

March 23, 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, Vann Bynum, Steven Berkshire, Chris Frenk, Vann Bynum, Ruth Rael, Kaki Grubbs, Charles Rountree

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: Fr Jim Gordon, Mtr Lynn Finnegan

MEMBERS ABSENT: Peter Lockyer, Mark Everett

- **Call to Order**
Fr Robin called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM and led the Vestry in prayer.
- **Acceptance of the Agenda**
Chris moved, and Charles seconded acceptance of the agenda. *Carried unanimously.*
- **Disposition of the February 23rd, 2023 Vestry Minutes**
Mike moved, and Chris seconded the acceptance of the Minutes of the February 23rd, 2023 Vestry meeting. *Carried unanimously.*
- **Bible Study**
Fr Robin led the Vestry in Bible study on John 11: 1-45
- **February 2023 Financial Reports – Steven Berkshire**
Steven reported increased giving in March and noted that 4 additional 2023 pledges have been received since the last Vestry meeting. Using the '75% Rule', which assumes that pledges represent 75% of giving, anticipates gifts for 2023 should total \$1.022M which is \$137K less than needed for a balanced budget. As of today, only 50% of the parish has responded with pledges of financial support for 2023. Operating income for February was \$42,902 and operating expenses total \$111,697. Netted with other income and expenses the month ended with a \$(62,304) deficit. The first two months of 2023 show a deficit of \$(88,020).

The cash balances at February 28th were:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| • Century Bank | \$107K |
| • First Citizens | \$140K |
| • Sunflower | \$ 2.5K |
| • Sunflower Money Market | \$237K |

The cash balances for all accounts, as reported on March 17th was \$552,897.

The value of the endowments at February 28th totaled \$9.188M, a decrease from the January month-end value of \$9.432M

Steven noted that disbursements available in 2023 from the endowments are:

- Capital \$308,840
- Library \$ 19,353
- Women's Guild \$ 18,808
- Missions & Outreach \$ 17,495

A letter of agreement has been signed with Swain & Greico for the 2022 audit. The estimated cost of the audit is \$11K with a completion date of July 2023.

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

Stephen then presented the proposed 2023 budget for the library. The balanced budget was developed on the disbursement from the Scheffler Fund dedicated to the library.

The Vestry accepted the proposed 2023 library budget as recommended by the Finance Committee, unanimously.

Steven reported that the Mission and Outreach Committee proposed awarding 12 grants totaling \$28,370. Funds for the grants are supported from a distribution from the Scheffler Fund and contributions.

The Vestry accepted the proposed Mission and Outreach Granting Committee awards as recommended by the Finance Committee, unanimously.

- **Junior Warden's Report – Vann Bynum**

Vann presented a list of 2023 projects either completed, ongoing, or scheduled. He noted that cracking has appeared in the Sacristy door and believes it will only require cosmetic repair. He also reported that conceptual plans are being developed for the delayed remodeling of the Sacristy with the goal of preparing a cost estimate. The heat pump is being used in the Sanctuary and is working well. Additional bids on replacing the HVAC system in Conkey House have been requested. Once bids have been received, the next step will be exploring options for financing.

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

In lieu of a report, Mike offered some observations. He feels strongly that Holy Faith is fortunate with the leadership it enjoys. He noted there are challenges facing the parish but that he is confident those challenges will be overcome because of candid communication within the parish, collegiality among the leadership and congregation, and the transparency that guilds our work together.

- **Rector's Report – Fr Robin Dodge**

Fr. Robin reported on the Holy Week and Easter schedule. The Bishop will be the celebrant and preacher on Palm Sunday. The Scheffler Lecture has been scheduled and will present theologian and poet Bonnie Thurston on Friday, April 28, at 3:00 p.m.

Fr Robin then brought to the Vestry's attention concerns from a couple regarding worship services. In discussion, the Vestry felt that following the disruptions caused by the pandemic, Holy Faith is at a place where it would be instructive to reflect on our common life of worship and service. The thought is to gather information from parishioners, perhaps in the form of a survey similar to the survey prepared to create a parish profile several years ago. The goal would be to gauge worship needs and desires, service opportunities, and other interests and concerns. A task force was charged to determine the best path forward to hear from as many voices as possible in order to provide a full picture of our common lives as members of Holy Faith. The end-result would be to confirm what the congregation believes nourishes their faith and to identify where changes would be welcome.

- **Associate Rector's Report – Fr Jim Gordon**

Fr Jim reported that upcoming adult forums include a two-part presentation by Mtr Lynn on “St Paul, the Apostle of the Crucified Lord’ followed by a presentation from Bonnie Thurston on April 30th.

- **Assistant Rector's Report – Mtr Lynn Finnegan**

Mtr Lynn reported that the Juarez mission trip she participated in was a wonderful experience. She also reported that the 36 people participated in the ½ day retreat on ‘Kenosis’ and that there were 17 attending the last Daughters of the King meeting where she is now acting as chaplain. Lastly, tables remain set up in the parish hall for parishioners to prepare homeless kits for distribution.

- **Other Business**

There being no further business, Ruth moved, and Mike seconded adjourning the meeting. *Carried unanimously.* The meeting concluded with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Rountree