

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting, August 10, 2023

Opening: The meeting opened at 7:05 pm with a prayer.

Clergy Report:

The trip to England was great. I came back with COVID as did about 1/3 of the choir. Brynn Picatti has resigned due to health reasons. I am looking at making this a full time position with responsibility for nursery, Children's Ministry and to assist with the Youth Ministry. Passed out *Not Your Parents' Offering Plate* which discusses financial stewardship. A family from Venezuela has been placed in a home provided by a parishioner. A family from Afghanistan will be placed in the same home later after the other family has left.

Warden's Report:

David gave a brief report on the accomplishments of the Security Task Force. There have been two security assessments. One for the whole campus and the other concentrating on the preschool. All the wood doors in the preschool will be replaced. Action is being taken to upgrade the WiFi throughout the church which will help improve communication. Training will be conducted for teachers, church staff and parishioners. The subjects to be covered in four sessions lasting 1 ½ hours are: Dealing with Difficult People, Situational Awareness, Run-Hide-Fight, and Stop the Bleed. The Task Force recommends that a Security Committee be formed to pursue other security measures.

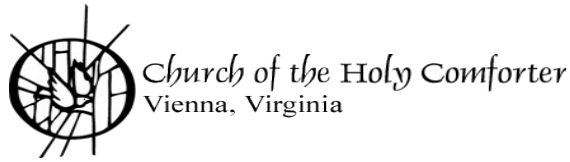
The third quarter Town Hall agenda was discussed and ministries were identified that would be asked to speak at the meeting.

Capital Campaign update:

Work is still being done on determining the cost of the solarization project. IRS guidance is out, but not clear on how or if our project will qualify for the money. The cost of the music room has gone up because of ADA requirements and the need for an improved HVAC system which had not been anticipated. In the initial estimate. No further payments on the loan as there needs to be money available if the solarization project or the music room renovation starts in the near future.

Treasurer's Report:

Cash on hand is good. Pledge receipts for the month of July were under budget and loose checks were over budget. Cash receipts were over budget. Expenses were over budget. Net income for the month was a negative. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's report for the month of July. It was seconded and approved.



Parochial Report:

The Parochial Report for the month of July was passed out. In-person attendance is still increasing.

Standing Committees and Program Updates:

Stewardship Committee: Key components of the upcoming campaign will be effective, timely and targeted written communications, weekly posting to the Comfortable Word, a kiosk near coffee hour to assist individuals in pledging and answer questions. Key dates are Aug 14-Sep 14- complete mailings, testimonials, kiosk development; Oct 1-Nov 24 – annual Stewardship Campaign; Jan 1-Jan 31 – follow up if necessary.

Building and Grounds Committee: Work on the music room is progressing, Margaret Bain met with the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District about storm water runoff. The removal of invasive plants is continuing.

Fellowship Committee: The composting company, when notified, will provide larger bins when large meetings are held. The all Parish cook-out will be September 17. There is a need for volunteers for the Shrine Mont cook out. Recommend the purchase of some inexpensive games to be used during Parish outdoor gatherings. The alcohol policy can't be finalized until the insurance policy is reviewed.

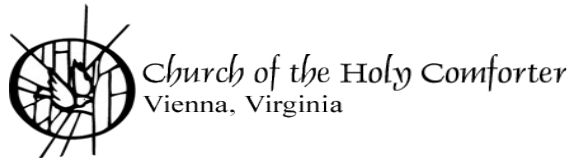
HCEP/Youth Ministries/IONA Fund: Monthly HCEP chapel will begin when school starts. Training will be conducted prior to the start of school. (See Warden's Report) CPR certification is underway. It is an online course. As of April there were 75 students enrolled – capacity is 90 students. Linda Myers still has some safety concerns for the preschool.

Sunday School teachers have been recruited. Nine youth went on the beach trip. Confirmation class begins Sep 17. The mission trip was successful and next year the mission trip will be to Puerto Rico again. Brynn Pacitti has resigned as the head of Children's Ministry. The goals are to start a Parent Coffee hour and re-initiate Mother's Group.

The IONA fund is growing.

Communications Committee: The photos on the Holy Comforter post card will be updated. A magnetic whiteboard on wheels which will allow organized posting of information will be placed in the Narthex. Developing QR stickers for the pews. A photography ministry will be started. Finalizing color palette/font style/images for branding effort. This will lead to a consistent formatting when templates are developed.

Outreach Committee: There is a need for a Holy Comforter captain for the upcoming CROP walk to be held October 1.



Finance Committee: The audits are ongoing. Paychex has submitted the paperwork to the IRS for Holy Comforter to get a tax credit. Expenses are higher than planned.

Adult Faith Formation: The Parish retreat will be September 8-10. Starting in October there will be four Wellness Circles: Men, Seniors, Grown-ups, and one which can be attended by anyone. Episcopal 101 will start in the fall. Sessions will be held on Tuesday nights. There will be eight sessions in the fall and three in the spring. Advent Morning retreat will be held December 2.

NAMI-In Our Own Voice was well received and may be presented again. Talks on Islam and the Israel Pilgrimage were well received and interest in another pilgrimage to Israel was expressed. Are Your Affairs in Order was well attended with the recommendation that it be given every 5-6 years. Yoga for Tired Bodies was well received.

Current/upcoming programs: Refugia Faith had 16 people attend and was well organized. "Being With 2" began July 17 and meets twice a month. Rector's book study was held in August. "Love God, Love God's World is a nine part series on Creation Care to be launched by the National Episcopal Church in October. Bible Study held on Tuesday mornings continues. There are no plans for a Sunday Bible Study.

Endowment Report: The value of the Endowment fund is rising. The Bishop Denig Society Event will be Saturday, November 4, after the 5 pm service.

Newcomers Committee: Still working on cleaning up the personnel data base.

Pennywise: Revenue for July was up 7% over last year.

VPOM: One bereavement card was sent.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the June meeting. The motion was seconded and approved.

The meeting ended at 9:20 pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Fitzsimmons
Register