

May 23, 2024 – 5:00 PM
Holy Faith VESTRY
Youth Room, Conkey House
The Church of the Holy Faith

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Fr Robin Dodge, Pam Jones, Peter Lockyer, Mike Morrissey, Kaki Grubbs, Mark Everett, Steven Shore, Preston Stone, Charles Rountree, Ruth Rael

MEMBERS ABSENT: ---

GUESTS PRESENT: George Case

- **Call to Order**
Fr. Robin called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and led the Vestry in prayer.
- **Acceptance of the Agenda**
Mike moved, and Kaki seconded acceptance of the agenda.
Carried unanimously.
- **Disposition of the April 25, 2024 Minutes**
Mike moved, and Steven seconded acceptance of the April 25, 2024 minutes.
Carried unanimously.
- **Bible Study**
Fr. Robin led the Vestry in Bible study on John 3:1 – 17.
- **Treasurer's Report – Charles Rountree**
Charles reported that giving in March exceeded expectations. Contributions and other sources of funds totaled \$201K exceeding budget by \$90K. Expenses for the month totaled \$87K, only slightly more than the \$85K budgeted. After Fair Share Charles reported generous giving in March placed Holy Faith in an advantageous financial position for the first four months of 2024. The year-to-date deficit of \$48,000 is far less than the anticipated deficit of \$122,000. Giving and other sources of funding through April total \$407,000, almost \$63,000 more than anticipated.

Expenses continue to remain in line or below budget showing cost containment commitment, as we approach our slow giving season. Our biggest cost savings as compared to last year is due in large part to the retirement of Jim Gordon in May 2023.

Fair Share support for the Diocese is \$30,088 reflecting March contributions.

Charles reported the following cash balances as of April 2024:

- Century Bank \$136,918
- First Citizens \$41,131
- First Citizens CD \$150,000 Earning 5%
- Sunflower checking \$ 2,500
- Sunflower Money Market \$38,562

- Sunflower CD \$100,000 Earning 4.362%

The total for all accounts is \$ 469,110.

Northern Trust reports the balance of invested funds at February 2024 compared to beginning of the year:

	Beginning 1/1/2024	4/30/2024	YTD Gain/Loss
Endowment	\$ 9,155,543	\$9,401,361	2.68%
Article VII	\$ 551,798	\$ 568,388	3.01%

Charles stated that representatives of the estates of Cissy Lewis and Kyril Wylie have agreed to endow a College Book Scholarship Fund as part of the Article VII Endowment. We have received approximately \$85,000. The Vestry accepted the Finance Committee’s recommendation that the bequests be deposited in the Article VII Endowment as a subaccount titled the Lewis-Wiley Endowed College Book Scholarship Fund.

Fr. Robin moved, and Mike seconded, accepting the financial reports as recommended by the Finance Committee. *Carried unanimously.*

- **Investment Report – Peter Lockyer**

The Investment Committee accepted the fee imposed by Northern Trust and will let the financial advisor know they accepted the fees.

- **Junior Warden’s Report – Preston Stone**

Preston reported the alley side gutter needed to be relocated and he will get estimates for that work. When the gutter is relocated the work on the gas lines can begin.

Preston stated we are still waiting for the electrician to contact PNM to get the parking lot system installed.

The Family & Children’s Ministry approached the Junior Warden about the possibility of utilizing a part of the parking lot for a playground for the children. He was also asked about budget for cushions for the pews in the church. Fr. Robin cautioned about adding cushions in the church because of the affect on the acoustics.

- **Senior Warden’s Report – Mike Morrissey**

Mike stated that he has been working with the executive committee on the issues to be discussed today.

- **Rector’s Report – Fr. Robin**

Fr. Robin thanked the Vestry for the celebration of the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.

Fr. Robin reminded the Vestry to complete the parish check-in calls and turn in any reports to the Rector.

Fr. Robin reminded the Vestry about the special coffee hour – “Cookies and Conversation” to be held on Sunday, June 2nd.

The Rector then moved to discussion of the two proposals before the Vestry for consideration. He began by reading the first:

“That Rite II may be used at the 8:30 Sunday service during the seasons of Christmas, Epiphany, and Easter; and that Rite I be used at the 8:30 Sunday service during the other seasons of the Christian year”.

The Vestry discussed, and a vote was taken. Fr. Robin moved, and Mike seconded, accepting the Resolution as written. *Carried unanimously.*

The Rector then read the second proposal to be considered by the Vestry:

“That same-gender blessings be permitted at Holy faith, but not same-gender marriages at this time”.

Fr. Robin opened the discussion by explaining the term *via media*, or a middle ground approach to this sensitive issue. He spoke about the need to keep the parish together, that no decision was going to be perfect. The Vestry needed to be cognizant of the fact that this is a contentious and worrisome issue for the congregation.

Fr. Robin moved, and Mike seconded accepting the Resolution as written. Members of the Vestry spoke their minds and lengthy discussion ensued. Steven Shore proposed a second resolution: to replace the existing resolution on the floor with the wording: “to allow the celebration of same-gender marriage in addition to same-gender blessings at Holy Faith”. Pam seconded the motion.

After more lengthy discussion, Peter called the vote. The original motion to allow same-gender blessings *passed by a vote of 7 in favor, and 3 against.*

- **Other Business**

Fr. Robin recognized guest George Case and offered George the opportunity to address the Vestry.

Fr. Robin spoke about the arrival of our Summer Seminarian Thomas Wilcox who will be serving at Holy Faith for the month of June. Some of Thomas’ travel expenses were gifted by members of the congregation, Tom will be using a member’s automobile while here, and Tom and his family will be guests of another member of the church for the duration of his stay in Santa Fe.

There being no further business, Mike moved, and Ruth seconded, a motion to adjourn. *Carried unanimously.*

The meeting concluded at 6:57pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Jones