

**St. Matthew's Episcopal Church Vestry
September 17, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Vestry Members Present: Kevin Wardell, Cathy Sutton, Rick Lotz, John Shelby, Judy Fischer, George Wheeler, Gaylee Gillim, Justin Klassen, Faith Cirre, Amanda Harrity, Gibbs Reese, Susanne Cramer (by phone)

Others Present: Edie Nixon, Treasurer

Absent: Matrid Ndife, Clara Klassen, Becky Donovan

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:

Judy Fischer offered the reflection.

Approval of August minutes:

The minutes were accepted as presented.

Financial Report:

Edie Nixon gave the financial report. She reported that our past month was low in pledges received, while loose offerings were up. Our rental income remains consistent and strong. Our SYB loan is down to \$667K. Justin Klassen moved to accept the financial report as presented, subject to audit. John Shelby seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Rick Lotz moved that the vestry accept the recommendations of the recent financial review, which involve attaching vestry minutes to large invoices. Cathy Sutton seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Gaylee Gillim moved to maintain our parish's diocesan assessment at 13%. George Wheeler seconded the motion, which passed with one dissenting vote.

Fundraising Request:

Benjamin Hart made a proposal to have a fundraising auction for the ham ministry. Kevin Wardell moved to accept the proposal, Amanda Harrity seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Rector's Report:

Rev. Kelly Kirby reported that Charles Halton's discernment process is proceeding well. Charles recently passed the psychiatric examination and the next step is to meet with the bishop.

She also reported on the skill-sharing classes having begun recently, as part of the initial stages of the "communities of calling" grant from the Collegeville Institute.

Rev. Kirby reported that she applied for a sabbatical grant from the Louisville Institute, which she will hear about in the coming months.

She also applied for a seed money grant from the diocese to fund scholarships to attend the mission trip to Montgomery, AL, in March.

The rector reported that we have many upcoming weddings and funerals in the next month.

Finally, she reported that our weekend maintenance technician returned to Iraq and is not certain to come back, which means we will need to look for a replacement hire.

Vestry Committee Liaison Reports:

Buildings and Grounds:

We have been using a lot of our carpet tiles previously in storage to replace carpet that needs replacing around the building.

Coming up we will be replacing a lot of lamps in the sanctuary and elsewhere with LED lights.

Saints Hall flooring was recently damaged by a pallet, and the insurance company has proposed replacing the whole floor. We will need to decide whether to replace it with the same flooring product or change it up.

Dimensions of Faith:

Nadia Bolz-Weber will come on October 13th to preach at all three services, and to give a lecture at 6p. Preparations are ongoing to host what is likely to be a large crowd.

Finance:

Upcoming meeting to discuss the budget.

Nominating Committee:

First meeting will be soon.

Outreach:

Recent successful food drive for St. George's. Currently attempting to get winter clothes for KRM, whom we have supported for a number of years. Come November, we will be thinking about how to get turkeys for the holiday season at the food pantry. We may not be able to rely on Dare to Care, which lost money due to Metro budget cuts.

Planned Giving:

Plans for an upcoming legacy Sunday in early spring. Need strategies to get some more parishioners to think of leaving gifts to St. Matthew's as part of their legacy.

Social Justice:

Met on Sunday, Matrid will give the report next month.

Stewardship:

Pledge campaign will begin on October 20. The plan is to have the campaign represented visually with a photograph of the congregation on Christmas Eve, and including financial information about goals for next year and previous year's pledges. The goal is to give parishioners a clear sense of what it takes to run the church and how their pledge can contribute to the community. We will have a vestry town hall on the day the campaign begins.

Warden Reports:

The wardens did not add a report beyond previous committee reports.

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 8:00

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Klassen

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