

**Vestry Meeting Minutes
Saturday, January 15, 2022**

Rector's Report- Harrison McLeod

A request was made from several of the youth for a way to participate in the Vestry. This has been explored in the past and has come up again. There are some legal issues attached to this which makes it sensitive. One way of handling it is for the youth to make the selection among themselves to sit in our Vestry meetings to give them a seat and voice. If there was something sensitive, we could go into an executive session, and they would be excused since they would not be on the Vestry. No resolution is needed, but a discussion is open.

The discussion was opened and most seemed to be in favor of the idea. Harrison will go back to Eric Travis and work this out for the youth.

Jim and Harrison will be out at 6 am in the morning to determine whether there will be services tomorrow. If there are no services, announcements will go out via the website and through local news.

Senior Warden – Dena Benedict

Dena wanted to let everyone know how much Harrison puts into his job. We are blessed with this Vestry and that we have many people who have been Junior and Senior Wardens, and they see what Harrison does day in and day out. Dena has an incredible appreciation for what he does. When he went on sabbatical last year, she really had an understanding of what he does. She thanked him for his dedication and for what he has done for the parish over the last thirteen years. He has been a fantastic Rector for the church and for us as a Vestry. Dena wanted all to know that Harrison is a gift.

Junior Warden – Nelson Arrington

Regarding the budget process and for the benefit of the new Vestry members, we do expect for you to be involved in your ministry area and to be active with your ministry leader. They know that you need to collaborate with each other.

Dena added the staff will be reaching out to you, and you need to reach out to them throughout the year.

Treasurer's Report – Chris Klasing

DECEMBER AND YEAR-TO-DATE RESULTS ARE PRELIMINARY. SOME BOOKKEEPING ENTRIES REMAIN TO BE MADE, INCLUDING THOSE REFLECTING DISPOSITION OF THE YEAR'S SURPLUS.

The budget for December included a \$104K credit from the deficit reserve that was believed to be required to balance the year. However, that did not prove necessary, so December results themselves appear \$97K worse than budget. For 2021 in its entirety, there is an actual surplus of \$123K, which is \$227K better than the budgeted \$104K loss before the expected deficit reserve draw. This surplus resulted about 1/3 from over-budget revenues and 2/3 from under-budget gross spending.

December pledge and non-pledged revenues were exceptionally strong, with the resulting YTD total revenue closing \$90K over budget. All revenue categories were ahead of budget for the year with surprising strength in prior year pledge payments and non-pledged gifts. While pledge revenues exceeded budget by \$42K, it must be noted that pledges had been discounted in the budget and actual pledges were underpaid by about \$56K.

December expenses were over budget by \$130K with end-of-year expenses and catch-up on delayed expenses leading the way. YTD expenses, though, closed at \$142K under budget.

- o YTD Salary & Benefits are almost exactly on budget: Under by \$5K or 0.2%
- o Non-salary spending in the less discretionary church operations areas (Buildings & Grounds, Support, Administration) was \$27K over budget for December, but remains \$102K underspent YTD. Building & Grounds is \$71K of the underspend on lower utilities, part-time labor, and general maintenance as leading contributors. Support is underspent \$31K YTD on lower insurance premiums, lower copier use, and delayed audit fees.
- o Faith in Action, Worship, Pastoral Care, and Faith Development are collectively underspent by \$35K or 7% year-to-date. Principal underspends are (\$16K) in Pastoral Care (staffing turnover) and \$19K in Faith Development (COVID limitations). Outreach spending was caught up in December.

December and the year both closed under budget for Reserve, Endowment and Other Credits because there was no need to pull the budgeted \$104K deficit reserve credit. The year closed under-drawn by \$109K.

Because of low current rates of return on money market funds, we're shifting most of these funds back into the church's checking accounts where the fee savings will be greater than the money market returns.

Motion: Cindy Poe made a motion to accept minutes for December 21st meeting. Bill Hardaway seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion was passed.

New Business:

Q&A

Q. Cindy is concerned about Pastoral Care and what they are doing with the seniors. Her concern is that the report does not focus on the seniors that are sick or shut-in or dying and reflects more on their activities rather than their condition.

A. Harrison will make sure the report is more detailed. A few things were put on hold because of COVID. Scott does not run the senior programming; Annette Cook does. Nelson commented that a lot of Pastoral Care situations are confidential.

Different comments going back and forth regarding Pastoral Care and how it works now verses how it will work going forward after COVID.

There is a possibility our next young adult person will be a priest. Harrison would love to have four clergy on board. We also have two attractive candidates for the assistant youth position.

Q. What are the age parameters for young adults?

A. From the time you graduate college until about 40. There is value in marketing specifically to an intended audience. We may need to target events where people know what age group is for what activity.

Committee /Team Reports

Dena

On January 30 the CCEP Sunday School will participate in the 10:30 am Sunday Service.

Reid (CCEP)

There has been an increase in COVID cases over the past several weeks. Greenville County schools had 11,000 cases in one day. Christine Skelton has had a hard job going through this time, and she is doing her best with what is before her. I wanted to give credit to Christine and her team for the way she has served the families and for her efforts to try and keep the Preschool open and safe.

Nelson (Property Committee)

At the end of last year Jordan committed we may have an opportunity on the Philpot building that they may be ready to sell. That will not be the case at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 2:46 pm with prayer.