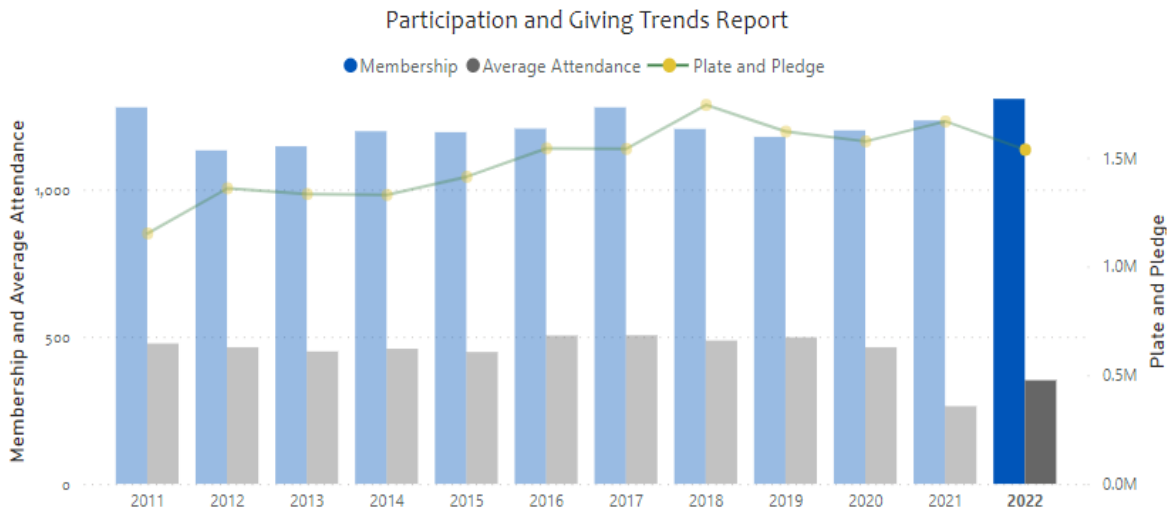


**October 26, 2023 – 5:00 PM  
Holy Faith Vestry  
Youth Room, Conkey House  
The Church of the Holy Faith**

**MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Fr Robin Dodge, Mike Morrissey, Steven Berkshire, Chris Frenk, Ruth Rael, Kaki Grubbs, Mark Everett, Charles Rountree  
MEMBERS ABSENT: Peter Lockyer, Vann Bynum  
NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: Mtr Lynn Finnegan  
GUEST: Bishop Michael Hunn

- **Call to Order**  
Fr Robin called the meeting to order at 5:07 PM. Bishop Hunn led those in attendance in prayer.
- **Acceptance of the Agenda**  
Mike moved, and Kaki seconded acceptance of the agenda. *Carried unanimously.*
- **Disposition of the Minutes from the September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Vestry Meetings**  
Steven moved, and Mike seconded acceptance of the minutes of the September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Vestry meeting, after correcting the date of the meeting. *Carried unanimously.*
- **Bible Study**  
Mtr Lynn led the Bible study on Matthew 22: 34-46
- **Conversations with the Bishop**  
Bishop Hunn began by sharing information from the General Convention website (<https://generalconvention.org>). Statistical information shows membership and average attendance in the Diocese of the Rio Grande has declined over the past several years while giving has risen. For the three parishes in Santa Fe, membership has remained fairly stable for the same period and giving has risen as well.



The Bishop then invited each person present to consider two questions:

- Where is God present in this congregation? What excites you about the life with God here?
- What challenges do you face? What's God challenging you to do just now?

Those present gave thoughtful and heartfelt responses which included:

- *The Parish is involved in remarkable efforts at outreach in the community and God's work is being accomplished through a number of ministries*
- *People are experiencing the grace of God and deepening their faith through worship and service opportunities*
- *There is a yearning to learn more about faith and to discern God's presence in our lives and in the life of Holy Faith*
- *There is a desire to engage visitors and bring more families with children into the life of Holy Faith*
- *There is also a desire to discern how Holy Faith can address challenges facing the community*
- *Communication can be problematic and needs to be improved in an effort to create a sense of community*

In discussion, the Bishop noted that God calls us to recognize change and to discern what God is teaching us when faced with challenges. Prayer and contemplation are the tools we need to use to lead our efforts and to then lead the congregation. In addition, the Diocese can be a resource for parishes to combine efforts for education, outreach, and programs. The conversations concluded with the Vestry expressing deep appreciation to the Bishop for spending time to meet with the Vestry as a normal part of his Visitation, and hear our concerns and aspirations for Holy Faith.

- **September 2023 Financial Reports – Steven Berkshire**

Steven briefly summarized the September financials noting that both September contributions and expenses were less than the previous month. Compared to the budget, actual expenses were 2% less than budgeted for the month. Operating income totaled \$85,447 and operating expenses totaled \$96,925 resulting in a deficit of (\$11,478). Netted with other income and expenses, the month ended with a deficit of (\$201,586) due in large part to a capital expense of \$189,317.

Steven reported that the cash position remains solid and reported the balances at month end were:

- Century Bank \$ 77K
- First Citizens \$190K
- Sunflower \$ 2.5K
- Sunflower Money Market \$138K

The September month-end value of the endowments total \$9.118M, an increase from the August month-end value of \$8.911M

*The Vestry accepted the September financials as recommended by the Finance Committee, unanimously.*

Steven then presented the 2022 audit report, as corrected and edited, for vestry consideration.

*The Vestry accepted the 2022 Audit report, as recommended by the Finance Committee, unanimously.*

- **Other Business**

Fr Robin noted that the current employment policy requires that an employee must be a minimum of 18 years old to be hired at Holy Faith. It was recommended to change the minimum to 16 years of age to open opportunities for younger employees and to facilitate hiring, specifically in the nursery. Fr Robin moved, and Mike seconded, to change the Holy Faith employment policy to state the minimum age requirement is 16 years of age. *Carried unanimously.*

There being no further business, Ruth moved, and Kaki seconded adjourning the meeting. *Carried unanimously.* The meeting concluded with prayer at 7:02 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Charles Rountree*