

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting

September 21, 2021

Vestry Members Present - Sara Ceresa, Faith Cirre, Phil Eschels, Gaylee Gillim, David Neihaus, Troy Petrie, Gibbs Reese, John Shelby (phone), Bill Shory, Speed Stodghill and Peggy Woolley.

Others Present – Edie Nixon, Treasurer

Absent – David Holzknecht, Hannah Savells – (Youth) and Rhody Streeter.

Clergy & Staff – The Rev. Kelly Kirby, Rector and The Rev. Benjamin Hart, Director of Congregational Life.

Opening Prayer – Rev. Kirby opened the meeting at 6:15 with the traditional prayer and noted that a quorum was in attendance.

Reading/Reflection – Gaylee Gillim spoke about her pleasure in reading excerpts from the pamphlet *Forward Day by Day*. She noted that based on Episcopal theology, today's date is denoted as St. Matthews Day. The reading speaks to personal sacrifice, giving to others and the care that should be taken when judging others by way of a measuring stick wherein you can measure a person both up and down.

Approval of Minutes – Speed Stodghill requested that the last sentence be rephrased to the following – *That devotion passed to her children who today continue that tradition on even a larger and wider scale the best they can.* On a motion made by Gibbs Reese with second by Gaylee Gillim, the minutes were approved as amended.

Financial Report – Edie Nixon provided highlights for each of the following reports for the month of August as follows:

Balance Sheet:

She happily reported a \$30,000 increase in cash during the month that is a combination of earlier pledge payments and open plate offerings.

Profit & Loss

The revenue for August is extremely high. We are \$60,000 above budget for pledge payments and plate offerings. Building and grounds expenses are now exceeding the budgeted amount which is not unusual for this time of year. She was not sure what the total picture will look like at year's end.

On a motion made by Faith Cirre and second by Peggy Woolley, the report was accepted, subject to audit.

2020 Financial Review

In compliance with diocesan requirements, an annual review of finances and accounting procedures is to be conducted with findings reported to the diocesan Financial Review Committee. This review was conducted by Edie and Joanne at the end of August. It was noted that Joanne continues to do an outstanding job for the parish. Particular attention was paid to transactions greater than \$5,000. Following this review, it is believed that all accounting procedures are in order and being processed properly. There were no recommendations for changing or modifying a "process".

Following general discussion, on a motion made by Phil Eschels and second by Gaylee Gillim, the report was accepted as presented.

Diocesan Convention

This annual gathering of representatives from each parish is scheduled to occur the weekend of November 13th utilizing a Zoom format for the second year. Each congregation is entitled to a select number of deputy representatives and in our case, we can elect three (3) deputies, three (3) alternates and one (1) youth for participation therein. Following discussion, these parishioners will serve in the aforementioned roles:

<u>Deputy</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Youth</u>
Phil Eschels	Sara Ceresa	(None)
Speed Stodghill	Sara Bailey	
Troy Petrie		

On a motion made by Peggy Wooley with second by Bill Shory, the above persons were approved to represent the parish at this convention.

Vestry Committee Liaison Reports

- Building and Grounds – Met last week. All work being done is impacting the budget. Need to get lighting in Saints Hall resolved by the 1st week of December for Ballard High School rental. This "fix" may impact the lighting in the Nave. HVAC work has been completed. New garage is progressing but behind schedule due to material schedules and/or deliveries. Work continues on the sanctuary electronics desk and cable enclosures. Very pleased with the effort to clean up the property. Thanks extended to the Grounds subcommittee for same and new replacement trees anticipated by year end.
- Dimensions of Faith – Met August 30th and subsequently announced that Mr. Steve Crump, who has produced a compelling documentary on racial truth telling, will be coming in February for a presentation and to continue our discussion related to this topic.
- Finance – Will be meeting this month to commence development of the 2022 operating budget.
- Nominating Committee – Looking for two other parishioners to participate in the nomination process for selection of new vestry candidates.
- Outreach – Meeting October 3rd.
- Planned Giving – Met this month and announced that 38 members/families have made commitments for giving. Kelly would like to have a public "thank you" but

due to the pandemic restrictions, this will need to be delayed. Over \$12,500 in bequests has been received to date and is reflected in the financial statements.

- Stewardship – Kelly reported that a representative from each of three families will speak on different Sunday mornings in October about the importance of financially supporting the work and worship that is St. Matthew's Episcopal Church.
- Vision Implementation Team – Will meet on October 12th.

Wardens' Reports

- Senior Warden Phillip Eschels – No report.
- Junior Warden Speed Stodghill – A \$10,00 gift from an individual has been received to support the Kenya Kids at Rongo for upkeep of the orphanage property plus other smaller contributions to be used for a variety of needs.

Rector's Report

Rev. Kirby spoke to each of the following:

- Pleased with the start of the fall kick-off of the church school year and the effort put forth with our new staff members, plus parishioners with children in the program.
- Received the last check relating to the Collegeville Grant in the amount of \$10,000 with two more installments received in previous years.

Theological Reflection – Rev. Kirby noted that while the “virtual” services have continually improved, with the level of easing COVID restrictions, there is now a much greater desire to move forward and return to being more active as a united parish.

Compline –Gaylee led us in Myll Chapel following adjournment of the meeting at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Gibbs Reese, Secretary

