

Vestry Meeting 9-20-2025

Attending: Jennifer Khaleel, Lee Ann Sipe, Darcey Tatum, George Herrin, Kathleen Yukishige, Ruth Mannah, Alma Hurtado, Lorenzo Clarke, Teresa Guzman, Brenda Tamba-Dahn, Lawrence Toomey, and Emmanuel Mitchell. Also attending were Fr Fabio Sotelo, Nicole Harrison, Michelle King-Alexandeer, and Mary Lu Rogers.

Absent: Charmaine Mitchell, Martha Cuenca

Meeting called to order at 9:06 am. Fr Fabio began with the vestry reading from Luke 16, the parable of the unjust steward. What is God saying to us in this parable? After discussion, Fr Fabio noted that this may have to do with the Jewish law forbidding profit on lending money. The steward was giving up his commission to make friends. We are encouraged to deal justly with the people around us, using “unjust” profit to gain friendship, and join into community.

Jennifer commented that the only comment she had heard on the Town Hall meeting was that we had not handed out the Strategic Plan. Fr Fabio agreed that visuals help a lot.

The food sale last Sunday collected \$500. She thanked all who participated. She asked everyone to bring something to share at coffee hour on the first Sunday of each month.

George wants a report on our progress every month, and he will need the help of all the vestry to help work toward the goals and keep all of us up to date on progress. Jennifer asked the vestry to come with ideas to attain the first goal.

Alma reported that the committee has been working very hard and meeting every week to work out details. Volunteers are still needed. Many say they will help, but there are few names on the lists. The more volunteers, the shorter the shifts. Any time that can be volunteered at the church would be helpful. We have collected a little over \$1300 just in vendor fees; a lot of people waited until the last minute to sign up as vendors. Teresa hopes that this year will be better than last year for raffle tickets; she is getting in touch with the sellers to collect the money for those sold so far. There are still 19 bundles of tickets that could be sold. Darcey and Alma discussed the availability of tables: vendors must provide their own set-ups, but several people will bring tables from home. Tents are also limited in number. St. Edward's will have a table for welcome, handing out pamphlets and key chains and selling T-shirts. This needs vestry members to man it. Kathy and Nicole will do most of this.

Jennifer reported that there is a communication committee aiming toward updating and improving our website. This is budgeted and will cost about \$1000. There is another meeting in the coming week.

Jennifer led a brief report on our financial position: our income dropped below projected in August, and our expenses were up somewhat, especially for power in that very hot month, and we paid for the audit last month. George reported that the church spends about \$32,000 every month, and if we do not match that in income, we are borrowing from our restricted funds to pay the bills. The finance committee is seeing the need for an educational meeting for the congregation to learn how the finances of the church work. Alma and Lee Ann commented that we need more fundraising events, and we need new blood to suggest them and run them. Darcey would like to see efforts to save money and monthly reports on pledging support. There was discussion on the rental fees and costs for Nickelson Hall.

Michelle is running the Stewardship Campaign this year. The theme comes from Matthew: "Well done, good and faithful servant." She is reworking her plan to emphasize Treasure over Time, Talent, and Testimony on Fr Fabio's request. She displayed poster and pledge card for the vestry. She will be starting the campaign, with Viviana following, and including the children and youth. The last presenter would be Ted. She will co-ordinate with Carla on music to go with the campaign.

Darcey reported that a community of religious nuns donated a lawn mower to us. It needs work, and he does not plan to have it worked on until next year.

Adult formation begins tomorrow between services.

Fr Fabio has met with many people and groups over the last few weeks. He is ready for the Festival next Saturday and looking forward to it.

Fr Fabio closed the meeting with prayer. Darcey offered thanksgiving, as well as Michelle. Jennifer requested prayer for her daughter. Fr Fabio asked for prayer for his daughter (birthday today) and for this nation, and for the St. Edward's community, those with health issues and hard times. All joined in the Lord's Prayer at 10:43 am.

The next meeting is October 18th, 2025, at 9 am via Zoom.