

**Vestry Diocesan Retreat/February Meeting
February 18, 2023**

Retreat convened 9:10 via ZOOM—Vestry Members Gathered in Parish Hall

Opening prayer by Bishop Bonnie

In attendance: Pastor Steve, Cheryle Kahl, Gary Keranen, Dash Heath, Bill Stewart, Kris Eckert, Martha Houser, Lori Simon, Karen Davenport, Brooke Lau

Not in attendance—Scott Satterly

Topics Discussed—Links to slides will be made available

- Mission/Vision
- Meetings that maximize energy
- Canons—Norms
- Safeguarding finances—Internal and external controls
- Making Connections—Internal and External Hospitality
- When to Call the Diocesan Office
- Website Design

A Few Random Takeaways from Perspective of Clerk

- Reasons for being behind in pledges need to be known so we can respond.
- Meetings should not contain surprises.
- Work between wardens and clergy should be guided with curiosity and grace.
- Goal of safeguarding finances should be to strike the perfect balance between risk, mitigation and practicality, staff/volunteer satisfaction and cost effectiveness.
- Truth is not an internal control.
- Words matter in setting relationships.

Rescheduled Vestry Meeting from February 16, 2023

Meeting Convened @ 12:45

I. Approvals

- A. January Minutes approved.
- B. January Financial Report Approved

II. Ongoing and New Business

- A. Financials for Parochial Report—Gary
 1. Parochial Report looks at Financial report data with a different lens
 2. Grace has 57 giving units generating a total of \$196, 020
 3. Parochial report looks at operating fund in a different way. (Revenue/
Expense.)
 4. Ministries become operating fund (attached to operations of the church)
 5. Non-operating Revenue
 - a. Contributions to building capital fund, grants for outreach ministries—
\$139,367
 6. Fiduciary responsibility—\$ 401, 000

7. Operating expenses \$24,272
 - a. Corporate stewardship
 - b. Important for loans and grants
8. All other operating expenses—\$271,164
 - a. staff salaries, all building utilities, office supplies—all found in detailed

report.

9. Non-Operating Expenses—\$80,3222
 - a. Major improvements—capital
 - b. Expenses for congregational and outreach mission—\$42,120

10. Total expenses—\$420, 121

11. Deficit (\$19, 111) as defined by this report

12. Information of importance

a. Important that restricted donations be structured correctly. Several people with knowledge should be consulted.

b. Butler fund is restricted to McRest—should be used for McRest expenses.

c. “Where you spend your money is where your heart is.”

d. Grace does not own property and funds, diocese does

e. Unless we attract new members, donors will age out resulting in ever-increasing deficits.

f. You are still considered a member until you die, request a letter of transfer, or call and ask to be removed .

g. PRIDE fest should be added to “Other”

13. Motion to approve as amended by Kris, seconded by Bill. All approve.

B. Review of Financial Report—Gary

1. Statement of activities

2. Jan. 2023 Contributions \$25, 200—designated to be used for operations.

3. Church building insurance—\$6,415—increased 10%—nothing unusual.

4. Motion to approve financial report with changes—Lori, Martha seconds, all approve.

C. Leadership

1. Lori nominates Martha for co-warden, Cheryle nominates Lori for co-warden.

All approve.

D. Growth discussion

1. Website and hospitality changes suggested from retreat could be implemented.

2. Martha suggests greeters and name tags should be reinstated.

3. More community involvement needed,

4. Our outreach can be used to bring people in.

5. Updates needed to outside appearance of building—too static.

6. Partner with events in Mount Clemens.

a. Free water can be handed out with advertisement on bottle.

7. Welcome bags needed to help distribution.

8. Reconnection with housebound and those not in church.

9. Parking can be offered at events with fee.

10. Other ideas

a. Welcoming gifts with ushers giving out bags.

b. Person of the month-

c. Dash will implement, starting with heads of ministry. Suggested to check with Mike Zuba for help on website.

d. Linda will make bags for kids.

e. Ushers will pass out to visitors

E. Rent out basement of rectory for storage—possible partnership with Mt. Clemens.

F. Fundraisers—

1. Cookie walk will be repeated this Dec.

2. Rummage sale to take place in August, so as to be part of Mt. Clemens

community garage sale

3. July 4th—rent out parking lot

4. Lori will head up fundraising committee

a. Easy seed fundraiser proposed/approved

5. More in-sanctuary concerts.

III. Updates

A. Fundraiser at annual meeting—successful and well-received

B. Vestry day with Bishop took place on date of this meeting

C, Anti-racism curriculum—book for discussion **How to Be an Antiracist** by Ibram X.

Kendi

1. First meeting March 26

D. B and G Updates

1. Flag pole needed?

2. Possibly move banner

3. LED sign effective

4. Check into seasonal outside displays

Prayer and adjourn—Lord's Prayer led by Pastor Steve

Meeting adjourned—@2:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryle Kahl—Clerk