

St James Vestry 10/18/22

Fr Mac, Rusty, Paul, Gary, Gini, Harvey, Phylis, Billy, Marilyn, Deacon Jerome(via Zoom), Janice

We signed up for 'Sexton Duty' for the month of November.

Harvey motioned to approve last months minutes. Gini moved to second the motion to approve.

All in favor, two abstentions. All approved.

We have a new parish admin person, Krystle Struck. Elizabeth Haley has been a tremendous help getting our new parish administrator off to a good start.

Stewardship Campaign had a few issues with Gmail accounts bouncing emails back. We are mailing out a letter and printing one in the weekly bulletin. Gary Buff will speak about the importance of stewardship on 10/23/22 and Bill Humbert will speak on 11/30/22.

We will have one service on All Saints Day, Nov 8<sup>th</sup> and a pot luck will follow. The Vestry will be in charge of kitchen duty. Billy & Teresa will help with the organizing of the food in the morning. Marilyn will create a Pot Luck sign up sheet.

Harvey asked about pledges and Fr Mac said he had 50 on his desk.

Does anyone have any more questions about stewardship campaign? There were no more questions.

Marilyn spoke about the upcoming Empty Bowls fundraiser.

There was a steam table issue. We usually borrow one from the high school but there was a mixup. Marilyn will not go fishing on Friday...

We are advertising in the Taos News for two weeks and there will be an email blast.

Perhaps look into a PSA about Empty Bowls on local radio stations. Billy volunteered to contact local radio stations. We have over a 100 auctions items priced from \$1.00 to \$10,000. We have received \$1,000 donation from Van Co. and Lamberts.

Tickets and posters are in the office.

We discussed items we need for the empty bowls kitchen- Harvey, Phylis and Billy all have items we can borrow for empty bowls.

Nov 13 we have our Newcomers Brunch. There will be speakers at the brunch. Marilyn will review the newcomers manual. We need pledge cards. We now have newcomers cards in the pews.

Vestry minutes. We are looking for someone to take the vestry minutes at our monthly meeting. Discussed a volunteer vs a staff member. Perhaps post something in the news letter asking for volunteers or offering the job to our new admin person. One advantage of our new admin taking the minutes is they could be in English and Espanola.

Office computer software and hardware updates was our next topic. Rusty met with Reyes at Electric Sheep about refurbishing/upgrades to current office PC.

We received a \$2000.00 estimated cost- includes (Some parts of our current computer system we can still use but some are obsolete)New Desktop, new software, removing old files, and storing our data on hard drive.

Discussed a lock system on computer. We are keeping this open for further discussion.

We need to get the kitchen up to date on commercial license. Deacon Jill is the person to consult about inspection for the kitchen. Discussed renting our kitchen out to Lyle and his wife. They make lunch for our food pantry volunteers once a month.

Paul's turn to discuss finances and treasury report. Fr Mac brought a check because his auto-withdraw had stopped some time ago. And, now we aren't so far behind in our pledges. Thanks Fr Mac.

We are currently behind on FairShare.

Rusty inquired about borrowing from ourselves to cover our bills, Paul informed us that we borrowed money in May and we were able to pay it back in July.

Endowment committee- does vestry need to approve? Harvey does not believe we need to approve. Deacon Jerome, Bambi, and Toby are on the committee. Gary said it depends on the by laws. Endowment committee is autonomous. We don't need to approve since we are in agreement.

Marilyn reminded us about resolutions and the proper approval is Be it resolved. \$40,000 funding available.

Harvey's business-

Fire Alarm System- sensors have been cleaned. We need to replace the sensors. 32 sensors need to be replaced. Might be able to do it in phases. it's a code issue. Halo is giving us a bid, also will reach to others for bids. Security Systems of New Mexico and Gordon Johnstons who does work with fire repression systems are on that list. There is a new speaker in the choir loft. Janice will let Markus know it's there and to check it out.

Phone System- Halo has provided services and said this will be easy fix and then it turns out to not be easy.

We discussed the \$1,200 check for repairs last month. It was for an emergency plumbing problem at our casita. Bob Draper was called to help get a team together to fix the issue. Cost was \$1,200. Casita will come available at the end of November.

Currently renting for \$820.

Father Mac discussed the new interfaith cold weather shelter here in Taos. The first choice for a shelter when the temps drop is the Agriculture Center. If the town/county can't get it together First Presbyterian has offered their church as a shelter on Sat/Sun/Mon/Tues and St James will cover Wed/Thurs/Fri. Dream tree staff and (DreamTree insurance) will be covering the costs of staffing during these evenings. St James will only provide the space if needed. Fingers crossed the County will use the AgCenter. Possible hiccups with our AA meetings on Thursday evenings. Resolution to approve this measure- Gary said resolve and Gini seconded the resolution. All in favor. Land acknowledgment t is on hold at the moment. Mac and Rusty have been revising and updating staff job details.

August 20 Gary presented a memorandum of understanding between St James and the Board of Common Grounds. The MOU was tentatively approved pending approval by the Chancellor. The Chancellor said she has no opinion either way on the MOU, she neither approves or disapproves. She did advise that sufficient insurance coverage be in place to cover the activities of Common Grounds. Gary resolves final approval the MOU between Common Grounds and St James in order to move forward towards. All in favor- All approved.

Vestry reschedule- Nov 8 new date. And we will meet in Dec on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Longest night at St James is Dec 11. November meeting agenda consultants for outreach building, report on coffee hour, vestry candidates? Gift for our carpet installer.

The Vestry will meet again on Tuesday December 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm in the Santiago Room.