

Grace Episcopal Cathedral

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting – November 21, 2023

Present: Vanessa Hill, Arceile Ridgeway, Marilyn Trubey, Dennis Weikel, Evelyn Wilson, David Woods, Dean Lightcap, Canon Carroll, Lance Royer

October Minutes: The October minutes were amended to add Evelyn Wilson and Canon Carroll among those present. *A motion was made and seconded to accept the October 2023 vestry minutes as amended.* Motion unanimously carried.

Treasurer's report: For the month of October, operating income was \$45,347.81 and operating expense was \$79,218.38, resulting in a negative balance of \$33,870.57. Operating income for the year to date was \$713,660.53 and operating expense was \$774,488.27 resulting in a negative balance of \$60,827.74. Income for the year is at 78% of the budget income—lower than Lance would like to see it. There have been more unbudgeted seasonal building and grounds expenses this year.

The Dean's discretionary account had an income of \$100.00 and expenditure of \$988.65, leaving a balance of \$4,791.50.

Cash in the checking account on October 31, 2023, was \$14,778.06.

Ministry reports

- Stewardship: At this date, we have received 150 pledges for \$592,664. The wardens will send out a letter to those who have not yet made a pledge for 2024.
- Outreach: Dennis reported that outreach is hoping to increase their budget next year and perhaps apply for a grant to supplement their budget.
- Hospitality: The December 3 St. Nicholas party will include a potluck luncheon for the congregation and Ukrainian guests.
- Endowment: The trustees met last year and discussed estimates for next year's budget. Income from the Topeka Community Foundation is expected to increase in 2024.

Canon's report

- Canon Jody has received the official consent from the Diocese of Western Missouri to be ordained, giving Bishop Bascom permission to perform the ordination.
- Work with our Eucharistic Visitors ministry is progressing with one more person asking for training.
- Canon Jody states that she is still doing a lot of learning during her first year at the Cathedral.

Dean's report

- There has been an offer from a parishioner to underwrite the costs of the laminate flooring in the library. The dean, Lance, and Kent will be looking at some samples and take estimates to the donor.
- The dean is continuing to review Adult Education offerings on Sunday mornings to see if there is enough participation to sustain one main program and two smaller classes. He is open to new possibilities.
- Strategic development process: The dean is getting some professional opinions on the content of the plan and how to present it to the congregation.
- Following up on Vestry's recommendation to Bishop Bascom approve Tom Seddon for candidacy to the priesthood: the bishop has asked Tom to engage in further formation, so he will be moving over to St. David's as of January 1, 2024 for the next phase of vocational preparation.

The vestry adjourned to executive session to discuss staff bonuses.

A motion was made and seconded to approve \$8,770 in staff year-end bonuses. Motion unanimously approved.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned. Vestry will next meet November 21, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Robyn Room.

— Respectfully submitted by Connie Vosburgh, *Vestry Recorder*