

March 26, 2022 – 10:00 AM
Holy Faith Vestry
Youth Room, Conkey House
The Church of the Holy Faith

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Father Robin Dodge, Van Swift, Vann Bynum, Steven Berkshire, Chris Frenk, Charles Chambers, Walter Sterling, Ruth Rael, Peter Lockyer

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mark Everett

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: Deacon Lynn Finnegan, Charles Rountree (Clerk)

- **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:09 AM by Fr Robin who led the Vestry in an opening prayer.

- **Acceptance of the Agenda**

Van moved, and Ruth seconded acceptance of the agenda as amended. *Carried unanimously.*

- **Disposition of the February 24th, 2022 Vestry Minutes**

Chris moved, and Vann seconded the acceptance of the Minutes for the February 24th, 2022 Vestry meeting as corrected. *Carried unanimously.*

- **Ratification of Electronic Vote Regarding Masking**

On March 10th, an email was circulated among the Vestry regarding the masking policy at Holy Faith in response to questions from the Bishop's Office. By email, Fr Robin moved, and Chris seconded the following motion:

“Following the diocesan procedures for considering making masking optional in worship, the Vestry agrees to file with the Bishop’s Office the attached responses to the bishop’s questions and to make masking optional on the Holy Faith campus provided Santa Fe County is designated “green” according to the CDC, effective March 20, 2022. The Vestry further agrees to suspend the worship reservation system and the collection of contact information for tracing purposes beginning with the services on March 20, 2022.”

The Vestry, by email, approved the motion unanimously. Vann moved, and Van seconded ratification of the electronic vote. *Carried unanimously.*

- **Treasurer’s Report – Steven Berkshire**

Steven began his report by stating that the Parish continues to do well financially. He reported that offerings and other income for February totaled \$126,507. Operating expenses totaled \$79,445, resulting in an operating surplus of \$47,062. Netted with other income and other expenses, there is a \$61,069 surplus for the month and a \$146,649 surplus for the first two months of the year. The cash balance remains strong: the reconciled cash balances at month end for Century Bank was \$541K and First Citizens was \$240K for a total of \$782K. In March, an additional bank account was opened with First National/Sunflower. This action was taken to

ensure that the cash placed in deposit would be fully insured by the FDIC. The cash balances of all three accounts, as reported by the banks on March 21st was \$801,553.

In discussion, Steven reviewed ‘other expenses’ section of the financial reports pointing out that expenses generally net to zero by year end as contributions and endowment transfers are recorded. He also mentioned that the Women’s Guild and the Daughters of the King will be included as part of the annual audit and on the quarterly balance sheet statements. Both organizations maintain separate bank accounts but operate under the tax ID of The Church of the Holy Faith. Reporting the cash position of the two organizations is financially prudent. Steven is arranging to have read-only access to the online accounts for reporting purposes. Steven also noted that the balances would be reflected in the notes within the audit report and would not require prior period financial reports to be restated.

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

The Vestry was presented with the disbursements proposed by the Mission and Outreach Granting Committee as part of their 2021-2022 grants cycle. \$24,000 was made available for disbursement from the Scheffler Endowment, the Stamm Endowment (held at the Santa Fe Community Foundation), and donations. The proposed disbursements are:

• Interfaith Community Shelter	\$5,000
• St Elizabeth’s Food Program	\$1,200
• Bag-n-Hand	\$1,500
• Esperanza Shelter	\$2,000
• Santa Fe Community Services	\$1,200
• Coming Home Connection	\$1,000
• The Sky Center	\$ 650
• Gerard’s House	\$1,550
• Resolve	\$1,750
• Santa Fe Desert Chorale	\$1,300
• Art for Humanity	\$1,300
• Listening Horse Therapeutic Riding	\$1,000
• Oaxaca Street Children Grassroots	\$1,500
• Youth Shelters/Family Services	\$ 750
• Tomorrow’s Women	\$ 500
• Care Net	\$ 800
• Lutheran Family Services/Afghani Refugees	\$1,000

The Vestry accepted the Mission and Outreach Granting Committee 2022 disbursements as recommended by the Finance Committee, unanimously.

Peter reported that he is communicating with Northern Trust to determine the extent of any risk the endowed funds might be exposed to by investments in Russian assets. The endowments do not hold any direct holdings in Russian assets although three underlying fund managers have Russian assets that have been written down to zero. Peter remarked that by the end of April he should have definitive information available to share.

Discussion then followed concerning the Church copier. It has become apparent that the model currently in use has design flaws that preclude taking full advantage of the copier. An arrangement which releases the Parish from the current lease and replace the copier with a higher grade model. The new copier would be on a 60-month lease and the cost would be slightly higher. The additional expense will be reported as a variance on the financial reports and the budget will not need to be amended.

The Vestry approved leasing a new copier, as recommended by the Finance Committee, unanimously.

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

Vann reported he had met with contractors to discuss the work necessary to address repair issues concerning the parking lot. Two options are being considered. The first is to apply a sealant with an estimate cost of \$20K. The second option is to resurface the parking lot at a cost of \$50K. A sealant would last up to three years while resurfacing would last up to 25 years. Placing an ice melt system below the asphalt is also being considered. The ice melt would cost approximately \$20K and would reduce the hazard of icy conditions. Vann is meeting contractors to discuss new carpeting and wainscoting. He also reported that the fire alarm system is still waiting on parts to be completed. Vann also recommended purchasing a fire resistant cabinet to safekeep original drawings of the buildings.

Vann spent time discussing the crack that has appeared on the wall on the Garden side of the Nave towards the back. There was some concern that the remedial work completed last year to address the drainage problem alongside the exterior wall might result in some settling which could cause cracks. However, enough time has passed to eliminate settling as the cause. One proposal is to 'stitch up' the crack by inserting rebar over the crack and plastering over the repair. If that doesn't address the issue, it would indicate a larger problem requiring a more extensive repair. Vann also mentioned that in looking over documents and reports, there have been issues with cracks dating back to the 1960's.

- **Senior Warden's Report – Van Swift**

Van started by reporting that she has received very positive comments about the mask-optional policy. Van noted that 'Women's Spirituality' has concluded and that Mtr Madelynn had done 'a terrific job' and that work has started on planning the next series. She also noted that children's programs are going well and being met with enthusiasm.

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

Fr Robin began by noting that the next Sunday was Rose Sunday and that the Bishop will be on hand for Palm Sunday. The next Scheffler Lecture will be held in the Library on May 13th at 3 PM. The Lecturer will be Bonnie Thurston who will also be preaching on May 15th.

Fr Robin's sabbatical will begin in July. The Vestry adopted a budget that allows for a third clergy position who will be assisting not only during the sabbatical but will also help as Fr Jim reaches retirement next year. Fr Robin then announced that, with Bishop Hunn's approval, that he intends to call Deacon Lynn as Assistant Rector at Holy Faith. He noted that ordination to the priesthood follows being called to serve a congregation.

Vann moved, and Van seconded the endorsement of Fr Robin's calling Deacon Lynn to serve Holy Faith as Assistant Rector. *The Vestry approved unanimously and enthusiastically.*

Fr Robin concluded by stating that Penni Chambers has applied for ordination to the priesthood. Since Penni is sponsored for Holy Orders by Holy Faith, she requires the endorsement of the Vestry to be ordained as a priest. Steven moved, and Chris seconded approving the ordination of Penni Chambers to the priesthood. *The Vestry approved with the abstention of Charles Chambers.*

- **Deacon's Report – Deacon Lynn Finnegan**

Deacon Lynn began by thanking the Vestry for their confidence in her. She reported that she is thrilled with the work of the Faith Family. She will be meeting with members of the Faith Family team to review their efforts and to make changes as needed. She also noted that 'Children's Tuesday Adventures' is resuming in Lent.

- **Other Business**

In other business, Charles C, speaking for Penni, expressed her deep gratitude and thanks for the support of the Vestry and Holy Faith as she has journeyed towards ordination. Charles C then mentioned he would be following Penni to her new congregation and graciously offered his resignation from the Vestry. Fr Robin asked him to continue his service until such time when he transfers his membership and the Vestry agreed.

There being no further business, Ruth moved and Walter seconded adjourning the meeting. The meeting concluded at 11:42 AM

Immediately following, the Vestry remained for the day to participate in strategic planning facilitated by parishioner and former Vestry member Heidi Hahn.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Rountree