

## Vestry Meeting 10-19-2024

**Attending:** Jennifer Khaleel, Lorenzo Clarke, Darcey Tatum, Erica Harris, Marck Morman, Brenda Tamba-Dahn, Alma Hurtado, Teresa Guzman. Also attending were Fr Fabio Sotelo, Bill Paasewe, and Mary Lu Rogers.

**Absent:** Valerie Curry, Cecilia Midzi, Martha Cuenca, Ruth Mannah

The meeting was opened at 9:08 am with a reading from Luke 16, read sentence by sentence by the vestry, then in toto by Brenda. The discussion following was somewhat confused but agreed that God wants us to be faithful in small and large matters, and to serve God rather than putting wealth first. Fr Fabio reflected that this is the third parable we are given in Luke, and all have a twist to them. Finally, this is a call to be faithful, and to use our resources shrewdly to affect our own future. We will be using this passage in the upcoming stewardship campaign.

Bill presented the financial report: Total Revenue for September was \$31,455.37 with total Expenses of \$27,354.60. The church up through the third quarter had overestimated non-pledged donations and overestimated expenses, so we have a shortfall in receipts, but need really good input from the vestry to plan the budget for the coming year. Darcey questioned why we have a holding fund for the Endowment Fund, which is itself a designated fund. Bill will review this.

Darcey reported that tomorrow the pledge card packets will be passed out. The campaign will be asking the congregation to pledge at least as much this year as last, and if possible, to increase pledges if possible within comfortable levels, then to pledge toward Fr Fabio's salary fund, and to the Endowment Fund, all in effort to demonstrate to the Diocese that we will be able to sustain ourselves AND afford to call Fr Fabio as our rector. This year, the Diocese is providing \$45,000 toward Fr Fabio's salary. If we can come up with that amount, then his salary will be covered by St. Edward's alone. If 50 people can pledge \$1000 toward his salary, then we can do this. Erica asked about those who have never pledged: we are reaching out to them, but there will always be those unwilling to pledge. The vestry agrees with this campaign.

Darcey has a proposal for the vestry about the Endowment Fund, now postponed to next meeting.

Next meeting will be working on budget for 2025; vestry members need to get expense numbers from your ministries for that.

Nickelson Hall renovations begin next week. Someone donated paint and Fr Fabio found paint in the undercroft. Most is too dark. Marco volunteered to pay for the paint, but the color will be chosen tomorrow by the renovation committee.

Discussion on increasing rent on the hall is postponed to next meeting.

Alma reported on the Fall Festival: thanks to everyone who helped, especially cleaning up. There was a little over \$12,000 collected from raffle tickets, food sales, etc. Expenses were less than \$4,000 even with some outstanding receipts, so the festival was profitable.

She reported that we don't have a log of when various maintenance procedures are done, like getting the furnace checked, and we need one. Darcey and Ted will work on creating one to be passed on to each Junior Warden in turn. Alma wants to help with that, too.

Work will begin in Nickelson Hall right after the noon service on October 27<sup>th</sup>. Assistance with the work and providing lunch for the workers would be appreciated. Also, with the work in the undercroft, clearing it and renovating it.

Fr Fabio mentioned the upcoming Eucharist on November 3 for All Souls Day. Trunk or Treat is coming up, and we will be providing a safe place for children to have fun on Halloween. This is the 26<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 7.

Most of the renovations will be done with donated labor and with the donations collected over the year.

For some time to come, Fr Fabio will be leaving Sunday afternoons to celebrate the Eucharist in Athens where there is not a Spanish-speaking priest at present. He asked for prayer support.

Billy Ball is dying. He is in his last hours, according to his nurses. Fr Fabio asks any who can go visit him today and read to him from the Bible or Book of Common Prayer.

Fr Fabio thanked the vestry and clerk for attending, and all for keeping the faith. Billy and others needing prayer were named, including voters in the upcoming election, and faithfulness for the members of St. Edward's. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer at 11:02 am.

The next meeting will be on November 16, 2024, at 9 am.

Submitted October 19, 2024, by Mary Lu Rogers