

Highlights of Vestry Meeting - May 9, 2017

Opening & Formation:

The meeting opened at 7:05 p.m. with prayer led by Fr. Allison. A quorum was present. A brief time of formation and discussion followed.

RECTOR'S REPORT

DeLotto and Sons regarding roof:

We have reached an agreement with DeLotto. Both roof issues/areas are supposed to be worked on at the same time, but DeLotto has not provided an exact schedule. We may owe more attorney fees for the time Brad Wood has spent on this.

HOPE (Hillsborough Organization for Progress and Equality)

HOPE is supported by churches as well as congregations of other faiths. They ask for an annual contribution based on congregation size; in our case it would be around \$1,000. Their budget comes from non-governmental grants, individual contributors, and congregations. They work on community issues related to social justice, bringing together HOPE members with county commissioners, lawyers, and other community leaders to advocate on selected issues. For example, this year's action was to ask the county commission and chief of police to change enforcement practices to issue citations for first-time juvenile marijuana possession instead of charging them with misdemeanors. This would move these juveniles into intervention programs rather than punishment and is less damaging to their future employment. HOPE also works on affordable housing initiatives. Fr. Roy has a meeting planned in two days with a HOPE representative, and wants to know if the vestry approves St. Mark's having a relationship with HOPE. After a short discussion, the vestry is unanimous in agreement that we should open the opportunity for members of this congregation to be involved in HOPE if they want to take part.

Vestry Commissions

These were discussed at length during the formation portion of this meeting, Vestry is asked to please consider whether this model is appropriate for St. Mark's. We will pick up the discussion in June when we hope our three other members will be back.

Anthony Grant

Anthony needs a kidney transplant, but has no medical insurance. He has joined up with a fundraising organization; he needs to raise around \$35,000. The organization is asking St. Mark's for an opportunity for Anthony to ask the congregation to raise money. Phil Petresky is spearheading this for Anthony, and brought the issue to Fr. Roy. Anthony would be standing before the congregation to do the asking. Fr. Roy asked for a voice vote; there was unanimous agreement to allow Anthony to ask.

Dominican Republic Mission Trip: June 17th-24th

Fr. Roy plans to join this mission team. He asked how the vestry would categorize the time he would spend there, i.e. would they ask him to use vacation time for a mission trip. All agreed that this would not be counted as vacation time.

SENIOR WARDEN'S COMMENTS

Charlie wants to conduct a survey of members' interests and skills. This was discussed and approved during an Executive Committee meeting. If vestry members have ideas or can formulate questions, send those to Jillian. We will use SurveyMonkey and hope to have this put together by the end of May.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S COMMENTS

Sam will stop having parish work days every month. We will take some time off and regroup; attendance at monthly work days is dwindling. We will cancel June and July and return in August. We will maybe make work days more project or area specific. We will also consider how to have tasks for all ability levels.

COMMISSION REPORTS REVIEW

Anything that needs to be discussed not already covered in reports:

Marva Duncan moves to enter into an HVAC annual maintenance contract with Marlin James Inc. at an annual cost \$5,975.00 with 12 payments @ \$497.95 due monthly. Marlin James provided this quote to Dale Johnson in 2016. Dale confirmed with them that they will still honor this price now.

Cliff Opp moved to enter into this service agreement with Marlin James. Bill Lynch seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Request to transfer \$500 from the Restricted Flower Fund to the Garden Club at the end of each quarter.

This does not require a vestry vote – it is up to the group that raised the funds if they want to transfer them for another purpose. Ideally, the decision to do this would be made by the group members and not just by the leader. Although we do not need to vote on this, we should know when such decisions are made; vestry needs to be aware of what is happening with the church finances.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: moving classrooms?

Judy Hamm inquired whether the CGS classes could move into the unused nursery room and the choir room. It may encourage people to leave their children in Sunday School if they were more visible and closer to the sanctuary. That would mean the choir would need to move into one of the classrooms. Vestry is being asked first before the issue is brought up to Matt Swickey and the choir. There was general agreement that it might be a good idea, and Fr. Roy will talk to Matt about it.

Name Tags

Fr. Roy has decided that for those who have chosen to convert to the magnetic tags that we are going to replace this with professionally made plastic tags.

Welcome Packets

Sandi Gaudet brought a welcome folder she was given at St. John the Divine and shared what was inside. She was impressed by how much receiving that made her feel welcome and a part of the church, and brought it so we can develop something similar for our visitors.

TREASURER'S REPORT

There was no discussion of financials at this meeting. The Treasurer's written report is incorporated herein:

Income

Income for April came in **\$11,346.98 over**. Moreover, we are **\$40,421.34 over** for the year from what was budgeted. For May I hope to see our giving stay on track. We will need to keep watch on our income so that we do not lose our gains that were made in the first of the year.

Expenses For

Our expenses for the month of April were under by \$630.65. Moreover, we are **\$6,244.10 under** YTD from what was budgeted. However, we still need to keep the focus on spending only what we have not just to what is budgeted so that we can cover any unexpected expenses.

Cash Flow for the Month of April

As for cash flow, as of April 30th our Operating Account had a balance of **\$56,916.07**. **However, the following are transactions that were outstanding as of 4/30/2017:**

Starting Balance	\$ 56,823.95
Transfer to Memorial for April 2017	\$ 4,971.05

Transfer to Restricted for April 2017	\$ 9,540.39
Outstanding checks from April 2017	\$ 5,232.38
Operating Balance	\$ 37,080.13

Outstanding bills as of 5/3/2017	\$ 2,077.36
----------------------------------	-------------

2016 Audit

The audit committee will be performing their duties throughout June in coordination with Jillian's schedule. They have received their specific areas they are to audit and will coordinate with Jillian when they will be in the office.

Fran Baylies-Weissing
David Schutte
Brandi Dean
Bob Prucha

We will coordinate with Jillian as to the best days/weeks for her schedule.

Fr. Roy adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m. with a prayer.

Commission Reports, May 2017

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT – Charlie Towater

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT – Sam Trotman

Easter week Work Day was a busy one for all who participated. Much was accomplished in the preparation. Besides the beautiful work that was done to prepare Altar, the pews were polished and entrances were power washed. The pews were also re-arranged to facilitate more ease of movement for those in our congregation who are wheelchair- bound. Regarding St Mark's Day, the preparation work for the day was accomplished with a well-attended crew. All went well.

Pleased to report that the work on faucets in the Sacristy is completed.

Regarding the Youth House, we will be working on some of the problems that have been identified there. One of them would be checking the lighting around the outside of the house: it is very dark there at nights. We believe that the solution would be replacing the outside lights with sensor lights that activate at dusk. The lights inside the house would also be checked and bulbs changed as needed. The reported problem of a non-working sink was explored but no problematic sinks were found, the three sinks seem to be working fine, but will continue to monitor.

ADULT EDUCATION – Cliff Opp

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Cliff Opp

COMMUNICATIONS – Latrice Markison

Thanks to all who participated in St. Mark's day!

The VBS newspaper ads are in process and will be run as part of the Tribune's Summer program/vbs ad service. Ad requests will be submitted to various free sites including the Baynews 9 calendar and Spirit FM and will be filled based on site availability.

We continue to look for volunteers to assist in updating our Facebook page and taking pictures at events.

ENDOWMENT – Bill Lynch

Nothing to report.

FELLOWSHIP – John Newton

As we prepared and then celebrated Jesus conquering death, April was a great month for Fellowship. On April 5th we concluded our Lenten Soup Suppers and it was commented several times that our turnout and quality of soups to include overall participation was good. I want to thank again all those who volunteered to make soups to share. On April 11th Father Roy led the Seder Meal in honor of the Passover and over 30 parishioners and guests participated. St. Marks Day Celebration was held on April 22nd where parishioners and guests feasted on hot dogs and burgers with all the fixings. We had a head count of approximately 85 at the service, however over 100 ate lunch. A good time was had by all and I appreciate everyone who assisted in the setup, serving food, and clean up for the event.

MEMBERSHIP & GROWTH – Laura Jeanne Johnson

Nothing to report.

OUTREACH & EVANGELISM – Marva Duncan & Fran Weissing

Jewish Family Services - St. Mark's Day Festival

A special thanks to Lea Merrill Davidson-Bern of the Jewish Family Services for participating in the St Marks Day festival and providing informative brochures of the services they provide to the citizens of our community.

Easter Gift Tree-The generous support of the St Mark's congregation to the Jewish Family Services with gifts for needy Seniors in our community is greatly appreciated.

Our Little Roses

Under the leadership of Marcia Allison the St Marks outreach ministry will continue to support educational sponsorship for our sponsored child. The Outreach ministry will be reaching out to former Ugandan ministry donors for support of this ministry.

Scout activities April 2017_ submitted by Bill Szelistowski

April 3: Monday meeting—Landscaping at St. Marks (6-7 PM); Patrol Leader's Council (PLC) meeting
April 10: Monday meeting

April 17: Monday meeting
April 21: Backpack trip cancelled (lack of camp site and dry conditions)
April 24: Monday meeting
April 29: Troop service project assisting sick man with home yard work

DOK – Peanut Butter & Tuna Drive

The St Mark's collections of Peanut Butter and Tuna are still being received and contributed to Jewish Family Services.

Trinity Café

No update
<http://www.trinitycafe.org/volunteer>

HandsOn Suncoast

No update

Helping Hands

No updates-ongoing work on quilts.

STEWARDSHIP – Bill Lynch

Nothing to report.

WORSHIP – Sandi Gaudet

A heartfelt thanks goes out to all that took the time to help make "our" church, St. Mark's, the best looking church during the Easter Season with the floral decorations and the clean-up that took place afterward.

Also another BIG "Thank You" for those who were able to come out and help to set-up, work and clean-up for St. Mark's day. A great time was had by all.

YOUTH & FAMILIES – Anna Ashworth

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)

CGS will focus on the Season of Easter between Easter and June 4, which is Pentecost. During this season, the children will explore the concepts of the resurrected life and light of Jesus and how the light in the world is stronger and brighter after His resurrection, never to go out again. This light and life is shared to us through the gifts of baptism and Eucharist, and special attention will be given to these two sacraments of gift.

June 4, 2017 will be the last day of CGS until August. There will be a Pentecost Celebration on this day. The CGS facilitators are offering to change the location of the CGS classrooms to rooms that are closer to the sanctuary. The children are currently tucked away from the rest of the church and are pretty much isolated. Having the children in rooms near the sanctuary would help new comers find where the children should be, would make it easier for children to go between classrooms and the nursery (often needed), and would make them more visible and thereby inclusive in the life of the church. The CGS facilitators are willing to sacrifice space by moving into smaller rooms near the sanctuary, allowing other ministries to have the larger rooms currently being used by CGS.

CGS needs more volunteers for the fall - volunteers who will help out regularly on a revolving basis. Judy Hamm hopes to teach an adult class this summer in the hopes of getting people interested in helping out with CGS.

Youth

April was a quiet month for the youth group. There were no outreach or other events planned with all the activities already planned at the church for Holy Week. There was no class on Palm Sunday or Easter. However, three of our regular Sunday School attendees were confirmed by the Bishop on April 9: Erin, Noah and Chrystie!

Sheila was out of town a few weeks and relied on parent volunteers and students to help out with Sunday Classes. Sheila thanks Pam Frost, Latrice Markison, Brandi Dean, and Michelle Frost for their help. Pam and Brandi were the adult supervisors for the week that Michelle led the lesson on the Ten Commandments. Latrice covered the week of April 23. Michelle led this last week's lesson and used an online Bible Jeopardy game to engage the class of 5 along with Pam and Sheila.

May looks to be equally busy as the students wrap up the school year and attend graduations. Sarah, Noah and Madison will be graduating from high school! Sheila will be in town most of May covering classes on May 7, 14 and 21.

Summer Sunday School

Volunteers for Summer Sunday School (grades K-5) have been recruited. It will begin June 18 and go through August 6.

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

Sherre Henley has been busy recruiting a team and collecting supplies. The dates are July 10 – 14, 2017.