

VESTRY MEETING September 12, 2023

Present: Alice Bennett, Bruce Carpenter, Margaret Cole, Rev. Scott Harvey, Doreen Marshall, Linda Murrelle, Betsy Schumacher, Diane Siebecker, Jeff Watson

Absent: Rev. Cn Melinda Artman

Treasurer: Bruce Carpenter

Chairperson: Rev. Scott Harvey

Opening Prayer

Agenda: Motion to accept the draft agenda made by Betsy. Second by Alice. Motion carries. Discussion: Add to New Business – undercroft ceiling

Minutes: Motion to accept the August 8, 2023 minutes made by Linda. Second by Jeff. Motion carries

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept the August Treasurer's Report made by Linda. Second by Doreen. Motion carries

Highlights:

- Net income is at a \$20,000 deficit; or at 112% of what we had budgeted. We did not have a Parish Park Fair this year and we had budgeted \$3500 from it. We are anticipating a Kresge, DIT, & Bixby distribution this fall. Thus the end of year deficit will not be that large
- Expenses are quite simply higher in 2023 and will not be going down
- Michael Dowd, Esq. has resigned as trustee for the Kresge Trust. The new trustees (Ms. Doreen Marshall and Ms. Emily Garrity) will take over as trustees as soon as the paperwork is completed

Senior Warden's Report:

- August's Community Supper was a Pulled Pork Dinner. 98 people, which includes take-out, were served. St. Mary's Guild will sponsor the September 28th Community Supper
- Class A Cleaning provided a quote of \$995 for carpet cleaning of the lower level hallway and 3 rooms. The quote for tile cleaning is \$1300. These quotes do not include moving furniture and appliances. Plan to get quotes from Berry Enterprises
- Linda requests a clean up of the weeds and trees (Jeff will talk to Glenn)

Junior Warden's Report:

- The AC unit for the office is not functioning again. It has been determined that the coil is leaking. A replacement coil will cost between \$1500 and \$2000 including

installation. Need to obtain a second quote from Hal Fish Heating and Air Conditioning

- Replacement of the AC lower level is an estimated cost of between \$15,000 and \$20,000. To obtain quotes from Patton's and Hal Fish
- Boiler #1 requires attention as it developed a leak at the end of the last heating season. The leak is likely from the patch which was applied last year. A new patch will be applied
- The radiators in the church will be cleaned this month
- The shrubs on the north side of the church will be trimmed this month. Discussion held on what type of plants will thrive on this less than sunny (park side) of the church.
- The Boiler Room Sentry alarm (sensor #8) is in malfunction mode and has created a nearly constant audio alarm in the office. Sentry has been notified

Rector's Report:

- Pastor Melinda is away in Maryland September 11th through 14th attending the Transitional Ministry Conference (a vehicle for filling vacant pastorates). Also, on vacation September 20th through October 3rd
- The big event for August happened on August 12th at St. John when a portion of the glorious oak tree beside the South Wing crashed through the roof. The damage includes breaking a truss or two which requires finding a general contractor. Assuming there are no other conflicts with our calendar, Pastor Melinda is offering St. John the use of our facilities for Bible Study Thursdays beginning October 12th. They have a tentatively planned Family Fun Night for October 6th or October 27th which could easily take place in our parish hall. Choir and bell choir rehearsals may also need a place to go. *Vestry agrees St. John's is welcome to utilize Redeemer's space until repairs are made*
- Our combined summer worship services concluded on September 3rd. It was wonderful to have both churches feel full. The clergy enjoyed brunch almost every week with parishioners from both parishes and both groups decided we'd continue with a monthly "Lunch Bunch" after worship concludes at Redeemer
- "Coffee with Jesus" occurred each week with participation from both Church of the Redeemer and St. John. We modeled being the church and discipleship outside of the church walls at Celebrations Black Diamond Café. The group is committed to staying together through the completion of "What Makes Jesus Mad". Beginning October 12th, we will begin an evening Bible Study, reading "Love Wins" by Rob Bell
- The desire to put out a Tri-Fold before Labor Day required nailing down some dates. In addition to offering newcomers or visitors information about the Church of the Redeemer, there is a desire to mail it to people loosely affiliated with our church so that they know we are still here. There is also a desire to have a real piece of paper mailed with a calendar to our active members. Rather than spend the time producing envelopes and spend money on stamps, we included the Tri-Fold in the eBlast. Most of us have printers, however, should someone need a printed copy, we're happy to do it if asked. I have also asked Jerry to research whether producing a magnet with significant dates might be a better and more

attractive use of our money. *Vestry has decided a church magnet is cost prohibitive. It is decided we will try a monthly postcard with events and mail to persons loosely affiliated with Redeemer. The Tri-Fold will be four months of information and continue to be included in the eBlast*

- I hope that the combined Youth Group will get underway later this month. We have some seventh graders interested in participating this year and that could be rejuvenating for the group. Pastor Scott is working to see who might be interested in the Lutheran Youth Gathering

Assistant Rector's Report:

- I will be attending a Pastoral Care Zoom Workshop offered through my seminary (ULS) starting September 11th. There are six classes every other month via zoom
- I have formally started as volunteer Chaplain at the hospital
- I made a presentation on my trip to Turkey to St. Mary's Guild/Redeemer/SJLC on September 5th
- I officiated a memorial service in Horseheads on August 14th and will be officiating a funeral for mother and son at Redeemer on September 21st
- Convocation 1 has resumed brown bag lunch Bible Study once a month. Also attending a larger audience within Canon Melinda's region
- Coffee with Jesus is meeting once a week and we have had up to 12 people. No one from the community has joined us yet. I think we need better signage to identify who we are
- I made visits to Hildegard Mohr currently in Elderwood. She thanks our parishioners for the prayers. I also visited a non member at Sayre Personal Care Residence. She is a member of Trinity Pro-Cathedral in Williamsport and their Rector requested us to visit her when possible. I provided Communion to both people
- The Family Service at St. John's is now the 3rd Wednesday of the month with the next one scheduled on September 20th
- I have a first call retreat with the Lutheran Synod from October 22nd-24th
- A letter is being sent to the youth regarding the Lutheran Youth Gathering. May invite them to an in person meeting with food, possibly at a restaurant

Sunday School Report:

- Sunday School resumes September 24th with breakfast planned. All are welcome. The theme is Jonah
- Planning a Halloween party (and the Girl Scouts will benefit as they meet on Sunday evenings). Also planning a Christmas play

Youth Group Report:

- We anticipate new members and meet September 17th. We will be having a Compassion Program

St. Mary's Guild Report:

- Rummage sale October 6th and 7th. Fall Fair November 2nd and 3rd

Old Business:

- Tentative date for the Parish Park Fair is Saturday, June 8th, 2024

New Business:

- The undercroft ceiling (storage area) has fallen creating quite a mess and also the ceiling in the stairwell closet is broken open. Both are wet. Leaks to be investigated (Jeff). Diane questioned the possibility of asbestos in these areas. Need to see if Redeemer's insurance coverage would cover repairs from water damage

Compline

Adjourn: Motion made by Alice. Second by Linda – 8:26 pm

Next Meeting is Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Siebecker
Clerk of Vestry