

Vestry Meeting 10-18-2025

Attending: Jennifer Khaleel, George Herrin, Darcey Tatum, Charmaine Mitchell, Ruth Mannah, Kathleen Yukishige, Alma Hurtado, Teresa Guzman, Lorenzo Clarke. Also attending were Fr Fabio Sotelo, William Paasewe, and Mary Lu Rogers.

Absent: Lee Ann Sipe, Brenda Tamba-Dahn, Martha Cuenca, Lawrence Toomey, Emmanuel Mitchell

At 9:05, Fr Fabio began the meeting with Lectio Divina reading Luke 18.

Bill gave the financial report: although we are behind in collections, we are 70% better off than we were this time last year. He considers that we have done much better, but still could do better. In the effort to move forward, he proposed that the vestry make it mandatory that extra fund-raising events should benefit the operating fund with 75% of profits, leaving 25% to go to restricted funds as their committees designate. This does not apply to events of 2025. Discussion followed; this is tabled for consideration in a future meeting. The budget for next year will have an increase of 3% basically. This will be updated through the stewardship campaign in November.

Jennifer brought up church safety and proposed a committee to look at protocols and safety measures for the church.

There is already a committee to consider whether to renew the lease of Family Haven to Family Promise. The renewal comes up within the year, so a decision must be made soon.

The stewardship campaign starts in October. Vestry and congregation members will be speaking during the month, and Fr. Fabio would like the vestry to support the messages they will be giving.

Alma reported on the Fall Festival. She began with thanks for all the help from the vestry. The festival is getting bigger year by year. Preliminary report shows much better results than last year. Numbers are still coming in, so the final report will be given later. Feedback would be welcome, good or problematic. There will be a small Christmas market.

Fr. Fabio reported on communication; this is part of the strategic plan. Ted and the committee are making videos for the website and Instagram account. Fr. Fabio is looking forward to results.

Darcey reported that we have had some emergencies: the oven failed and the drain clogged. The drain actually back flowed under the new flooring downstairs. The oven has been repaired, hoping to get another year of use. New double ovens cost about \$2000, and

we will have to replace the oven sometime soon. All the appliances now work, although there are still mirrors and toilet paper holders to be installed in the downstairs restrooms. Repairing the drain cost us \$998 even with a 12% discount. He has asked Royal Flush to give an estimate on repairing the problem of two 90-degree angles in the drain.

Georgia Power wants a 20-foot vegetation easement and will help pay for tree removal if we are willing. The new flag light has been installed, also other lighting for safety.

Jennifer thanked Darcey and the men of the church who jumped in to handle the emergencies, and Fr. Fabio who helps wherever needed.

The Annual Council will be held in early November. Jennifer and George are confirmed as delegates. Alternates is Marvelle Martin.

Fr. Fabio reported that he and Carla Strott are already working on the Christmas Pageant and celebrations, with an effort to include the children.

He reminded the vestry that the pit crew will be cooking tomorrow, with side dishes brought by the congregation. The service will begin outside. All Souls service will be at 4 pm on the first Sunday of November.

Kathy reported on the youth: sometimes there are many children, sometimes not. The Confirmation class has grown. According to "Safeguarding" another person is needed, as none of the adults are supposed to be in the room with the children by themselves. On All Souls, Sunday school will be at 3 pm.

George reported that we have achieved a couple of the smaller goals of the strategic plan. He had hoped that we could work on focus groups this year also.

Fr Fabio closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer at 10:26 am.

Next meeting is November 15, 2025, at 9 a.m. via Zoom.

Submitted 10-18-2025 by Mary Lu Rogers.