

**St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Vestry
January 21, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

Vestry Members Present: Gaylee Gillim, Justin Klassen, Clara Klassen, Cathy Sutton, George Wheeler, Rick Lotz, Faith Cirre, Gibbs Reese, Judy Fischer, Matrid Ndife

Others Present: Edie Nixon, Treasurer

Absent: Kevin Wardell, Amanda Harrity, Becky Donovan, Susanne Cramer, John Shelby

Clergy/Staff: The Rev. Kelly Kirby, Rector; The Rev. Benjamin Hart, Director of Congregational Life

Opening Prayer:

The Rev. Kirby convened the meeting at 6:15 with an opening prayer.

Reading/reflection:

George Wheeler gave the reflection.

Approval of December minutes:

The minutes were approved as presented.

Financial Report:

Edie Nixon gave the financial report. She reported on the overall loss of \$17,988 for the year. That loss will make our cash a little tight in the coming months. Our SYB loan is now under \$638,000. Some people are still giving to the building fund, which is great and will help us when it comes time to refinance the loan. The endowment is now over \$1.1million, though distributions were \$40,000 for the year. We had an investment gain of \$173,399 in 2019.

Justin Klassen moved to accept the financial report, subject to audit. Gaylee Gillim seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Housing Resolution:

Kelly Kirby and Benjamin Hart submitted housing resolutions for 2020:

Whereas the Rev. Kelly Kirby is employed as a minister of the Gospel by St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Louisville, KY, which does not provide a residence for her, the vestry resolves that of the total compensation to be paid to the Rev. Kelly Kirby during 2020, \$30,000 be designated a Housing Allowance within the meaning of that term as used in section 107 of the I.R.S. code of 1986, but at the end of this year and then upon further notice the parsonage allowance shall be \$2,500 per month.

Whereas The Rev. Benjamin Hart is employed as a minister of the Gospel by St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Louisville, KY, which does not provide a residence for her,

the vestry resolves that of the total compensation to be paid to the Rev. Kelly Kirby during 2020, \$4,836 be designated a Housing Allowance within the meaning of that term as used in section 107 of the I.R.S. code of 1986, but at the end of this year and then upon further notice the parsonage allowance shall be \$403 per month.

Gibbs Reese moved to affirm the resolutions. Rick Lotz seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Vestry Committee Liaison Reports:

Buildings and Grounds:

We will soon receive finalized bids for the work on the soffits on the office wing.

Dimensions of Faith:

Ian Markham, Dean of Virginia Theological Seminary, will be a Dimensions speaker on February 9, 2020, and will lead the vestry retreat on February 8. D. L. Mayfield will be coming as a Dimensions speaker October 17 and 18.

Finance:

See financial report above.

Nominating Committee:

Nominating committee has completed its report.

Outreach:

Outreach committee will meet soon. Currently receiving reports for each funded ministry for the year.

Planned Giving:

Upcoming meeting on February 10.

Social Justice:

The committee met this month, and is currently working to define what social justice means in the context of St. Matthew's, and how it can be an expression of our baptismal covenant. The committee is also thinking things like the relationship between charity and justice.

Stewardship:

We got to 99% of our financial goal, and to 92% of our goal for number of households pledging. We also had 55.71% of households who had pledged before who increased their giving. There will be a committee meeting on January 22 to take the measure of the campaign and discuss strengths and areas for improvement for next year.

Rector's Report:

The Rev. Kelly Kirby presented the joint letter of agreement between St. Matthew's, the Episcopal Church Home, Deacon Harvey Roberts, and Bishop Terry White. She explained the terms of the agreement, and clarified the major difference in Harvey's service to St. Matthew's is that he will not be here on Sundays.

Rev. Kirby reported that there is no news from the discernment committees.

Rev. Kirby will be attending a training for racial healing trainers in March.

The St. John's Bible will be on exhibit in the church in April.

The vestry thanked its outgoing members for their various forms of service.

Warden Reports:

Rick Lotz reported that things are going well right now, and reflected on the parish's changes and progress over the past few years. As an outgoing vestry member himself, Rick also thanked the vestry for its work on behalf of the parish.

Theological Reflection: The Vestry reflected on where/when they found the Holy Spirit in the meeting, and how their work moved us closer to fulfilling our mission/goals.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Klassen

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin Klassen", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.