

St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting
October 20, 2024, 12:30PM
Church Pavilion

Present: Rector's Warden: Patrick Reilly, Vestry Warden: Barbara Koenig, Vestry Members: Michele McKenzie, Bruce Roach, Sherry Kircher, Bill Robinson, Jennifer Hanson, Michiel Bourdrez, Chris Alvarez, Gary Jacobson, Riley Huston, Diane McKay, Clergy: Mike Angell, Officers: Evelyn Hanneman, Judy Fifield

Absent: Jack Knight

The Vestry gathered for lunch and fellowship at 12:30PM.

Opening Prayer & Reflection

Mike opened the meeting with a prayer by Jan Sutch Pickard for the distressing situation in Israel and Palestine. The Iona Community provides this prayer resource. Other resources are on their website for individuals and interfaith communities to access during this time of ongoing horror.

Mike asked Vestry members to volunteer to say the opening prayer and reflection at upcoming Vestry meetings.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:45 PM. A quorum is present.

Items for Vestry Approval and Discussion

September Minutes

The September minutes of the Vestry meeting were sent out with the read-ahead materials. Bill made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Diane seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote with one abstention by Riley who was not present at the September meeting.

Reports and Topics

Finances

The September financial report and related notes were sent out with the read-ahead materials. Thank you to Cheri for getting the financial information up to date.

Evelyn reported on the financial situation with the school (page 9 of the financial report) which shows a \$42,000.00 deficit. The school received payment from the state of \$32,176.77 on October 10th. In addition, the school received a payment of \$10,000.00 in September from the State of Missouri through an inter-agency agreement with the State of New Mexico for tuition reimbursement for one of our students for the second half of the 2023 school year. Cheri will check with the auditors to determine what fiscal year this payment should be posted.

Regarding the Schwab account, Evelyn reported a balance of \$756,380.51 at the end of September. Jim Moffitt and Evelyn are now signers for this account. They have worked on reinvesting some of the funds that were sitting idle during the transition period when we were getting the new resolution completed and approved by Schwab.

Evelyn reported that we now have full control of the account with New Mexico Bank and Trust with Jim Moffitt and herself as signers. We have a new NMBT Money Market account set up that will be paying a good interest rate. To help with cash flow, some funds from the Schwab account will be transferred to the new Money Market account once the Schwab and NMBT accounts are linked.

With JP's departure, there is a need to contract with a new firm to complete the 2023 audit. The diocese has been notified of this decision. A preliminary search revealed there are very few auditors in New Mexico who are charging reasonable fees for this service. Because of this situation, Evelyn contacted an out-of-state auditing firm with which she is familiar. Two bids were received for consideration. The Finance Committee's recommendation is to contract with Foard & Co. PA (Charlotte, North Carolina) to conduct the 2023 audit for \$12,000.00 - \$13,000.00. A motion was made to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee. A second was not needed. Discussion followed. There will be communication between Mike, Cheri, and representatives of Foard and Co. PA. The financial information needed for the audit will be electronically uploaded to a secure vault. Foard and Co. PA will start the audit in December. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

The estate of Thom Andrewz is now closed. The church received a net bequest of \$111,742.75. Thom did not designate how the bequest is to be used. Therefore, the Finance Committee recommends designating the Thom Andrewz bequest to the Endowment Fund as per church by-laws. A motion was made to approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee. A second was not needed. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions. Barbara was thanked for her work on this.

Related to the Endowment Fund, there are currently two members on the Endowment Committee. Three members are required. Evelyn nominated Jim Moffitt to be considered for the third member of the Endowment Committee. A motion was made to appoint Jim Moffitt as a member of the Endowment Committee. The motion was seconded by Michele and was unanimously approved.

Rector's Report

Mike's report for this month pertained to confidential personnel matters. The Vestry went into Executive Session at 1:15PM. All those listed as present in these minutes were also present for the Executive Session. The business meeting resumed at approximately 1:50PM.

Report by the Spiritual Grounding Team

The Spiritual Grounding Team provided a written report summarizing meetings held with several ministry groups. The report shows us where we are and where there are opportunities to move forward (i.e. the need to promote and support formation activities and offerings). This type of gap analysis will be helpful in setting measurable goals. The team felt this was a useful process which revealed that all three values are being carried out with Spiritual Grounding being the dominant value.

Other Business

Mike invited the Vestry to log onto REALM, a church management software tool by ACS Technologies designed to stay connected with each other, post pastoral notes, track and update information, enhance congregational communication, etc. The Vestry is asked to download the app. From there you can complete your profile with contact information, upload a photo of yourself or your family, and provide a bio if you choose to do so. Each person can choose their own privacy

parameters. Vestry communication will reside in a directory on REALM. Church related reports and information about upcoming meetings, etc. will be on REALM. This new church directory software will be debuted with the congregation next month.

Mike provided an update on the current status of the Stewardship campaign.

The Vestry went into Executive Session to discuss two personnel matters: the hiring process for an Associate/Assistant, and the compensation of the Assistant Sexton. At the end of the Executive session: A motion was made by Michele to approve Anthony Nieto to be eligible to participate in the retirement benefit program with the employer match. The motion was seconded by Chris. Discussion followed. There will need to be an update to the personnel policy to allow the church to make specific benefit offers under certain unique circumstances such as longevity of service. The motion was put to a vote. The motion was unanimously approved with no abstentions

Upcoming Dates

Stewardship Fall Pledge Campaign – September 15 – November 3, 2024

Trunk or Treat – October 26, 2024

Building the Ofrenda – October 27, 2024

LGBTQ+ Ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande – October 27, 2024

Ingathering Sunday and All Saints Sunday – November 3, 2024

Election Day Vigil – November 5, 2024, and Eucharist – November 6, 2024

Diocesan Convention – November 8 and 9, 2024 at the Cathedral of St. John

Next Vestry Meeting – November 17, 2024

Adjourn and Closing Prayer

Bill made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jennifer seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 2:15PM with Mike saying the closing prayer.

Respectfully Submitted

Judy Fifield, Clerk

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