

St. Mary's Vestry Meeting: April 13, 2023

St. James Room

**Group Norms and Priest Update: Scott**

Scott initiated a brain-storming session for suggestions of Vestry norms to be discussed in more detail at later meetings:

**Vestry concerns/comments:**

More timely distribution of minutes before the next meeting? Hub noted that after his draft minutes are reviewed by the wardens, treasurer, and Scott he sends them to Julie for distribution before the next meeting. He offered to send minutes to all Vestry members at that time, but Sally and others preferred to receive the meeting packet with the minutes together, so Julie will continue to send out the minutes with the meeting packet.

**Parish feedback:**

The many Easter week services had different styles and were all received very positively; Scott particularly enjoyed the gathering of the children at the 9am Easter Sunday service.

**Search Committee Update: Bill**

A CAT survey results presentation to the Vestry members is planned for April 22. No date has been set yet for CAT results to be presented to the congregation. Lallie urged small discussion groups be held for the congregation on the CAT results as further input to the search committee. Bill noted that the search committee will make a presentation of the CAT results to the congregation in order to help develop our offering profile. The Vestry and any strategic planning effort can then continue to use the CAT results on a track separate from the search committee as desired.

**Garden Update: Marian**

A professional landscaper will be hired hopefully within the current garden committee's budget to do the continual maintenance of the garden that is no longer able to be done by volunteers alone. Allison is awaiting bids for the work to be done and will report on the impact to the garden budget. This work does not include changes in garden design. Scott reports that Allison is doing an excellent job of seeking diverse bids.

**Rectory Update: Brad**

Brad, Dave, Peter, and Lanny are trying to schedule a walk-through to evaluate any work that needs to be done. The proposed departure date for current renters is January 28, 2024 if the rectory is needed for the new rector.

**Liaison Reports:****Angel's Treasures - Jane**

A new WiFi booster has been placed in AT so that their coverage is more consistent. Janis would like to market some selected "high-end" furniture and other antiques on Facebook Marketplace instead of physically in the thrift shop and needs some technical help to do that. Scott referred her to Allison.

**Outreach: Sally, Bill, Marian**

Next meeting is April 26. Wilma Morris, former board member on the Cape Cod Council of Churches, will join the meeting to share her experience in the coordination of Cape wide volunteers.

**Faith Family Kitchen: Sally, Dave**

Attendance has increased to 80-100 per meal served at the Assembly of God in Hyannis. Hotel deliveries have been stopped.

**Miracle Kitchen: Sally**

Roy Hammer is passing the coordination of this Wednesday lunch serving from 11 to noon on to Sally and Beth. More volunteer servers are needed.

**Social Events: Marian**

Musical events for the whole village on the terrace are being considered for either Sunday at 4pm or after the 10 am service. Judy Knauer plans newcomers' gathering at her house in June and a parish-wide reception in the fall. Ice cream "socials" are being considered for the after-service coffee hour. Jane suggested Helen Malone as "just the right person to do that." Invitees could include the pre-school kids and parents, Half Holiday participants, and First Lutheran members.

**Mutual Ministry Review/Annual Retreat Objectives: Scott, Brad, Marian**

The May 5 Vestry Meeting will include a Mutual Ministry Review, last done in 2019 and recommended by the diocese to be done annually. It is expected to be a mutual conversation of positives and recommendations between priest and the Vestry to set goals ("not a performance review").

The focus of the Vestry retreat off-site the following day on May 6 will focus on "how to preserve what is good", particularly on stewardship and development post-Covid. Rev. Brain Raiche, Diocese Consultant and Rector of The Church of the Good Shepherd in Reading MA, will be the facilitator.

**Treasurer's Comments: Barry****Preliminary Comments on March Financial Results**

Preliminary total current assets for March are expected to be \$5,336,199.83. Net Operating Income year to date is expected to be a gain of \$63,246.90 at the end of March.

**Income:**

- Preliminary total Income through the end of March is expected to be \$232,672.20 which is over budget by \$25,438.50, primarily due to Pledge income of \$101,829.21 being \$16,000.47 greater than the prorated budget and over prior year pledges by \$11,301.

**Expense:**

- Preliminary total Expense through the end of March is expected to be \$169,425.30 which is under the prorated budget by \$48,309.51.

**Other Income & Expense:**

- Some more good news is that year to date income from the Capital Campaign is \$38,532.70 through March including the Smart Credits for the Solar Panels.

**2023 Pledges:** As of Monday, we had received \$348,565 in pledges from 142 pledge units including 100% of the Vestry and clergy. This compares to \$328,240 from 143 Pledge Units in 2022. The average pledge for 2023 is \$2,455 compared to \$2,295 in 2022.j

**Solar Panel Capital Budget & Campaign**

- As you know, we started the Capital Campaign by contacting the donors of the first installation of panels. As of now we have a total of \$28,000 in pledges from 6 pledge units. Julie is sending out a mailing to the parish to kick off the main portion of the campaign. A copy of the letter to the parish was sent out with the handouts for this meeting. Peter Scarafile will be announcing the kickoff at each of the services this coming week with handouts of the letter and pledge cards.
- Peter & I are waiting to get clarity on how the 30% tax credit will be obtained. We have been talking with the same company we used to get a 15% tax break on the initial solar project about the possibility of taking advantage of a 20% option they are offering if we are unable to take advantage of the 30%. However, even without the tax credit, the project will still be well worth the investment with savings coming in over many years.

Scott noted that “maintenance of income = growth”.

**Treasure’s report is gratefully acknowledged.**

Patrick Ramage regretfully submitted his resignation from the Vestry due to the increasing difficulty in juggling his commitments to family, work, and St. Mary’s.

Respectfully submitted, Hub Mathewson, Clerk

Full Vestry meeting minutes are available upon request in the church office.