

Cathedral Church of St. Paul Vestry Meeting Minutes 15 February 2024

Present: Marley Skiff (senior warden), the Very Rev. Greta Getlein, Peter Henne, Barrie Montross, Peter Jones (treasurer), Karl Fandrich (junior warden), Kenzo An, Miriam Burns, Mac Onuigbo, Alice Winn, Shannon Williamson (clerk)

Absent: Buffy Caflisch

Opening Reflection - Peter J.

January Minutes

- * Greta Getlein moved to accept, Karl Fandrich seconded, passed as written. Peter H. abstained

Financials

- * January
 - o Began year with surplus in income. Many pledges fulfilled for year. Distribution from Walter Irish trust received.
 - o Rental income from BNI, That Cake Stand, parking contract, and Presbyterian congregation
- * Pledge report:
 - o Several pledges increased; new people pledging; and yearly pledges paid completely in January. Pledges now total \$281, 265. Might not have to use the full annual distribution because of the surplus of pledge amount over what was budgeted for 2024.

Kenzo An moved to accept the financial report, Barrie Montross seconded, passed

Parochial Report

- * Specific questions: concern over longterm trajectories: we look like we are declining only because we are cleaning out the list of people who are not active. Have around 360 active members, and increased by 47 members. Financial stability is what will make the congregation continually sustainable. Average Sunday attendance is lower just because people don't attend as often as they once did.
- * Question 2 (p.3): numbers related to ethnicity intentionally omitted; congregation not surveyed because of time constraints relative to report due date.
- * Free form questions 37 (corrections: typos to correct), 38, & 39 (p.4).

Marley Skiff moved to accept the Parochial Report, Karl Fandrich seconded, passed

B & G

- * Downstairs kitchen - update on plan to provide heating. CSI to come and look at the existing unit on the roof that is supposed to be tempering the air. It might be fixable. Still plan to get a bid from CSI for a heat pump system in the kitchen.

Music Director Search Update

- * Greta reported that the Search Committee has received 20 applications for the position. Interviews have begun with the goal of finishing in early March. Committee very excited about the applications received. Goal is to make a call mid-May and have someone in place mid-summer.
- * As a reminder, the committee is Greta, Marley, Kevin Trainor, Ann Guillot, Gerry

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Davis, Peter Frechette, and Morgan Baker

Fundraising/Planned Giving/Stewardship

- * We are a successful community - people want to be part of this community. And, none of us have super deep pockets. Our missional aspirations don't quite match our financial capabilities - we need to get those closer together by either increasing our financial capabilities or by lowering our missional aspirations which usually means cutting staff and cutting programs or losing the building. As we don't probably want to lower our missional aspirations, we need to focus on increasing our financial capabilities.
- * We can and should and will continue to inspire folks to give generously through an annual pledge, but this will not be enough in the long run.
- * A three prong approach is appropriate:
 - Annual stewardship/pledging program: Younger generations don't tend to pledge money, especially millennials and Gen Z who tend to give to causes and want to really know where their money is going. Those generations will give to a specific cause/project. So, we are seeing an increase in free plate giving and a holding steady/slight decrease in pledges. We will need to do more teaching in this area and continue to offer opportunities for giving for specific things.
 - Fundraising: we need to consider having an annual fundraiser of some sort trying to raise about \$10,000 per year. What this is is up for conversation.
 - Planned Giving: meet with members of the congregation to talk about wills and leaving a portion of one's "estate" to the church - life insurance, stock, property, cash. There had been a campaign under the previous dean to talk about end of life plans, funeral planning, and planned giving. The first two legs of that plan were carried out but they never quite got to the planned giving portion before that dean left.
- * Open conversation about fundraising, revenue streams, and planned giving in general. No specific plans made, but good conversation.
- * Planned Giving falls under the purview of the Trustees. Greta will be bringing this to their next meeting.

Other Business

Closing Prayer

Submitted by Shannon Williamson, clerk