

## January 16, 2024 Vestry Meeting

Sam Ferguson, Rector, opened by sharing some reflections on the liturgy. He also shared a quote from *Liturgy & Personality*, a book by Dietrich von Hildebrand, a contemporary of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. He then opened the meeting with prayer.

Sam provided a short update on the January 14 "Sent" missions fair that highlighted opportunities to serve the community, noting that this is a bookend to the "Serve" ministry fair in the fall that highlighted ways of serving the church. He also provided an update on prayer week, noting that it was a great blessing.

George Connors, Treasurer, provided an update on the financial report. YTD contributions are behind budget by \$101,415 (3.1%). For the month of December, contributions were \$20,800 (1.6%) less than last year. Discussion ensued regarding the decreased in pledged giving. George also presented an update on the 6565 LLC budget and balance sheet.

Peggy Aderton, Register, presented the November 2023 vestry meeting minutes for approval. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

Whit Jordan, Senior Warden, presented an updated list of committee assignments, noting changes to the Personnel Committee and the Special Committee. The changes passed by voice vote.

Whit presented a resolution regarding use of the Benevolence Fund. The motion passed by voice vote.

Kristen Short, Junior Warden, noted that there would be a service this Friday, January 19 at 9:30 a.m. prior to the March for Life and she also provided an update on the progress on the Vestry objectives.

Whit Jordan thanked the Vestry for their quick response on the approval for the Vestry election candidates. He moved to ratify the two votes taken via email. The motion passed by voice vote.

Whit also provided an update on the Outreach Committee funding requests for \$5,000 or less.

Marty O'Rourke, Director of Youth Ministry, provided an update on his team and presented the youth ministry's core values: belong like family (community); behold God (worship); and become his disciples (discipleship and mission). The major components of youth ministry include prayer, strong Biblical teaching, getting students out of their comfort zones (Breakaway, mission trips), and relationships. He outlined the "funnel," starting with fun/community events that draw youth in, then youth group/small groups, and then discipleship. The goal is to invite students deeper and deeper into the "funnel" to grow them into disciples.

Peggy Aderton presented an update on the VNEC process.

Curt Yeo, Executive Director, provided an update on stewardship, noting that pledged giving had dropped but that pledging is important as it helps the church plan its finances.

Curt noted that there was a break-in at the church recently. He shared that he was appreciative of law enforcement's response.

Sam mentioned that the Fellows program had received 8 commitments for the upcoming year and was in discussions with 10 more candidates.

Sam closed the meeting in prayer.