

**June 22, 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, Ruth Rael, Kaki Grubbs, Charles Rountree

MEMBERS ABSENT: Peter Lockyer, Mark Everett

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: Mtr Lynn Finnegan, Mark Childers

- **Call to Order**  
Fr Robin called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM and led the Vestry in prayer.
- **Acceptance of the Agenda**  
Mike moved, and Charles seconded acceptance of the agenda. *Carried unanimously.*
- **Disposition of the May 25th, 2023 Vestry Minutes**  
Ruth moved, and Steven seconded the acceptance of the Minutes of the May 25th, 2023 Vestry meeting as corrected. *Carried unanimously.*
- **Bible Study**  
Fr Robin led the Vestry in Bible study on Matthew 10:24-39
- **May 2023 Financial Reports – Steven Berkshire**  
Steven reported that expenses continue to exceed contributions with financial projections for the year end indicating a deficit of over \$200K. Cash balances remain strong but have been decreasing because of deficit spending although the mid-year draw from the endowed funds will increase cash balances. After adjusting for the congregational gift to Fr Jim and a correction to the April Fair Share contribution, operating income for May totaled \$92,226 and operating expenses totaled \$134,607. Netted with other income and expenses, the month ended with a \$(28,065) deficit and a year-to-date deficit of \$(149,148).

Steven also reported that the Finance Committee determined a number of specific budget cuts. However, action has been deferred pending an appeal letter to the congregation to be mailed with the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter statements. The letter will detail the scope of the financial challenge, cuts that will be considered, as well as an appeal for increased giving. Letters will be sent to all households contributing to Holy Faith in 2023.

Steven reported that the cash position as of May 31<sup>st</sup> were:

- |                          |         |
|--------------------------|---------|
| • Century Bank           | \$ 63K  |
| • First Citizens         | \$140K  |
| • Sunflower              | \$ 2.5K |
| • Sunflower Money Market | \$238K  |

Cash balances for all accounts, as reported on June 19<sup>th</sup> was \$423,891.

The value of the endowments at May 31<sup>st</sup> totaled \$9.480M, an increase from the April month-end value of \$9.280M

Steven then reported that the audit fieldwork was concluding and a presentation of the financial reports was anticipated for the July meeting.

***The Vestry accepted the May financials, with adjustments, as recommended by the Finance Committee, unanimously.***

Mark Childers was invited to speak to the Vestry to review and discuss music ministry expenses. Mark began by noting there is a misconception that funds dedicated solely to offset choir expenses are solicited. This is incorrect and Mark emphasized that this would be counter-productive because the music of the church should never be separate from the ministry of the church. He went on to report that the choir has eight paid section leaders in addition to Kathlene Rich (who is responsible for the children's music ministry). He noted that building a choir in Santa Fe is a challenge because of the lack of resources, such as schools and colleges, to recruit professional singers. Noting that the music budget for 2023 reflected reductions from the 2022 budget, Mark then presented proposed reductions in the current music budget for Vestry consideration.

Charles moved, and Mike seconded acceptance of music budgets cuts totaling \$4.3K as proposed by Mark. ***Carried unanimously.***

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

Vann presented a summary of projects proposed, undertaken, and completed. He reported that work was going forward with the Conkey House HVAC and that the boiler is being disassembled with the new boiler installed immediately afterwards.

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

Mike reported that announcements were made at each service concerning pending cuts to expenses to reduce the projected deficit. He also reported that on June 21<sup>st</sup> a group of parishioners met for a 'prayerful gathering' to discuss the financial challenges facing Holy Faith. Mike emphasized it was a lively discussion with a number of thoughtful suggestions offered. One of the main points discussed was the need for better communication noting that the 'rich appearance' of Holy Faith can be misleading without a clear understanding of the financial position of the parish. He reported that the next steps will be a letter to the congregation to accompany the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter statements summarizing the need address the financial shortfall. The Vestry meeting scheduled for July 27<sup>th</sup> will evaluate the outcome of the appeal and determine the scope of budget cuts.

Mike expressed his gratitude to the Women's Bible Study who dedicated their most recent meeting to pray for guidance in addressing the financial challenge.

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

Fr. Robin reported that the parish survey was developed by the survey task force, serving as a sub-committee of the Vestry, was presented for consideration.

Steven moved, and Mike seconded, acceptance of the survey, as amended. ***Carried unanimously.***

In discussion, it was determined that a telephone follow up by members of the Vestry would be effective.

Kaki moved, and Ruth seconded, a Vestry 'Reach Out' as a follow up to the parish survey. *Carried unanimously.*

Fr. Robin noted that this was the one-year anniversary of Mtr Lynn's ordination. He went on to say she has served Holy Faith with energy and enthusiasm. In recognition of her extraordinary contribution to the life of the parish, she has been promoted to Associate Rector.

Fr Robin concluded by reminding the Vestry of his upcoming vacation from July 11<sup>th</sup> through August 6<sup>th</sup>. Mike will chair the next Vestry meeting.

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

Mtr Lynn reported that the 'Thy Kingdom Come' initiative gathered 312 names and each was mentioned in prayers. She also reported that outreach efforts continue at St John's College to further develop relationships.

Mtr Lynn then presented to the Vestry details related to the Mission and Outreach Ministry. Ongoing work has been taken to define, expand, and direct parish outreach ministries in an effort to best serve the community. The Mission and Outreach Ministry would be led by a Steering Committee, as appointed by the Rector, consisting of the Chair of Mission and Outreach Ministry (who would serve as the Chair of the Steering Committee), the Chair of the Grants subcommittee, and the Chair of the Outreach Opportunities subcommittee. Other parish organizations involved in outreach ministries may be invited to join the Steering Committee (as well as up to three Mission and Outreach Ministry committee members) to assist with coordination efforts. She then went on to summarize the responsibilities the Mission and Outreach Committee as well as those of the subcommittees. She concluded by presenting the mission statement of the Church of the Holy Faith and the definition Mission and Outreach as approved by the Vestry.

- **Other Business**

There being no further business, Mike moved, and Kaki seconded adjourning the meeting. *Carried unanimously.* The meeting concluded with prayer at 7:17 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Charles Rountree*