will be a meeting after the Fall Festival to choose materials and colors. A lot of the labor has been pledged by people of the parish. Marco will continue work on the undercroft bathrooms this week. Vestry members will be included in making decisions on all the renovations.

Jennifer announced that Sanya Simmons, Alma Hurtado, Lucy Herrera and Jennifer Khaleel will be the delegates and alternates for the Annual Council Meeting of the Dioceses on November 8 and 9. We need an additional delegate Erica and Teresa were asked. Teresa has the time and is free and willing to take part, so she will be Jennifer's alternate. The motion was made by Ruth, seconded by Valerie and carried unanimously.

Alma reported on the Fall Festival: to get more foot traffic, there have been posts on Facebook, and a special page has been established just for the festival each year. She encouraged vestry members to follow the page to get it more activity. Also to visit each

donor and vendor to thank them. We will have a stage; Rafael and Jeannete will be the DJ's and announcers. All the tickets and funds need to be turned in by tomorrow. There are still tickets left and these need to be sold. She needs to know who on the vestry will be volunteering to assist and what times. Leslie Nystrom has a list. Lorenzo and Darcey will be there all day. There will be tables available in Nickelson Hall and outside and a tent space open for people to use as seating for lunch. The seating area and vendors will be on the front lawn, the stage and other things will be in the parking area in the front. We still need items for the smaller raffles: unwanted gifts or very gently used items would be welcome. We have some of the young people volunteering, and we can ask for more.

Jennifer reminded the vestry that tomorrow is a special bilingual service followed by a celebration of Fr Fabio's birthday. Please bring a dish to share.

Fr Fabio thanked the vestry for their leadership, asked them to support each other and to help him keep the church united during the time of this upcoming election, since we are made up of both parties and many outlooks. We have to go through this together. He finished the clergy conference yesterday, and pointed out that the clergy were united, in particular by supporting each other and meeting each other's needs. Sometimes too many blessings may not be a good thing.

Valerie commented that the ECW meeting was well attended; all the women on the vestry were there. The next meeting will be on November 10th from 11:30 to 12:30.

Fr Fabio opened a space for names for prayer: Billy, Patrick, Alma's mother, Valerie's son, the families of Apalachee High School, success of the festival, that charities get what they need, for the election in truth and love, teachers and schools, for the needs of the vestry. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer at 10:30 am.

The next meeting will be held October 19, 2024, via Zoom.

Submitted by Mary Lu Rogers

September 14, 2024