

Vestry Meeting 8-16-2025

Attending: Jennifer Khaleel, Teresa Guzman, Charmaine Mitchell, Ruth Mannah, Emmanuel Mitchell, George Herrin, Kathy Yukishige, Darcey Tatum, Lee Ann Sipe, Lorenzo Clarke. Also attending were Nicole Harrison, Fr. Fabio Sotelo, William Paasewe, and Mary Lu Rogers.

Absent: Brenda Tamba-Dahn, Martha Cuenca, Lawrence Toomey and Alma Hurtado

Meeting opened at 9:42 am by Fr. Fabio with a reading from Isaiah, first by phrases, then in total. Members of the vestry discussed what the story of the vineyard meant to them. Fr. Fabio summed up.

Town Hall Meeting will be on September 7 between services. Save the date.

Marian Franks took over pastoral care ministry. There will be a member standing next to Fr. Fabio after services or wearing a nametag among the congregation. Cards sent by members of the ministry will now have the church name on them.

Lee Ann reported on the Fall Festival and the need to have someone else sell tickets after the 10 o'clock service, as she plays the flute for the recessional. Jennifer reported that we still need sponsors. Teresa suggests that each vestry member take a book of 10 tickets to sell, at least. The church is requesting boxed donations for the raffles, but there are still things in basement storage from the last two years that have not get given away. Volunteers have been signing up.

Hospitality does not have anyone to take over the second Sunday coffee hour, so it may be a good idea to do a food sale on these Sundays and raise some money for the church. This would be \$5 or \$10 for a plate of food. Funds raised could be designated for coffee hour, air conditioner fund, or something else. Food would be free for visitors. Drinks would be free regardless. Darcey suggested that, since we have this set up for the next three months, that a vote be postponed until we see how it goes. Discussion followed on why we went from coffee hour to meals between services, how this is funded and how this should be addressed. Fr. Fabio asked for three people to find out what these costs, how stressful this is, and report back to him and the vestry for consideration armed with information. Ruth, Charmaine, and Teresa will be doing this.

Darcey reported on efforts to repair the air conditioning system in the Administration Building where two out of four systems are not working at present. Since he and Jennifer

produced the options and requested a vote, more donations have been pledged, taking the AC fund to \$19,000. Replacing both systems would cost \$14,000, leaving \$5,000 in the fund. Darcey made a motion for the vestry to approve the replacement vote. George seconded the motion; it passed unanimously.

Darcey would like the vestry to attend the appreciation dinner being put on by himself and Lucy to celebrate twenty years association with Family Promise on the 24th. Volunteers to provide meals for that week are still needed.

Next Saturday Darcey and volunteers will be going through the basement for clearance. George suggested the saleable items go in a booth at the Fall Festival; Darcey says he will run it.

Bill noted that in July, we fell short by about \$14,000. This is a month when people go on vacation and income always tends to drop. Overall, we are doing well, especially in controlling expenses. Finance committee discussed the budget at last meeting. They will need reports of all the needs of the vestry by mid-September to proceed with a first draft of budget by end of October.

The audit pointed out that we need a Fixed Asset List. Bill and the Finance Committee have been pressing for this for some years. The auditor has offered guidance in getting this done, and the head of the committee on this will follow up. The auditor also recommended that the minimum for checks requiring two signatures be raised. Jennifer moved that the minimum be raised to \$1000. George seconded with the proviso that this be documented; Jennifer agreed. The motion carried. Bill also asked the vestry to vote on a threshold for the Fixed Asset List. He recommends a threshold of \$1500. Darcey suggests we follow the Diocese recommendation for threshold; Fr. Fabio to confirm what this is.

George moves that we take \$25,000 of our operating account and put in a 5-month CD which will earn us about 4.5% or about \$300 or \$400. Darcey seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Fr. Fabio noted that we seem to be a bit behind on pledges. He encouraged all to catch up.

After our month-long trial of bilingual services and the survey on that, the main problem seems to be with changing service times. So services will be at 8 am (English) 10 a.m. (English) and 12:30 p.m. (Spanish), and when there is a bilingual service, it will be at 10 a.m. children, youth and adult formation will be between services. This will come up at the Town Hall Meeting.

Our commitment to the Diocese for the year 2026 will be \$30,256. Jennifer moved for approval of this commitment amount. George seconded. Darcey abstained; all other voters approved.

At the end of September, Fr. Fabio will be attending the Presbyters conference of the Diocese, the Diocese of Georgia will join our diocese. The Presiding Bishop will be with us for this gathering.

Beginning this Sunday, Alyssa Salli will be our Seminarian. This is her last year in seminary, so she will become a Deacon in December, and Priest next June. This will cost travel expenses this year (\$100/month). This will carry over next year through June. Next year we will put a budget line for Seminarian.

Nicole looked up the Diocese recommendation for minimum for capitalization: \$1500.

Lee Ann suggested pictures on canvas of our activities to hang on the walls of Nickelson Hall, backed with baffling, to help with the noise levels. Renters will be taking our pictures off the walls.

She also suggested we list parishioners by zip code, to aid in assistance (rides, pastoral care, etc.). All this information is easily listed in Realm, and she will handle it there.

Kathy would like us to have name tags for all the parishioners again. Jennifer agrees, but not to store them here or in the Narthex. A magnetic name tag and on trays might work.

Meeting closed with prayer at 11:56 am.

The next meeting will be September 20, 2025, at 9 am via Zoom.

Submitted 8-21-2025

Mary Lu Rogers, Clerk