



### **Meeting of the Vestry**

February 13, 2023, 5:00 - 7:00 pm

**Vestry members present:** Man Martin, Caroline Rose, Leslie Uddin, Nancy Easterlin-Smith, Scott Madden, Jed Dennard, Jim Reese, Gay Jolley, Martha Evans, Grant Ford, Diana Parise, (Chris Elwell via Zoom), and The Rev. Monica Mainwaring

**Call to order:** The Vestry met in person in the library of the Church. The clerk certified a quorum and Mother Monica called the meeting to order at 5:00 and led us in the opening prayer.

**Dwelling in the Word:** Man Martin read a passage – God is Love and Vestry members recounted how they have seen God’s Love recently.

**Clerk's report** (Scott Madden):

- Vestry approved the January minutes.
- The next Vestry meeting will be Tuesday, March 21st (5:00 pm - 7:00 pm).

**Rector's report (Monica Mainwaring):**

- The Parochial Report draft was provided to the Vestry – what we report to our National Church (including Sunday attendance and operating income). We provide the Diocese with 10% of our operating revenue.
- Quinten Lonon – newly hired facility manager. He is back in a new role after working as a carpenter full-time for 2 years.
- Episcopal Parish Network (Endowment, Stewardship) - Monica will travel with EF Trustees to the conference in early March.
- Nursery Lead has resigned (moving out of town); active search underway
- Each Clergy member has 5 Sundays off per year. Monica is away 2/19; Colin on 2/26.

**Treasurer's Report (Jed Dennard):**

- Our deficit to start the year was \$249,982. Expenses exceeded revenues by \$64,897 in January. We continue to have a relatively strong cash position.
- Paid 1<sup>st</sup> half of the Rector’s sabbatical in January and several other one-time expenses which account for most of the monthly deficit.
- School tuition – in the past parishioners who pledged to the church at least \$500 could get a \$1000 tuition credit from the school. School is changing it to a \$500 tuition credit, and the church requires giving of at least \$1,500 per year for the family

- The auditor is incorporating Endowment Fund into our 2021 audit – one Tax ID number. This year the bill to the auditor will be higher (will be one bill going forward). The audit will be more transparent to parishioners, and it is best practice. We expect the cost of the single audit will be shared with Endowment Fund going forward (and will be lower).

#### **Junior Warden's Report (Martha Evans):**

- Recycling container – in addition to our regular trash container; can save money in the long term, both will fit in the existing footprint. This will be the first “green team” initiative for the church this year – working with Dekalb County.
  - Roll out could be done around Earth Day (4/22)
- Postponed Administrative Commission meeting this Sunday – waiting for a final estimate for improving the condition of the roofs – flat roofs were not installed as they should have been – repairs are needed – water coming down on bricks has caused structural issues – flooding in one classroom – David Pew (parishioner) has joined the administrative team – helping find the right experts to work with the church.
- Prayer garden – people are getting excited about the prospect of improvements. Youth will have a service day in the prayer garden this spring – want to re-furbish prior to the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The survey is the first step – one has been recommended (cost \$1,800). Ask Vestry to spend \$1,800 – initially - \$800 of that will come from the church. (Approved)

#### **Senior Warden's Report (Grant Ford):**

- Sunday was great with School Sunday – seeing Maria Madden, the new Head of School, and the board of the school. Madden begins on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### **Liaison Reports**

##### **Stewardship Report (Man Martin)**

- Increasing time, talent, and treasure starts with Vestry – would like each member of Vestry to contact parishioners (a couple per month).
  - Ask would be to pledge if they are not yet doing so (even a \$10 pledge is a pledge – a personal commitment); if they make a financial pledge, it is more likely they will have other support to church (donating time and expertise)
  - Would provide vestry members with a script to help. To be part of the church you need to pray, work, and give. Tailor the message based on how they are meeting those obligations to the church.
  - Stewardship committee – Nancy will be happy to help with that.
  - Lots of discussions – need to gather a committee to approach it holistically
    - Need data regarding each parishioner (attendance, giving, etc.)
  - Question – will the vestry support this effort? [Defer the question]
- Need a direct ask to the 20 or so families who pledged prior but not for 2023 and need a direct ask of the wonder church families about pledging.

- Temporary sign – thanks to your pledge, we are going to “X” (with pictures) – do it for a month.

#### Suthers Center Outreach (Jim Reese)

- Needed to move the Thrift Shop inventory from one church to another as the old location was being sold. Some items were thrown out – the rest is waiting for the Thrift Shop to restart.

#### **New Business**

- Lay Licensing
  - Vince Vitti - Lay Licensing
  - Gay Jolley – Lay Licensing
  - Asking for support with their calling. Vestry agreed to sign (2/3 vote required - unanimous support of Vitti and Jolley - (See attachment 5)
- Parochial Report
  - Monica explained how she and the staff come up with the appropriate numbers due to Realm's insufficiencies. Asking for numbers breakdown: children, young adults, etc. Previous report provides the number associated with our parish, which is 1501. Then we work backward to break down that number.
  - Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) is counted every week and recorded.
  - Weekly attendance reflects SMES chapels, etc.
  - Due March 1, 2023.
  - Finance Commission working on numbers to determine what our 10% contribution will be.
  - Vestry to review electronically and submit revisions to open-ended questions by February 21. Submission deadline to the national church March 1.

#### **2023 Priorities + Strategic Planning**

Vestry to make sure this aligns with our vision (A-E on diagram). Grant Ford and Diana Parise receive suggestions for names to serve on the committee.

#### **Closing prayer (Monica Mainwaring)**