

Vestry Minutes
January 12, 2023

Meeting convened 6:45—In person/ZOOM

Opening prayer by Pastor Steve

In attendance: Pastor Steve, Cheryle Kahl, Gary Keranen, Ann Farrell, Kris Eckert, Lori Simon, Jim Smith, Brooke Lau, Pam Sherry, Karen Davenport, Marianne, Grenier.

Not in Attendance—Scott Satterly.

I. Approvals

- A. Minutes—Lori moves to accept; Pam seconds. Approved by all.
- B. December Financial Report—Gary
 - 1. Risk—Ten giving units account for 49% of pledges. Loss of giver has great effect.
 - 2. Stock market accounts for loss
 - 3. Money market must be monitored in order to maximize liquidation of assets date.
 - 4. Assets must be liquidated to address \$76,000 deficit.
 - 5. Paid employees received 4% raise.
 - 6. Accounting is now a paid service.
 - 7. Sunday attendance is much less than pre-COVID
 - 8. Ministries are bringing in some money/grants to fund them.
 - 9. Gary will present at congregational meeting.

II. Ongoing and New Business

- A. New vestry members—Martha Houser, Dash Heath, Bill Siewart
- B. Convention candidates—Bill and Linda Siewart, Kris Eckert, alternate—Pam Sherry
- C. Jean Hitchcock Issue—discussion re: sensitivity of bedbug issue and its effects on others. Issue has been an ongoing concern. Jean requests funding from church to help address. Problem seems to be that conditions return, and issue will continue to be a problem. Discussion on how to include Jean, while not affecting others. Jean will have to participate virtually. Ann will call Jean and explore Macomb County Social Services support.
- D. Vestry Retreat
 - 1. Saturday February 18, 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.
 - 2. Second half of day discussion and strategy.
 - a. Royalties for Justice—Music reparations
 - b. Possible shifting of funds
 - c. Retrospective and exploration of future
- E. Laptop
 - 1. Pastor Steve needs new laptop in order to continue to facilitate ZOOM and run essential programs.
 - 2. Proposed purchase from Best Buy.
 - 3. Pastor Steve will reimburse purchase from clergy continuing ed. funds.
 - 4. Pam moves to approve purchase, seconded by Ann. All approve.
- F. Fundraisers
 - 1. Rummage Sale
 - a. Martha will organize
 - b. Donated items will be stored.
 - c. Spring date.

2. Christmas in July
 - a. Christmas in July dinner
 - b. Focus on different cultures/customs
 - c. Discussion on various ways event could be organized.
 - d. Good outreach opportunity
3. Auction
 - a. Lori is putting together boards for donated items and talents
 - b. Will take place at congregational meeting

III. Updates

- A. Cookie Walk— Brooke
 1. Raised \$1839
 2. Successful—help from Dakota NHS appreciated
 3. Proposed 2023 date—December 16
- B. Annual Meeting
 1. Sunday, January 29—One service 10:00
 2. Brunch prepared by Scott and students
- C. Rector Installation
 1. Scott is organizing
- D. Antiracism Curriculum
 1. All lay leaders must complete three sessions
 2. We will do first session together on March 26 12:30-1.
- E. Buildings and Grounds—Lori
 1. Mirror installed in food pantry entryway on 1/9/2023—Thank you Lare and Bill
 2. Cintas tested hood system in kitchen, exit lights and changed old batteries, tested food pantry hallway (Issues with resetting system to be addressed ASAP), checked all fire extinguishers—1/10/2023
 3. Fixed leak above and below kitchen again on 1/6/23. As of 1/12/23, no leak.
 4. Macomb Mechanical fixed valves in Sunday school bathroom downstairs (added three gallon per minute flushing valves. Still need to change women's toilet on left side to three gallon per minute. Toilet now working. Cost is prohibitive—\$100 plus service call for just one item. 12/2022
 5. Snaked out women's bathroom and Sunday School room (Allor Plumbing) 12/2022.
- F. Ministry liaison reports
 1. Pantry donations from outside community
 - a. Meijer money almost gone.
 - b. New people on crew
 2. Weds. supper
 - a. 125 meals served per week
 - b. \$1,363 donated from Daughter of King to Weds. supper
 3. Sunday supper
 - a. Serves @ 40 meals a week
 - b. Dennis's funeral Sat. January 21, 11:00. Known by many
 4. Book Club
 - a. Book for February 23 **The Four Agreements** by Don Miguel Ruiz
 5. Outreach Room
 - a. Meijer donated \$1,000
 - b. Procedure change
 1. Open first Weds. and third Sunday of month
 2. Outside Guild Room

3. Utilizing checklist and runner
6. Proposed procedural change for fundraising
 1. 25% of all funds raised by outside of Grace fundraisers will go to Grace general fund.
 2. Lori moved to make change, Pam seconded. Will be taken to general meeting for discussion.

Closing with Lord's Prayer

Meeting adjourned 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Cheryle Kahl (sub. clerk)