

Approved Vestry Council Minutes Via Zoom 19th January 2021

Present:

Mike Cherwa (RC 22)
Jackie Lucas (RC 22)
Matthew Wood (RC 23)
Charlie Mills (E 23)
Kim Nichter (E 21)
Fr. Mario Melendez
Mike Meehan (Finance)

Whitney McDaniel (E 23)
Joann Mancuso (RC 23)
Kay Ashby (RC 21)
Andrea Whyte (E 22)
Carolyn Ferguson (E 21)
Dc. Gary Harmeyer
Julia Hatcher (Secretary)

Absent:

Call to Order:

Whitney McDaniel called the meeting to order at 6:40pm with a prayer.

Time provided for Personal Reflection:

Spiritual Formation: Fr. Mario reflected on MLK's last homily

Approve Meeting Minutes from November 2020 and Special Session meeting December 3rd, 2020:

Both were approved as reported.

Finance Council Report: Treasurer - Mike Meehan

Financial Update: 19 January 2021

YTD Income: \$ 268,927.57
YTD Expense: \$ 208,748.87
YTD Excess: \$60,178.70

November Income: \$ 25,548.86
November Expenses: \$19,820.51
Net Income: \$5,728.35

December Income: \$61,357.83
December Expenses: \$23,014.61
Net Income: \$ 38,343.22

- Our financial situation very much improved in 2020, despite the pandemic, because of the generosity and commitment of our members! HA entered late March, when the pandemic first hit, at a financial low. The roof project depleted much of our savings and collections were running behind. But members continued to fulfill their pledges, plus more! Last year's total income was up by 30% while expenses were up only 7%. We

are entering 2021 on a much firmer financial footing. Your Vestry Council THANKS YOU!!!

- The audio-visual improvements made were covered by generous gifts and a grant. The cost of the improvements did not impact the General Fund.

CLERGY REPORT

- There has been positive feedback on the audio-visual improvements. The consensus is the livestreaming is a much better quality now than it was. Thank you for being patient as we moved through the slow improvement process.
- Fr. Mario will look into posting our livestreamed liturgies onto YouTube.
- Fr. Mario has started Sunday Evening Prayer and restarted Saturday afternoon coffee hours. The goal is to build community and include a spiritual component. VC members are encouraged to participate in these opportunities and encourage others to do so as well.
- A new seating plan will be submitted to both dioceses for approval. Since there is no longer a requirement for an audio-visual table in the front row of chairs, a fourth row of chairs is being proposed to increase capacity. Additionally, the Fellowship Hall has been set up for overflow (where attendees can watch the service livestreamed and would be able to receive the Eucharist). The hope is to get away from the need for reservations.
- At the next Liturgy Committee meeting members will discuss plans for Ash Wednesday and Lent. The clergy are awaiting directions from the two dioceses on any restrictions that will be imposed.
- Holy Apostles will again apply for the E-Diocesan multimedia grant for small parishes. If received, the money would cover ongoing expenses like Constant Contact and the additional software needed to support livestreaming of liturgies.
- Churches in the Richmond Diocese are still providing in-person Mass with restrictions.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Vestry Council members will break into two groups to discuss finalizing the wording of the two goals for 2020-2021 (Ecumenism and Membership/Outreach).

- **Ecumenism:** Jackie, Andrea, Charlie, Kay, and Carolyn
- **Membership/Outreach:** Whitney, Matt, Kim, Mike, and Joann

Draft Goals – Revised from November

1. Ecumenism:
 - Engage the community in many different and multiple ways, beyond the confines of the building
 - Social Media (quotes from past Bishops and Popes). Thanks Fr. Mario! Website really looking great.
 - Reaching out to other Ecumenical communities
 - Define Ecumenism
 - Define Interfaith
 - LARCUM and encourage attendance
2. Membership:
 - Website, update with clear definition of what and who we are.
 - Military and Diversity membership

- A specific event for membership
- In-reach to our current membership that we have not had contact with since pandemic
- Outreach to prior members who can now attend virtually

Outreach:

- Use social media including our new YouTube Channel.
- Explore building relationship with Twin Canals community (safety concerns??)

NEW ITEMS:

- **Parishioner Calls**
Vestry Council members will continue to call parishioner to keep in touch with them.
- **Appreciation for Compline Service**
Thank you, Fr., Mario
- **Encourage to Attend Saturday Coffee Hour and / or Sunday Evening Prayer**
This builds a sense of community and goes into the theme “be the Church as we are”.
- **Participate in week of Prayer for Christian Unity Jan 18-25. Invite friends.**
VC members are encouraged to participate in the activities supporting the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Jan 18-25, and to invite others to do the same.

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS:

Information Only - December

- **Special VC meeting on 12/3 for new sound system. December meeting cancelled.**
- **Re-gathering in-person services on hold. On-line services continue.**
- **Safe Church/Virtus training in progress for VC members**

Information Only – January

- **Holy Apostles January annual retreat postponed until further notice**
- **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Jan 18-25. Ecumenical Sunday is Jan 24**
- **129th Annual Council Episcopal Diocese. Feb 22-27. Parish debrief to follow.**
The 129th Annual Council of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia will be held virtually Feb 22-27. There will be a community report given by Fr Mario and Whitney McDaniel (Holy Apostle’s delegate to the Council). Kim Nichter is the Alternate Delegate.
- **Pursuing secure, on-line availability of Holy Apostles guidelines: SOP, constitution, by-laws; Vestry Handbook from both dioceses.**
Fr. Mario is looking into Constant Contact providing a secure area where members can post information like a shared drive.
- **Social Ministry has received a grant of \$2000.**
In December, Holy Apostles’ Social Ministry received a \$2,000 grant from the Richmond Diocese for food and hunger relief.

ANNUAL RETREAT GOALS FOR 2020/21

- **Goal 1:** Ecumenism – wording to follow
- **Goal 2:** Membership and Outreach – wording to follow

Committee Liaison Reports:

Social December and January

Fellowship December and January

Administration January
Liturgy January

Next Meeting 16th February at 6.30pm Zoom invite will be sent nearer time.

Final Prayer and Adjournment at 8.15pm

Julia Hatcher
Secretary
February 16, 2021