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Subject: Fwd: Vestry March 2017
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Minutes of the Saint Michael & All Angels Vestry Meeting
March 20, 2017

Present: Rector Kevin Huddleston; Associate Rector David Cox; Sr. Warden Marty Pyle; Jr. Warden Bob Carlson; Treasurer Win Zoellner; Clerk Lindsay Mohn; Dahl Metters; David Schlomer; Leta Anderson; Scott Schaefer; Allie Marquis; David Allen; Gordon Alloway; Dennis Kissinger; Leslie Reed; Lisa Welker; Margaret Schramm Thompson;

Absent: Lindsey Hill

Presenting: Convention Delegates Kate Capps; Bob & Brenda Skaggs; Melissa Carlson; Dee Norris

Meeting opened at 6:30 pm. with a Dwelling in the Word exercise. (Isaiah 63: 7-16)

In the spirit of 'Victories, Wins and Celebrations' Ms. Welker shared that Headmaster Claudie and Father Toussaint of our Haiti Ministry were planning to visit the parish for several days next month if their Visas go through. Our youth are making a joint mission trip to Haiti this summer along with youth from St. Andrew's. Father Kevin noted that the Wednesday night Lenten programs were going well, and that the Kitchen Angels had served about 120 dinners the first week. Second week attendance was down to between 50-60 parishioners, which was attributed to Spring Break travel. Ms. Reed complimented Eugene Butler and Diana Mullin on the beautiful piece which he wrote and they sang during the Offertory at yesterday's 10:45 am service. Mr. Kissinger remarked that greetings during 'the Peace' are increasing nicely, including those 'across the aisle'. It was noted that the Rector's Reflection, which shared an email from a parishioner complimenting the work of Gaye Lynn Huddleston with the Children's Ministry, was a pleasure to read, and that thanks should also be extended to the rest of the parish staff for going above and beyond in their duties.

Father Kevin reported that he has hired a young woman named Emily Burke to serve as Youth Minister. She will start on April 10th. Ms. Burke intends to be confirmed this spring. She has already met with Jillian Carroll and Karen Schlabach, and has also signed up to attend Camp Wood this summer.

Sr. Warden Pyle had only one issue in his report: the need for a well-run Stewardship campaign. He has met with a parishioner at St. Andrew's named Norm Olson who is retired from a Madison Avenue advertising career. Mr. Olson now consults with churches about Stewardship and Capital Campaigns. Mr. Pyle checked three church references, and received highly complimentary evaluations of Mr. Olson's work. Mr. Olson made it a point to engage parishioners with face to face interviews as well as surveys. His fee for a one year contract is \$5,000. Mr. Schlomer moved to hire Mr. Olson as a Stewardship Campaign consultant. Mr. Metters seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Pyle said that the Stewardship Committee would consist of four parishioners, and Vestry members were encouraged to forward suggestions for members to his attention.

Jr. Warden Carlson reported that smoke detectors have been replaced on the lower level of the building. He noted that the recent concrete work around the west door has been completed with the exception of a final power wash which should occur next week. Mr. Carlson handed out an aerial photograph of our current back parking lot and a schematic diagram of how it will be reconfigured in the upcoming resealing project. Kansas Asphalt Co. has been selected to do the work, which will consist of resealing and restriping the west lot and east circle drive. This will be done at a cost of \$8631.00. The work will start as soon as the Day School concludes its school year. The Building & Grounds Committee has recommended the parking slots be rotated by 90 degrees. This will allow for larger parking stalls and wider drive aisles. It should also improve pedestrian safety by increasing visibility. The arrangement will result in the loss of about 17 parking spots of a current total of about 176. Wheel stops will be added at the curbs adjacent to residential properties. All lanes will be two-way traffic. Mr. Carlson wants to meet with the Director of the Day School to be sure they are aware of the change, which should not alter their current drop off and pick up routine. No permit is necessary to do the work, as it is a maintenance issue. An inquiry was made about the speed bumps that were formerly near the nursery door area. Apparently the snow plow scooped them up when doing work on the lot. They will be replaced. The B&G Committee has decided to paint the altar backdrop and ceiling in Cloud Chapel as their service project. No date has been selected yet.

Treasurer Zoellner circulated a Finance Committee Report. February's income had a favorable variance of \$11K to the budget. Expenses were flat, but were affected by a \$5K donation from the STMAA Foundation to the Adult Education program. Ten additional pledges have been received since last month, totaling about \$24K. The newly hired Youth Director has been budgeted for. An anonymous parishioner has donated \$100K from their IRA to be used to pay down the mortgage. That has a favorable impact on the mortgage payment due to decreased interest expense. Mr. Pyle intends to write a public

acknowledgement of this anonymous gift. Mr. Zoellner will provide a quarterly update to the Annual Meeting in the next newsletter. There was some discussion about publishing a summary of the Finance Committee Report in an attempt to be transparent, but it was concluded that income and expense figures are irrelevant in the absence of all of the data, which would be cumbersome to provide. Mr. Allen moved to accept the Finance Report as provided. Mr. Schlomer seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Several Convocation Delegates, as noted above, arrived to introduce themselves and to discuss upcoming issues with the Vestry. (Additional delegates are David Smith, Judy Kirk, with Roxie Pearce as Alternate.) Copies of the Parochial Report were distributed to the Vestry. The delegates will gather four times a year to hear a report from the Council of Trustees. The two main meetings occur in September, when the budget is presented, and in October, when Convention convenes. The Delegates are our voice in the Diocese. Mr. Skaggs explained that our apportionment amount has gone down in line with our reduced income. The apportionment will reset in 2019. There is work being done to clarify and update the Canon language regarding apportionment. Treasurer Zoellner pointed out that even though STMAA may be able to pay off the mortgage, we will still have significant internal debt due to having shifted funds to pay down external debt. After some discussion, it was decided that Treasurer Zoellner should speak with either the Diocesan Comptroller, the Chair of their Finance Committee or the Diocesan Treasurer to discuss this issue and to clarify how our internal debt should be treated. The apportionment rates, by Canon Law, range from a minimum of 12.5% to a maximum of 20%. Our current rate is 19.2%. Mr. Skaggs discussed the unfortunate situation with St. Paul's KC, KS, who are allowed a seat and a voice but not a vote due to their not making apportionment payments for several years. Maintaining votes is important because critical issues can sometimes come down to a single vote. It was added that Episcopal Community Services is taking responsibility for some of St. Paul's programs, and are forming an ad hoc committee to discuss possibilities for the future of their parish. Father Kevin asked the Vestry if there was anything they wanted to tell the Delegates in terms of the upcoming Bishop search. There were no specific suggestions. Mr. Skaggs said that the Diocese had decided not to hire an Interim Bishop, as they feel the Council of Trustees and Diocesan staff work so well together. They will select an Assisting Bishop instead, who will work in the manner of a supply priest as needed. STMAA expects to confirm about 20 people on May 7th, and Father Kevin plans to invite a Bishop from outside our Diocese to preside. The process of selecting a new Bishop is expected to take between 18 - 24 months. The formation of the Search Committee was held off until Bishop Wolfe formally left office, but that is on the docket, as well as the selection of a Transition Committee to assist the next Bishop. It is appropriate to have STMAA represented on the Search Committee in particular. Ms. Anderson asked what the Delegates will be looking for in the next Bishop, and Ms. Carlson said that the hope is that that person will be a good communicator and not a micromanager. Treasurer Zoellner asked why the process was so lengthy, complicated and expensive, and Ms. Capps compared it to a Rector search, but requiring four Convocations to reach an agreement on the right person. It is a complicated process, but is so in the attempt to ensure a fair process. Bishop Wolfe will always be a Bishop, and will still be Vice President of the House of Bishops. Father Kevin will be the President of Convocation next year. Ms. Capps assured the Vestry that there would be regular updates during the search, and reports from the scheduled meetings. Mr. Skaggs will send the Minutes of the last meeting to Father Kevin so that he can circulate them to the Vestry. Ms. Capps offered to speak to the Vestry if requested, and encouraged members to email her with questions and/or comments.

Mr. Schlomer moved to approve the January minutes as taken. Mr. Alloway seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

NB: the next regularly scheduled meeting falls on Easter Monday, but Father Kevin will not be in town, so the meeting will be held on the fourth Monday of the month, which falls on April 24th.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Mohn
Clerk of the Vestry