

# **SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

## **Vestry Meeting**

January 3, 2023

**Present:** Martha Belury, Cheryl Boop, Mark Drew, Anice Ellis, Betsy Gillespie, Phil Glandon, Jodi Hess, Barbara Hyre, Julia Johnson-Davis, Bruce Johnson, Barb Keyes, Bill Mayr, Irina Reed, Leslie Winters, Rev. Vicki Zust,

**Absent:** Judith Grant, Lucas Skoracki, Roman Skoracki,

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Mark Drew. Pastor Vicki Zust led Vestry in an opening prayer.

**MINUTES** of the December meeting were reviewed. Upon **motion**, **seconded** and **passed**, the minutes were approved as written.

### **SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT**

Mark gave a report on the attendance, both in person and virtually, at a couple of the recent services. There were 175 at Lessons and Carols. On Christmas day, snow removal was great and the service was well attended. In addition, 89 people had tuned in to the Christmas Day service by end of the day.

### **JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT**

Leslie Winters reported that we didn't escape the end of the year without additional facility issues. A pump went out on the HVAC system. The service/repair company found a replacement (which isn't easy given of the age of our boiler). They also rebuilt the old one to have as a spare. The building again got ice dams because the drains backed up, so last year's repairs didn't resolve this problem. It's clear that it wasn't the roof; the pipes just aren't big enough for the size of the roof. It will be expensive to replace the gutters because the roof isn't straight. On a brighter note, we now have solar lights at end of walkway and they only cost a few hundred dollars. The new tables for the parish hall should arrive this week,

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Phil Glandon reviewed a draft statement of activities. Revenue is \$24,000 above budget, and expenses are below budget (although bills will still come in for 2022). Phil estimates we will end the year at \$34,000 better than budget. Current cash flow is good because we've already received some pledges for 2023.

### **DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS**

*2023 Budget Discussion* – Mark, Phil, and Vicki lead the discussion of the 2023 budget. A deficit budget is once again proposed, and Vestry was encouraged to view a deficit budget as a way to invest in future of the church. Phil walked Vestry through the ups and

downs of various line items, indicating there are 3 areas he'd like Vestry to take special note of during the live meeting. Phil will update the numbers and Vestry will have the opportunity to vote on the final version of the budget via email.

- Salaries – so that staff can be paid the correct amount in the first paycheck of the year, Phil asked Vestry to consider a cost-of-living increase. Upon **motion, seconded and passed**, Vestry approved a 5% across the board salary increase.
- Audit Fees – Phil is assuming that the accounting firm will increase their fees for the annual audit, so he recommends increasing this line item by \$300 to \$7,600.
- Insurance – after a discussion with the insurance company, Phil recommends that we increase the deductible but leave the coverage limits as they currently are, resulting in an annual cost of \$15,129. Phil is comfortable with a higher deductible because we seldom have a claim.

NOTE: A subsequent email vote to approve the revised budget as presented was **passed by unanimous vote**.

NOTE: Vestry also voted by email on a clergy housing allowance resolution. The resolution, **passed by unanimous vote**, stipulates that Saint Mark's Episcopal Church designates \$36,000 of the Rev. Vicki Zust's compensation as housing allowance per I.R.S. guidelines regarding clergy taxation.

### **UPCOMING**

Nominating Committee – The committee, comprised of Vicki, Mark, Leslie, and outgoing Vestry members Bill Mayer, Irina Reed, Anice Ellis, and Judith Grant, plan to meet next week regarding potential candidates.

Newcomer Event – Vicki is planning something for new people on Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Annual Meeting – will be held on Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>. Ministry team annual reports are due Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>.

Shrove Tuesday – is on Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>. Mark's Men are planning to cook and the youth group will serve.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm with a blessing from Vicki.

Respectfully Submitted,



Barbara Hyre