

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting

January 18, 2021

Vestry Members Present – Faith Cline, Susanna Cramer, Phil Eachus, Gaylee Glimm, David Holzknack, Tari McDonald, Matrid Ndife, David Niahua, Troy Patria, Gibbs Reese, John Shelby, Kevin Wardell and George Wheeler.

Others Present – Edie Nixon, Treasurer.

Absent – Madison Bailey and Amanda Herry.

Clergy & Staff – The Rev. Kelly Kirby, Rector and the Rev. Benjamin Hart, Director of Congregational Life.

Opening Prayer – Rev. Kirby opened the meeting at 8:15 with the traditional prayer and noted that a quorum was in attendance.

Reading/Reflection – With the inauguration of a new president for our country a day away, Kelly spoke to a passage from the Book of Common Prayer, more specifically the prayer For Sound Government, (pp 821). As she read, we were invited to speak about specific phrases that resonated to us particularly and why. At the conclusion, we all hoped that there would be no violence during the inauguration process tomorrow.

Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the December 15, 2020 meeting were accepted as written.

Financial Report – Edie Nixon provided highlights for each of the following December 31st reports and end of year reports and year end reports as follows:

December Income Statement:

- a. Very few pledges unfulfilled.
- b. Loose offerings up \$25,000.
- c. Behind total income goal by only \$ 7,000.
- d. Several renters have continued to pay rent for their respective spaces.
- e. Salary, Benefits and Housing were slightly under budget.
- f. The year ended with a deficit of \$10,000.

December Balance Sheet:

- a. End of year with \$135,000 including PPP loan of \$84,800.
- b. Cash balance is less than desirable for this time of year. It is normally our highest point.
- c. Line of credit remains available if so needed.
- d. Continued reduction in Stock Yards Bank loan – nearing \$500,000.

4th Quarter Building Fund

- a. Debt Watchers program raised over \$15,000 for the month.
- b. If absolutely necessary, the line of credit that could be used in case of an emergency.

4th Quarter Endowment Statement

- a. Substantial quarterly growth of \$128,000 in value.

Year End Endowment Statement

- a. Total cash and securities growth for FY 2020 of \$72,800.
- b. Total value at yearend of \$1,200,000.
- c. Donations and dividends value of \$65,700. (Used for special projects.)
- d. Disbursements value of \$52,800.

An anonymous Living Steward of St. Matthew's has come forward with a gift to pay off the building loan contingent on receiving pledges to make up the gap in the 2021 budget.

Housing Resolutions

To be in compliance with IRS Regulations, clergy may declare that a portion of their total compensation from their parish be devoted to housing and subsequently become non-taxable. Rev. Kirby's proportional amount is \$30,000. As Rev. Hart's house is provided to him by the church, his amount is \$8,000. The Vestry needs to affirm these amounts. Accordingly, on a motion made by Gaylee with second by Phil, this action was approved.

PPP Loan Application

We are contemplating a new application for an additional loan. Current loan amount is \$165,000 and new loan must be at least 25% lower or approximately \$120,000. On a motion made by Gaylee with second by Faith, we should proceed with the application for this additional loan.

2021 Goals

Our vestry consultant, Sara Bailey has stated, or strongly suggested, that the selected goals be presented to and voted upon at the forthcoming Annual Meeting, now scheduled for January 31, 2021. While there was general approval of all three (3) goals there were several areas of semantics that several vestry members desired further clarification and/or elaboration. These included:

- West Louisville is an actual town designation within the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Accordingly, the use of this phrase should be clarified or restated more specifically to the proper area of the City of Louisville. Alternatively, should the "West End" be further geographically identified?
- While there are benchmarks to achieve, there are no "action plans" nor timetables for completion. An implementation plan should be included as part of the document now, as opposed to being the first item addressed by a new Implementation Team to be selected following the vote to move forward with the entire Goal package.

Following this discussion, on a motion made by Gaylee Gillin with second by John Shelby, the Goals document should be presented to the Congregation, as written, for acceptance. The vote was affirmative to continue forward with two vestry members abstaining.

Parochial Report

This report is prepared annually and speaks to the general operations of the church for the previous 12 month period. More specifically this year, information is being collected as to how congregations responded to the Corona virus and its implications. This year Rev. Hart prepared the document and did an outstanding job which was duly noted. On a motion made by Gaylee Gillim with second by John Shelby, this report was approved.

Diocesan Report

This submission is the same as the above with an additional page that speaks to assets, liabilities and insurance coverages. On a motion made by Gaylee Gillim with second by John Shelby this report was approved.

Vestry Stewardship Calls

The committee met last Sunday and confirmed that the list is getting somewhat smaller. Several parishioners went beyond the call of duty as they have committed to make multiple additional calls or e-mail connections. Presently we are at 89% of the goal with \$555,000 pledged to date.

Stewardship Update

Kelly was very excited to report that she is in discussions with a living steward who will remain unnamed, who desires to pay-off the outstanding loan balance of the building expansion and renovation, with a current value just below \$500,000. What an incredible gift this would be by this heartfelt person.

Vestry Committee Liaison Reports

- Building and Grounds – Teri has declined to chair this group in the new year. Nothing else to report.
- Dimensions of Faith – Susanna advised that they met on January 10th and discussed the implications of actual face-to-face meeting vs the newer and currently necessary "ZOOM" format.
- Finance – Presented herein.
- Nominating Committee – To accommodate diocesan canon requirements, a computer process was created within the Church website with vestry nominees included therein and the request for prompt response. Those responding exceeded the minimum votes required. The five (5) Candidates and youth representative are now members of the 2021 Vestry Class.
- Outreach – Food contributions remain very strong with large donations being provided again to Calvary and St. George's churches. The Advent Tree had a nice response with 25 participants contributing appropriate and/or requested items.
- Planned Giving – Will meet again in early February.
- Social Justice – Starting to work on more specific areas of systematic racism with a focus on the judicial system with a program called "Court Watch". They will review actual court proceedings for comparison relating to equality.

- Stewardship – No further report.
- Bylaws – No report.

Wardens' Report –

- Phil Eschels Senior Warden – Reiterated the genuine appreciation to everyone for all the time, talent and work provided to our church.
- Teri McDonald Junior Warden – No further report.

Rector's Report –

Rev. Kirby spoke to the seven (7) items below:

1. Annual Meeting – To be held on January 31st following the service at 11:15 +/- and concluding with the announcement of the 2020 Unsung Hero recognition
2. February Reflection – Phil Eschels stepped forward.
3. Vestry Town Hall – This congregational meeting will occur on January 24th at 11:00 AM immediately following the church service and be conducted via ZOOM format. All are invited to offer comments and questions. Specific questions relating to the following will be directed to said vestry person for response

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| • Ordinance | Phil Eschels |
| • Building & Grounds | Teri McDonald |
| • Finance | TBD |
| • Staffing Updates | Phil Eschels |
| • Visioning Process | Susanne Cramer |
| • Reopening The Church | John Shelby |

4. Vestry Officer Elections – Phil has agreed to serve as Senior Warden again and Gibbs has agreed to be Secretary/Clerk for another year. During the Vestry Meeting following the Annual Meeting a new Junior Warden will need to be elected.
5. Vestry Retreat – This gathering will be held via ZOOM format on February 6th with a time yet to be determined. The purpose is to get to know one another better and review the variety of activities occurring both within the property as well as the community.
6. Reflections on Christmas Liturgies – No comments were brought forward.
7. St. John's Bible Exhibit – Several Vestry members were very complimentary to Benjamin for his work, coordination of the graphic material and establishing the reservation system. At the moment, he did not have an estimate on the number of participants who attended.

Theological Reflection – Rev. Kirby extended great appreciation for the vestry persons and youth representative who have completed their respective term on the vestry and noted all the cultural and social topics discussed at length during this past year. While some might have been more contentious than others, we each respected opinions of others throughout the process. She concluded with a question for returning and to be newly elected vestry members – will we provide strong leadership and direction in reaching out to the congregation and together, work towards accomplishing these three new 2021 goals?

Compline Rev. Hart led us electronically followed by adjournment of the meeting at 8:30 PM.

NOTE: For record purposes, this meeting was held in a voice video-conferencing format (Zoom) in compliance with national regulations established by our federal government during the nationwide COVID-19 epidemic.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gibbs Reese", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Gibbs Reese, Secretary

01.18.2021 Veasy Minutes

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting

February 16, 2021

Vestry Members Present – Sara Ceresa, Faith Cirre, Phil Eschels, Gaylee Gillim, David Niehaus, Troy Petrie, Gibbs Reese, Hannah Savells – (Youth), John Shelby, Bill Shory, Speed Stodghill, Rhody Streeter and Peggy Woolley.

Others Present – Edie Nixon, Treasurer.

Absent – David Holzknickt and Teri McDonald.

Clergy & Staff – The Rev. Kelly Kirby, Rector and the Rev. Benjamin Hart, Director of Congregational Life.

Opening Prayer – Rev. Kirby opened the meeting at 6:15 with the traditional prayer and noted that a quorum was in attendance.

Reading/Reflection – Phil Eschels.

Approval of Minutes - The minutes of the January 19, 2021 meeting were accepted as written.

Financial Report – Edie Nixon provided highlights for each of the following January 31st reports as follows:

Balance Sheet:

- a. Available cash is most important particularly at the first of the year.
- b. Approximately 40% of the cash at month's end is the value of the PPP loan.
- c. While not finalized, every indication is that the current PPP loan will be forgivable.
- d. Anticipate receiving a second PPP loan in the near future with a value equal to the first loan of \$94,600.

Income Statement:

- a. All indications are that the silent donor mentioned last month will make his/her total contribution during the first quarter of this year.
- b. Application will be made for a second PPP loan.

On a motion made by Rhody Streeter with second by Faith Cirre, the financial report was accepted, subject to audit.

Vestry Contact Plan

Vestry members are asked to maintain contact (phone call, note and/or e-mail) with a select quantity of parishioner families a minimum of twice a year concluding prior to the annual fall Every Member Canvass. Individual lists and associated contact information will be provided by Betsy Coomes in the near future. Talking points will also be

included. Discussion items of specific relevance should be brought to the attention of the clergy for offering of prayers, possible visit or personal contact and the like.

Vestry Committee Liaison Reports

- Building and Grounds – Introductory tour with new chair (Speed) scheduled for tomorrow afternoon. Several new items need to be included with the previous “working list” including but not limited to installation of a new directional sign at the intersection of Hubbard’s Lane and Brownsboro Road plus concealment of cables within the sanctuary resulting from the live streaming of services.
- Dimensions of Faith – Next meeting scheduled for 12:00 noon on April 11th.
- Finance – Presented herein.
- Nominating Committee – Will start meeting late summer or early fall.
- Outreach – No report.
- Planned Giving – Recognition of the Stewards of St. Matthew’s will occur later in this year.
- Stewardship – Met this past Sunday and reviewed an outline schedule and sequence of phases to be accomplished. A big question to be answered – will it be via personal contact or virtual contact and the impact of each?
- Vision Implementation Team – Initial meeting scheduled for next week.

Wardens’ Report

- Phil Eschels Senior Warden – No report
- Speed Stodghill Junior Warden – No report but looking forward to working with the existing team plus the possible addition of new members for unique support opportunities.

Rector’s Report

Rev. Kirby spoke to the four (4) items below.

1. Commissioning of the Vestry. With social distancing, how do we accomplish this? Suggestion of updating the photos of the members located outside the parish office and placing same on the church website with appropriate wording. Do it sooner rather than later.

2. Rev. Hart will be commencing his sabbatical on April 6th and concluding same on May 13th. Rest and reflection are encouraged as he continues his important work with the ongoing Collegeville Grant. We are now starting the 4th year of the five year program. We need to continue further development and enrichment of these worthy programs that we have created.

3. Thanked all those who participated in the diocesan required “Safeguarding” educational programs.

3. Where and how are we going to reopen for our regular services? A key seems to be having the county positivity rate for Covid decrease to below 5% for a period of time.

4. Acknowledged Benjamin’s continuing work with the Collegeville Grant organization.

Theological Reflection – Rev. Kirby extended great appreciation for the “retiring” vestry persons.

Compline - Phil Eschels led us electronically followed by adjournment of the meeting at 7:40 PM.

NOTE: For record purposes, this meeting was held in a voice video-conferencing format (Zoom) in compliance with national regulations established by our federal government during the nationwide COVID-19 epidemic.

Respectfully submitted,

Gibbs Reese, Secretary

02.16.2021 Vestry Minutes

St. Matthews Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting

March 16, 2021

Vestry Members Present – Sara Ceresa, Faith Cirre, Phil Eschels, Gaylee Gillim, Teri McDonald, David Niehaus, Troy Petrie, Gibbs Reese, Hannah Savells (Youth), John Shelby, Bill Shory, Speed Stodghill, Rhody Streeter, and Peggy Woolley.

Others Present – Edie Nixon, Treasurer.

Clergy and Staff – The Rev. Kelly Kirby, Rector, and the Rev. Benjamin Hart, Director of Congregational Life.

Opening Prayer – Rev. Kirby opened the meeting at 6:15 with the traditional prayer and noted that a quorum was in attendance.

Reading/Reflection – Troy Petrie gave the reflection based on a recent article in *The Atlantic* on what divides us as people. He mentioned the Dalai Lama Buddhist philosophy about the illusion of self and the African principle of “Ubuntu,” as expressed by Archbishop Tutu.

Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the February 16, 2021 meeting were accepted as written.

Financial Report – Edie Nixon provided highlights for each of the following February 28th reports as follows:

Balance Sheet:

- a. Our operating cash has improved with receipt of our second PPP loan.
- b. The balance on our Stockyards Bank loan is down to \$492,000.

Income Statement:

- a. The \$90,000 received in February pledges reflects one-quarter of the anonymous donor’s pledge.
- b. The year-to-date actual for pledges and plate offerings is \$30,000 over budget. We are \$38,000 positive for net income over expenses.
- c. Bill Shory will research some additional functions for fundraising on our streaming platform.

On a motion by Faith Cirre with second by Phil Eschels, the financial report was accepted, subject to audit.

Reopening Guidelines for In-Person Services

Rev. Kirby explained our modified reopening plans for in-person worship. She stated that Eucharists will begin on March 17 and that reservations are required for “live” Sunday services. Streaming of the 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Sunday services will continue and the next step will be allowing the AA groups back into the building for their meetings. Masks and social distancing are still mandated and clergy will distribute consecrated bread.

Vestry Committee Liaison Reports

- Building and Grounds – Speed Stodghill reported that an updated “to do” list has been distributed to the committee. The “Episcopal Church” welcome sign on Brownsboro Road will be replaced. There is a dead tree in Rev. Hart’s front yard that Bob Ray will remove (at a cost of approximately \$3,000) and an anonymous gift from a living steward of the church will fund the home’s fireplace repair and garage construction. A survey will be needed before the garage project can be undertaken. Finally, the AT&T line in the Memorial Garden was cut once again.

- Dimensions of Faith – There were excellent reviews for Dr. Louis Brogdon, the speaker on March 7. His message of “do some good somewhere” was articulated in a thoughtful manner. There were about 80 attendees on this Zoom gathering, joined by several hundred on the Facebook streaming platform and YouTube channel.
- Nominating Committee – This committee will meet in the fall to begin work.
- Outreach – Faith reported that the committee is planning how to manage their ministries and will begin evaluating funding requests in May.
- Planned Giving – This group will meet on May 3. George Wheeler chairs the committee and Rev. Kirby reported that we have added a new steward.
- Stewardship – David Niehaus reported that the group will meet on May 2.
- Vision Implementation Team – Peggy Woolley stated that the team is reviewing the last five years of the e-Spirit newsletter to get an overview of work done (e.g., outreach) at the church. The team will meet in April.

Wardens' Reports

- Phil Eschels, Senior Warden – Phil feels we have begun to turn the corner from the last twelve months. He noted that we have fully leased all of our rental space.
- Speed Stodghill, Junior Warden – No additional report.

Rector's Report

Rev. Kirby asked the vestry to sign up for the monthly reflections. The following commitments were made:

April – David Holzknrecht	September - Gaylee Gillim
May – John Shelby	October – Peggy Woolley
June – Sara Ceresa	November – Faith Cirre
July – Rhody Streeter	December – Phil Eschels
August – Speed Stodghill	

Rev. Kirby also mentioned that she has hired a ministry coordinator, Julie Mushkin, for a ¾-time position, beginning July 1. Julie will be in charge of Sunday programming and Dimensions of Faith. The job is based on a 26-hour work week. Reverend Kirby will write a job description for the other part-time position of Youth Coordinator, a weekend ministry.

Finally, Rev. Kirby noted that she had changed the scope of the Unsung Hero award and given it to Richard Thompson posthumously for his work at our food pantry. Richard was a member of Bates Memorial.

Theological Reflection – Peggy Woolley spoke to Alex Keyzer's death on his 17th birthday.

Compline – Troy Petrie led us electronically, followed by adjournment of the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

NOTE: For record purposes, this meeting was held in a voice video-conferencing format (Zoom) in compliance with national regulations established by our federal government during the nationwide COVID-19 epidemic.

Respectfully submitted,


Gaylee Gillim

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting

April 20, 2021

Vestry Members Present – Sara Cress, Faith Cline, Phil Eschala, Gaylee Gillim, David Holzmecht, Teri McDonald, David Niehaus, Gibbs Reese, Hannah Savella – (Youth), John Shelby, Bill Shory, Speed Stodghill, Rhody Streeter and Peggy Woolley.

Others Present – Edie Nixon, Treasurer.

Absent – Troy Petrie and Rev. Benjamin Hart, Director of Congregational Life.

Clergy & Staff – The Rev. Kelly Kirby, Rector

Opening Prayer – Rev. Kirby opened the meeting at 8:15 with the traditional prayer and noted that a quorum was in attendance.

Reading/Reflection – David Holzmecht offered these comments based on actions taken in our society several hours before this meeting. In Minneapolis, police officer Derek Chauvin was found guilty of all charges in the death of George Floyd. Certainly, these continue to be incredibly challenging times within our society on many fronts for African Americans, those persons charged with maintaining law and order in these disquieting times and all in between. In reflecting back several thousands of years, examples of being sequestered in various societies were used as an example where ignorance was to blame for deeds of others. Today the question continues as to how we can come together again to respect and support the attributes of all persons while lifting up those less fortunate than ourselves.

Approval of Minutes - The minutes of the March 16, 2021 meeting were accepted as written with a correction that the next meeting date for the Stewardship Committee will be May 2nd and not March 21st as indicated.

Financial Report – Edie Nixon provided highlights for each of the following March 31st reports as follows:

Balance Sheet

- a. Perhaps for the first time on record, we have more operating cash than ever before, this partially due to receipt of the two PPP Loans with a combined value of \$189,200. Additionally, she reported that the first loan has been forgiven and anticipates the second loan will be forgiven in early 2022.
- b. The construction loan, with a current balance of approximately \$483,000, should be paid in full by the end of this month.

Income Statement

- a. Another particularly good month for income as it appears that many members are contributing both pledge dollars and plate offerings earlier than requested. At this point, we are approximately \$39,500 ahead of our projected income.

b. Operating expenses were excellent during the month with the exception of the snowstorm, requiring an expenditure of \$5,400 for clearing of sidewalks, driveways, parking areas and the like.

Endowment Report

As the end of March was the conclusion of the first quarter of the calendar year, a status report of these funds was presented. The invested money for the quarter grew almost \$100,000 for the period to a total value of nearly \$1,300,000. Edie then went into further clarification relating to the various sub-fund accounts and the processes for distribution of funds to support the work of each fund. The first and foremost goal is to not use any of these funds for the operation and maintenance of our facilities and campus. Unless there is a special project and, if so, 75% of the vestry must approve said allocation request.

On a motion made by Rhody Streeter with second by Gayles Gillm, the financial report was accepted, subject to audit.

Outdoor Chapel

A longtime member of the parish, Mr. Bill Brown has approached the Rector about developing an area for outdoor services and is prepared to gift the church \$5,000 towards creation of same. His inspiration has been the chapel at All Saints Conference Center. Lively, pro-active conversation followed. It was agreed that Kelly would make arrangements for a site visit to explore further Bill's thoughts in the presence of herself, Steve Cherry and Gibbs Reese to gather more information and discuss optional sites and the like including furniture, acoustics and ease of access. More to follow.

Vestry Committee Liaison Reports

- **Building and Grounds** – Much has been accomplished since our last report. In no particular order 1), the new directional sign has been installed at the intersection of US 42 (Brownsboro Road) and Hubbard's Lane, 2), several tree stumps have been removed, 3), light fixture bulb replacements in several areas that may require new control boards before actual installation can occur, 4), design underway for installation of small workspace behind pulpit to support the transmission of church services, 5), new camera equipment underway and the like. With regards to the grounds, as the property continues to age, there is a greater need for routine maintenance and clean-up of the landscape. A request will be made for financial assistance to obtain the services of a landscape company to support the efforts of the faithful congregational landscape "team".
- **Dimensions of Faith** – Gayles reported that the group met on April 11TH to discuss future speakers. A goal is to begin having more guest speakers in the fall when hopefully further COVID restrictions will be lifted and these speakers can be comfortably scheduled.
- **Finance** – Presented herein.
- **Nominating Committee** – No report.
- **Outreach** – Will meet again in May. Food deliveries continue on a monthly basis rather than the previously scheduled quarterly basis.
- **Planned Giving** – Scheduled to meet May 3rd.

- Stewardship - Will meet again on May 2nd. There is a need to find a chairperson for this group plus at least several new members. Also, this entity needs to become much more visible within the congregation.
- Vision Implementation Team – Met last week to further review and expand upon the three goals established for the 2021 – 2025 period. Also are documenting all the socially responsible gatherings, events and the like to further clarify the activities and progress made within these areas over the goals of the previous five-year period.

Wardens' Reports

- Senior Warden Phil Eschels. Happy to see that the "doors" are beginning to open further and the corresponding opportunities for more rental income. "Feels Good". Acknowledged the great effort put forth during Easter week. Thoroughly enjoyed the Youth Service.
- Junior Warden Speed Stodghill – Shared Phil's points above. Also pleased with the work being done by the Building & Grounds Committee.

Rector's Report

Rev. Kirby spoke to the three (3) items below.

- 1.) Would like to do a personal congregational poll related to further opening of the church to parishioners for services and the like. Note - Received Vestry approval to do same.
- 2.) Bishop White will officiate the service on May 23rd for a modified service including multiple confirmations. Due to the number of these confirmations, there will be limited seating available. More to come.
- 3.) Work with the Collegeville Grant continues during Benjamin's sabbatical.

Theological Reflection – Rev. Kirby reminded us that during these troubled times we need to continue to have compassion for others.

Compline - David Holzmecht led us electronically followed by adjournment of the meeting at 7:55 PM.

NOTE: For record purposes, this meeting was held in a voice video-conferencing format (Zoom) in compliance with national regulations established by our federal government during the nationwide COVID-19 epidemic.

Respectfully submitted,



Gibbs Reass, Secretary

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting

May 18, 2021

Vestry Members Present – Sara Ceresa, Gaylee Gillim, David Holzknecht, Troy Petrie, Gibbs Reese, Hannah Savells – (Youth), John Shelby, Bill Shory, Speed Stodghill, Rhody Streeter and Peggy Woolley.

Others Present – Edle Nixon, Treasurer

Absent – Faith Cirre, Phil Eschels, Teri McDonald and David Niehaus.

Clergy & Staff – The Rev. Kelly Kirby, Rector and Rev. Benjamin Hart, Director of Congregational Life.

Opening Prayer – Rev. Kirby opened the meeting at 8:20 with the traditional prayer and noted that a quorum was in attendance.

Reading/Reflection – John Shelby spoke about his 40 years of practice in the medical field and those experiences as relating to the current COVID pandemic. While we grieve as the multitude of deaths continue to rise, albeit less frequently at the moment, how thankful we are for the rapid development of a vaccine. In parallel, how grateful we are for the front-line medical workers and staff who provided care and compassion for hours during the tumultuous times of the recent past. All this, along with a personal family matter has caused him to approach life in a different way. Gratitude and gratefulness now define new chapters in life and define what is profoundly important moving forward.

Approval of Minutes - The minutes of the April 18, 2021, meeting were accepted as presented with thanks to the Secretary for his work.

Financial Report – Edle Nixon provided highlights for each of the following April 30 reports as follows:

Balance Sheet:

The PPP loan which was received in April 2020 was forgiven. The amount of \$84,600 was added to the operating cash balance. This helps to increase our cash reserves. At the end of April, the operating cash balance was \$279,809. The Stock Yards loan was paid off in early May.

Income Statement:

The year-to-date income of 262,300 is \$24,000 above budget. This is expected to align with the budget during the summer months. Building maintenance continues to be well below budget. However, Speed Stodghill reported that some major repairs of various HVAC systems are expected in the near future. The month ended with the income over expenses by \$31,479.

On a motion made by Gaylee Gillim with second by John Shelby, the financial reports were accepted, subject to audit.

QuickBooks Administrator

Joanne Coleman is unable to make needed changes to the Church's QuickBooks account because she is not on file as the QuickBooks Administrator. Their files show Bev Wels, a former bookkeeper, as the administrator. The administrator needs to be changed to Joanne Coleman with Edle Nixon as an additional administrator.

On a motion made by Gaylee Gillim with second by Peggy Wooley, Joanne Coleman and Edle Nixon will serve as administrators for this computer program utilized by the Church.

Thank you notes to Ministry Leaders

Rev. Kirby noted that in previous years, members of the vestry reached out to parishioners who have provided personal gifts of time and talent to the parish and requested that the vestry do same at this time. Accordingly, and with clergy assistance, over the next 20+ minutes, each vestry member scribed three to four personal notes to selected parishioners for their faithful service to members of our church community.

Sabbatical Report

During this time period, Rev. Hart focused on the development, implementation and lessons learned relating to Social Enterprises, each of which made money, in turn, to support a social cause. With specific topic defined, he prepared a comparative report of each non-profit and the workings of same. While we did not review the work in detail, the materials were presented in a comparative manner and easy to understand. As the church decides to continue forward with this endeavor, this information will be extremely helpful in creating success.

Vestry Committee Liaison Reports

- 1.) Building and Grounds – Recently considerable evaluation of the specialized lighting within both the Nave and Saints Hall has been underway. Panelboards for the controlling of these fixtures optimally require replacement as there are very few, if any, available components. Further, utilizing a newer bulb source (LED) would provide greater efficiency. This work continues. 2.) The boiler required the replacement of a bladder at \$4,000 and other cooling and heating items may require yet repair and/or replacement of products/controls.
- Dimensions of Faith – The committee was excited to announce that John Phillip Newell will be in our presence the weekend of October 23, 2022. Additionally, they are in conversation with Wendell Berry to make a visit.
- Finance – Presented herein.
- Nominating Committee – No report.
- Outreach – No Report.
- Planned Giving – Met on May 10th. Looking for more ways to remind parishioners to remember the Church in their will. Neville Blakemore will speak

to this during the service on May 30th. Also looking at 1.) making a new brochure and 2) better ways to recognize donors.

- Stewardship – Thank you notes completed this evening.
- Vision Implementation Team – Next meeting scheduled for June 15th.

Wardens' Reports

- Senior Warden Phil Eschels – No report.
- Junior Warden Speed Stodghill – Appreciation to Betsy Coomes for all she does for our parish.

Rector's Report

Rev. Kirby spoke to the seven (7) items below.

- 1.) Bishop White on site earlier today in preparation for the large number of confirmations this Sunday and the desired protocols as relating to current COVID and state recommendations.
- 2.) COVID restrictions will be relaxed very slowly. We can decide when we will not need masks and adjust the social distancing constraints.
- 3.) Results of an informational survey related to the 8:00 services were presented.
- 4.) After review of several alternative sites for outdoor worship, the memorial garden area was determined to be most appropriate. The donated gift will be used for the purchase of seating (benches and/or chairs) placed on new concrete pavers. Following discussion, no objections were expressed. Accordingly, the plan will continue to move forward.
- 5.) Building rentals and existing groups are beginning to return.
- 6.) Locus Grove will be renting Saints Hall for an entire month for their annual book sale.
- 7.) The search continues for a part-time (10 hours weekly) youth minister

Theological Reflection – Rev. Kirby noted that while the “virtual” services have continually improved, with the level of easing COVID restrictions, there is now a much greater desire to move forward and return to being more active as a united parish.

2023 Goals

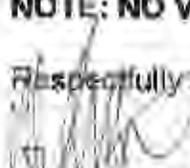
- Vision Implementation Team – See report above..

Compline – John Shelby led us in the Nave followed by adjournment of the meeting at 8:20 PM.

NOTE: For record purposes, this meeting was held live in the Narthex with both masks and social distancing for those desiring so and held in a voice video-conferencing format (Zoom) for the comfort of others.

NOTE: NO VESTRY MEETING IN JUNE.

Respectfully submitted,


Gibbs Reese, Secretary

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting

July 20, 2021

Vestry Members Present – Sara Ceresa, Faith Cirre, Phil Eachels, Gaylee Gillim, David Holzknicht, David Niehaus, Troy Petrie, Gibbs Reese, Hannah Savells – (Youth), Bill Shory, Rhody Streater and Peggy Woolley.

Others Present – Edle Nixon, Treasurer

Absent – John Shelby, Speed Stodghill and Teri McDonald who Kelly announced, has resigned from the Vestry.

Clergy & Staff – The Rev. Kelly Kirby, Rector and The Rev. Benjamin Hart, Director of Congregational Life.

Opening Prayer – Rev. Kirby opened the meeting at 8:20 with the traditional prayer and noted that a quorum was in attendance.

Reading/Reflection – Rhody Streater reached back into his archives and reviewed a writing he presented to the vestry during 2008. In particular, he spoke to the phrase "reaching out as Christ's hands in the world". We, as individuals, have the opportunity to choose Christ or someone/something else. We need to see Christ in every person. We need to be Christ's stewards. If we cannot do this now, when will it happen? Reflecting from 2008, as a church and individually, we can see a multitude of actions completed to fulfill this responsibility. Yet there remain so many challenges ahead.

Approval of Minutes – Ms. Gillim's keen eyes noted a spelling correction within the Building and Grounds report. With said correction noted and corrected, the minutes of the May 15, 2021, meeting were accepted as amended.

Financial Report – Edle Nixon provided highlights for the June 30th second quarter reports as follows:

Balance Sheet:

Edle was pleased to announce that the Stock Yards Bank loan for the most recent building construction and renovations has been paid in full and subsequently no longer appears on the statement. CELEBRATION is in order and gratitude to the anonymous donor. Further, our cash balance, including the \$94,600 PPP loan, hopefully forgivable, currently stands at \$275,341

Income Statement:

Pledge and plate offerings are slightly ahead of anticipated schedule at 50.68% of the projected first six months of revenue at +\$7,643. In summary 1) rental income is starting

to improve, 2) grounds continues above budget mostly still from the winter snow and 3) building maintenance is below budget by \$16,289 for year to date.

Rev. Kirby announced that she is in discussions regarding a Nicholas Eastman Memorial Grant to the church in the amount of \$10,000.

Endowment

Edie cheerfully noted to all that during the 2nd quarter of the year, this fund increased in value by more than \$71,500.

Rev. Kirby then presented two requests for financial support from entities within the diocese, one being an ask from West Louisville Now for \$5,000 as continuing the programs initiated over the last two years and a second from Daughters of the King for \$500 to support the construction of a new labyrinth at All Saints Camp & Conference Center. Following discussion, on a motion made by Peggy Woolley and second by Phil Eschels to fund both requests, the motion passed.

Justice Audit

On behalf of the Vision Implementation Team, Peggy Woolley provided a detailed report of the social justice and outreach activities St. Matthew's has announced in the eSpirit in the last five years. From 2015 thru May 2021, 332 items were identified and subdivided into various types of activities and/or actions. The process was quite consuming both in the research and "identifying" like categories to assemble the wealth of material. Generally, items were determined to be either transformational or transactional. The conversation by all was heartfelt, sincere and "what's next"? What do we do with this information? The VIT will reach out to Sarah Bailey for recommendations and then the Vestry will give direction to the VIT as to how they would like to proceed.

Br. David Vryhof Visitation

Br. Vryhof - SSJE is a monk and friend of parishioner Penny Shaw. The Communities of Calling Grant is bringing him to St. Matthews October 15th for a weekend of teaching and preaching both with small groups and perhaps a few larger groups. He will also present a two-hour session on "How To Listen in Community. The vestry discussed when they would be able to meet with Br. Vryhof during his visit.

Vestry Committee Liaison Reports

- **Building and Grounds** – Another very busy month including but not limited to 1) following some building permit matters, the new garage for the Rectory is under construction, 2) after needing to change contractors, the cable raceways and desk should be completed and installed in September, 3) six new metal benches have been received and are in the process of being installed in proximity to the Memorial Garden sculpture for future prayer services and 4) work on lighting and dimmer boards in the Nave and Saints Hall continues.
- **Dimensions of Faith** – No report. Will be meeting soon.
- **Finance** – Presented herein.
- **Nominating Committee** – Work will begin in September.

- Outreach – No Report.
- Planned Giving – Stewards of St. Matthews recognition will occur during the service on September 13th.
- Stewardship – Meeting this Sunday.
- Vision Implementation Team - Next meeting scheduled for August 10th.

Wardens' Reports

- Senior Warden Phil Eschels – Nothing to report. All going smoothly.

Rector's Report

Rev. Kirby was very pleased to verbally present two new staff members and their associated responsibilities.

- Julie Mushkin will serve as Ministry Coordinator, assisting Kelly as needed, work approximately 30 hours a week and began her duties July 1st.
- Lindsey Serrano will serve as the new Youth Minister, work 8-8 hours weekly and begins later this week. She will also assist in the library as she has extensive experience in this area.

Both ladies previously worked together at Saint Francis School in Goshen.

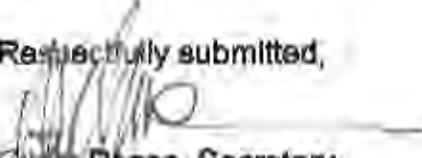
Theological Reflection – Many of the items that Rhody spoke to in 2008 have been responded to within a very positive vein and for that we should be proud as a church community. The "audit" process of discovery and subsequent plan for action and completion has proven to be successful. We have truly "reached out as Christ's hands to the World".

2023 Goals

- Vision Implementation Team – Will report next month.

Compline – Rhody Streeter led us in the Chapel followed by adjournment of the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Chris Reese, Secretary

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting

August 17, 2021

Vestry Members Present – Faith Clire, David Holzknacht, David Nelhaus, Troy Petrie, Gibbs Reese, John Shelby, Bill Shory, Speed Stodghill, and Peggy Woolley.

Others Present – Edie Nixon, Treasurer

Absent – Sara Ceresa, Phil Escheis, Gaylee Gillim, Hannah Savells – (Youth) and Rhody Streeter.

Clergy & Staff – The Rev. Kelly Kirby, Rector and The Rev. Benjamin Hart, Director of Congregational Life.

Opening Prayer – Rev. Kirby opened the meeting at 8:15 with the traditional prayer and noted that a quorum was in attendance.

Reading/Reflection – Speed Stodghill spoke about the passing of his mother, Sue Speed one year ago and the memories of the wonderful and faithful person she was. Her faith seemed to be ever-present through family dedication and commitments to those in the city less fortunate than her family. She seemed to continuously be engaged with the underprivileged in a multitude of ways to fulfill the love of Christ. That devotion passed to her children who today continue that tradition on even a larger and wider scale.

Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the July 20, 2021, meeting were accepted as written.

Financial Report – Edie Nixon provided highlights for each of the following July 31st reports as follows:

Balance Sheet:

The July 31st Balance Sheet was reviewed. There were no notable items.

Income Statement:

July is normally one of the quieter months for income and expenditures. This July was no exception. Year to date giving continues to be above budget which is good for this time of year. Building maintenance is well below budget but, Edie reported that needed maintenance was being conducted which will take that amount over budget for several months. Bill Shory questioned the overall variance and noted that the variance should be a positive \$49,150 instead of a negative \$21,690. Edie agreed and will review the formula with Joanne.

Following discussion, on a motion made by Speed Stodghill and second by Bill Shory the report was accepted, subject to audit.

Diocesan Assessment:

We are in receipt of the request from the Diocese for our contribution to their operating budget for the 2022 calendar year in the amount of \$95,504.00 which is a slight reduction of \$1,097.00 from the current year. Following discussion, on a motion made by Peggy Wooley with second by David Nelhaus, this expenditure within the 2022 calendar year was approved.

2022 Outreach Recommendations

As chair of this Ministry, Faith presented a comprehensive report of the diocesan entities and community agencies served, each with corresponding financial support recommendations, for the 2022 fiscal year. Some twelve (12) entities would share in monetary gifts totaling approximately \$34,500. This value is approximately the same as in 2021 but regrettably \$13,000 less than requests. A schedule was also presented that showed distribution throughout the entire year. On a motion made by Speed Stodghill with second by John Shelby, the report was accepted with recommendation to continue the wonderful work of the committee.

Re-word VIT Goal # 2

This goal reads as follows; "Create a culture of radical welcome and deep connection ~~by transforming the greeter ministry~~". The committee feels this goal should apply to the entire congregation and not be directed solely to the greeter ministry and therefore recommends striking the wording identified above. Following discussion, on a motion made by Faith Cirre with second by David Niehaus for the wording revision, the motion was approved.

Br. David Vryhof Vestry Visit

Br. Vryhof has accepted our invitation and will make his presentation to the Vestry October 15th at 6:00 PM in Saints Hall including dinner prepared by Monks at the Prepung Gomang Center across the street. The gathering, presentation and discussion should last approximately 3 hours.

Vestry Committee Liaison Reports

- Building and Grounds – The focus continues to be resolution of lighting issues in the Nave and Saints Hall. One proposal has been received and awaiting a second one. As Saints Hall has been rented to Ballard HS for their Christmas Pageant production, it is most important that this "income producing space" have totally functional illumination. Another caveat to completion may also be delivery of product once a vendor has been selected. In the meantime, other alternatives are under consideration.
- Dimensions of Faith – Will meet next week.
- Finance – Will meet October 13th.
- Nominating Committee – Will begin work in September.
- Outreach – Met August 8th. See report above.

- Planned Giving – Meets September 13th.
- Stewardship – Met. July 25th. Draft letter to parishioners is in preparation. Aggressive activity to commence in September.
- Vision Implementation Team – Met August 10th. Confirmed recommendation to change wording within Goal #2. Rev. Jason Lewis will be leading a vestry retreat with date to be determined. Included will be discussion of a new survey.

Wardens' Reports

- Junior Warden Speed Stodghill – Nothing else to report.

Rector's Report

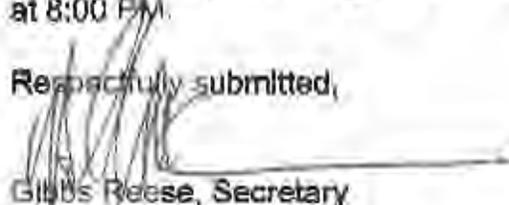
Rev. Kirby spoke to each of the following:

- Staffing – Lindsay Serrano has started her work as the youth minister and familiarizing herself with the Library as Lee Fletcher and Kathy Bowling will be retiring from that ministry at year's end. Additionally, looking for part-time assistance with cleaning the premises during the weekends.
- Fall Programming – Working on a multitude of contingency plans.
- CCI Grant – Application has been submitted with the required documentation and now awaiting response. Hoping for the best.
- Pastoral Study Project Grant – The grant cycle is complete. Rev Kirby continues to receive requests to present the project within the community.
- Diocesan Convention – Scheduled for November 12th and 13th in Paducah. Will need to select three (3) deputies at next month's Vestry Meeting. Currently the plan is to meet in person, depending on Covid restrictions. If necessary, the ZOOM format will be utilized again.
- Bingham Fellows Project – Working with several other city leaders discussing and subsequently recommending solutions dealing with banking for the minority community. Question remains as to whether the project will be accepted for moving forward or not.
- Citywide Book Club – Reading a book on September 16th authored by Rev. Kevin Cosby relating to the great variety of work he has been involved with and accomplished over the past number of years.

Theological Reflection – Rev. Kirby noted that while the "virtual" services have continually improved, with the level of easing COVID restrictions, there is now a much greater desire to move forward and return to being more active as a united parish.

Compline – Speed Stodghill led us in Myll Chapel following adjournment of the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Gibbs Reese, Secretary

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting September 21, 2021

Vestry Members Present - Sara Ceresa, Faith Cirre, Phil Eschels, Gaylee Gillim, David Neihaus, Troy Petrie, Gibbs Reese, John Shelby (phone), Bill Shory, Speed Stodghill and Peggy Woolley,

Others Present – Edie Nixon, Treasurer

Absent – David Holzknecht, Hannah Savells – (Youth) and Rhody Streeter.

Clergy & Staff – The Rev. Kelly Kirby, Rector and The Rev. Benjamin Hart, Director of Congregational Life.

Opening Prayer – Rev. Kirby opened the meeting at 8:15 with the traditional prayer and noted that a quorum was in attendance.

Reading/Reflection – Gaylee Gillim spoke about her pleasure in reading excerpts from the pamphlet *Forward Day by Day*. She noted that based on Episcopal theology, today's date is denoted as St. Matthews Day. The reading speaks to personal sacrifice, giving to others and the care that should be taken when judging others by way of a measuring stick wherein you can measure a person both up and down.

Approval of Minutes – Speed Stodghill requested that the last sentence be rephrased to the following – *That devotion passed to her children who today continue that tradition on even a larger and wider scale the best they can.* On a motion made by Gibbs Reese with second by Gaylee Gillim, the minutes were approved as amended.

Financial Report – Edie Nixon provided highlights for each of the following reports for the month of August as follows:

Balance Sheet:

She happily reported a \$30,000 increase in cash during the month that is a combination of earlier pledge payments and open plate offerings.

Profit & Loss

The revenue for August is extremely high. We are \$60,000 above budget for pledge payments and plate offerings. Building and grounds expenses are now exceeding the budgeted amount which is not unusual for this time of year. She was not sure what the total picture will look like at year's end.

On a motion made by Faith Cirre and second by Peggy Woolley, the report was accepted, subject to audit.

2020 Financial Review

In compliance with diocesan requirements, an annual review of finances and accounting procedures is to be conducted with findings reported to the diocesan Financial Review Committee. This review was conducted by Edie and Joanne at the end of August. It was noted that Joanne continues to do an outstanding job for the parish. Particular attention was paid to transactions greater than \$5,000. Following this review, it is believed that all accounting procedures are in order and being processed properly. There were no recommendations for changing or modifying a "process".

Following general discussion, on a motion made by Phil Eschels and second by Gayles Gillim, the report was accepted as presented.

Diocesan Convention

This annual gathering of representatives from each parish is scheduled to occur the weekend of November 13th utilizing a Zoom format for the second year. Each congregation is entitled to a select number of deputy representatives and in our case, we can elect three (3) deputies, three (3) alternates and one (1) youth for participation therein. Following discussion, these parishioners will serve in the aforementioned roles:

<u>Deputy</u>	<u>Alternate</u>	<u>Youth</u>
Phil Eschels	Sara Ceresa	(None)
Speed Stodghill	Sara Bailey	
Troy Patrie		

On a motion made by Peggy Wooley with second by Bill Shory, the above persons were approved to represent the parish at this convention.

Vestry Committee Liaison Reports

- Building and Grounds – Met last week. All work being done is impacting the budget. Need to get lighting in Saints Hall resolved by the 1st week of December for Ballard High School rental. This "fix" may impact the lighting in the Nave. HVAC work has been completed. New garage is progressing but behind schedule due to material schedules and/or deliveries. Work continues on the sanctuary electronics desk and cable enclosures. Very pleased with the effort to clean up the property. Thanks extended to the Grounds subcommittee for same and new replacement trees anticipated by year end.
- Dimensions of Faith – Met August 30th and subsequently announced that Mr. Steve Crump, who has produced a compelling documentary on racial truth telling, will be coming in February for a presentation and to continue our discussion related to this topic.
- Finance – Will be meeting this month to commence development of the 2022 operating budget.
- Nominating Committee – Looking for two other parishioners to participate in the nomination process for selection of new vestry candidates.
- Outreach – Meeting October 3rd.
- Planned Giving – Met this month and announced that 38 members/families have made commitments for giving. Kelly would like to have a public "thank you" but

due to the pandemic restrictions, this will need to be delayed. Over \$12,500 in bequests has been received to date and is reflected in the financial statements.

- Stewardship – Kelly reported that a representative from each of three families will speak on different Sunday mornings in October about the importance of financially supporting the work and worship that is St. Matthew's Episcopal Church.
- Vision Implementation Team – Will meet on October 12th.

Wardens' Reports

- Senior Warden Phillip Eschels – No report.
- Junior Warden Speed Stodghill – A \$10,00 gift from an individual has been received to support the Kenya Kids at Rongo for upkeep of the orphanage property plus other smaller contributions to be used for a variety of needs.

Rector's Report

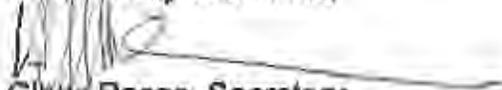
Rev. Kirby spoke to each of the following:

- Pleased with the start of the fall kick-off of the church school year and the effort put forth with our new staff members, plus parishioners with children in the program.
- Received the last check relating to the Collegeville Grant in the amount of \$10,000 with two more installments received in previous years.

Theological Reflection – Rev. Kirby noted that while the "virtual" services have continually improved, with the level of easing COVID restrictions, there is now a much greater desire to move forward and return to being more active as a united parish.

Compline – Gaylee led us in Myl Chapel following adjournment of the meeting at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Gibbs Reese, Secretary

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting

October 19, 2021

Vestry Members Present - Sara Ceresa, Faith Cirre, Phil Eschels, David Holzknecht, David Neihaus, Gibbs Reese, Hannah Savells (Youth), John Shelby, Bill Shory, Rhody Straeter and Peggy Woolley.

Others Present – Edie Nixon, Treasurer

Absent – Gaylee Gillim, Troy Petrie and Speed Stodghill.

Clergy & Staff – The Rev. Kelly Kirby, Rector and The Rev. Benjamin Hart, Director of Congregational Life.

Opening Prayer – Rev. Kirby opened the meeting at 6:15 with the traditional prayer and noted that a quorum was in attendance.

Reading/Reflection – Peggy Woolley was enticed by the comments made by Gaylee last month. We all deserve something, but have we done something to be recognized for same. Her current influence is based on the readings of Richard Rohr talking about the different stages of Christianity and how they changed with place and time. Different iterations occurred with different stages of Christian development. Everything is a gift from GOD, and we are the receivers of that love.

Approval of Minutes – The minutes were approved as written.

Financial Report – Edie Nixon provided highlights for each of the following reports for the month of September as follows:

Balance Sheet:

As we have heard Edie often say, "Cash is King", she reported an increase to \$43,416 in the operating money market fund for the period. Concurrently our accounts payable reduced to 37,564 during the same period.

Profit & Loss

Nothing significant from last month. Beginning to get slightly off budget and will be watching changes carefully.

3rd Quarter Endowment Statement

Little change in value for the period which is very good based on the volatility of the stock market during this quarter. A minor loss of less than \$700.

On a motion made by Bill Shory with second by Phil Eschels the report was accepted, subject to audit.

2022 Proposed Budget

Edie and Joanne prepared a very helpful document wherein they outlined both the income and expenses with specific notations where applicable. Additionally, a spread sheet comparing the amounts for 2021 versus 2022 was provided. Other detailed comparative budgets for Outreach, Capital Expenditures, Restricted Funds, and Endowment expenditures were briefly presented. Edie left lots of time for questions. Further questions after the meeting were also welcome.

Vestry Committee Liaison Reports

- Building and Grounds – Met September 13th. Reviewing concrete repair to stairs between parking lot and entrance drive outside entrance to Saint's Hall. Additional repair to handrail needed. One quote received for concrete work which seems excessive. More proposals will be obtained. Sara has spoken with a St. Matthew's city official about the planting of tree(s) along Massie Avenue. Close coordination with city officials will be necessary.
- Dimensions of Faith – Met October 11th and reminded all that Mr. Steve Crump, who has produced a compelling documentary on racial truth telling, will be coming the evening of February 27th for a presentation and to continue our discussions related to this topic. Additionally, John Philip Newell is coming in the spring to speak.
- Finance – Reported Above.
- Nominating Committee – Meet October 10th for organizational meeting chaired by Gayles with additional Support from John to find 6 new vestrypersons plus a youth representative. From an initial list of 27 possibilities, an initial group of 7 will receive initial invitations with the plan to have a final acceptance list in time for the next vestry meeting.
- Outreach – Meet October 3rd. Have begun collection of clothing and furniture items in anticipation of a new Afgan family arriving in several weeks. Might also be sponsoring a second Afgan family.
- Planned Giving – Meets December 13th.
- Stewardship – Many compliments received relating to the 2022 "Pledge Letter" written by David Nelhaus and sent to all parishioners. Speakers the next two Sundays with follow-up calls to parishioners as may be necessary.
- Vision Implementation Team – Will meet on October 26th.

Wardens' Reports

- Senior Warden Phillip Eschels – Things going very well. Many people doing well.

Rector's Report

Rev. Kirby spoke to each of the following:

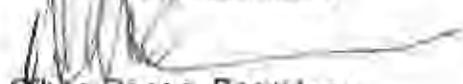
- Overview outline for the Vestry Town Hall Meeting including committee liaison reports and VIT wording changes.
- COVID responses based on continuing recommendations from multiple sources.
- Vestry will meet after the 10:00 service on October 31st to receive their follow-up stewardship call assignments utilizing script prepared by Heather Bell.
- Grateful for team member Charles Frank for all he has done during these difficult times.

- Thanks to Benjamin for leading two funerals, a Habitat House blessing and three Sunday Eucharist's when Kelly was sick.

Theological Reflection – Rev. Kirby noted that while the "virtual" services have continually improved, with the level of easing COVID restrictions, there is now a much greater desire to move forward and return to being more active as a united parish.

Compline – Peggy led us in Meeting Room A followed by adjournment of the meeting at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Gibbs Reese, Secretary

Vestry Minutes for 11-16-2021

Vestry Members Present: Speed Stodghill, David Holzknicht, David Neihaus, John Shelby, Bill Shory, Phil Eschels, Troy Petie, Peggy Woolley, and by Zoom: Rhody Streeter, Faith Cirre, and Sara Ceresa

Others Present: Edie Nixon, Treasurer

Absent: Gibbs Reese and Gaylee Gillim

Clergy and Staff: The Rev. Kelly Kirby, Rector and the Rev. Benjamin Hart, Director of Congregational Life

Opening Prayer: Rev. Kirby recognized that there was a quorum present and opened with prayer

Reflection and Reading: Faith Cirre read "The Road Not Taken" and shared with the group that she is in a life transition and traveling down a path not of her choosing because she has been diagnosed with a blood cancer. She experienced "mental clouds" during Covid, and now takes treatment everyday. She is struggling with fatigue, but she is on the road and glad to have us as her buddies on the path.

Corrections and Approval of the Minutes: There were two corrections. Peggy Woolley asked that the second sentence of the notes on her reflection be changed to read "Rather than deserving things in life, none of us deserves what we have been given." Gaylee Gillim corrected the spelling of "Afgan" to "Afghan."

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes were approved as corrected.

Financial Report: Edie Nixon shared the financial report. The second PPP loan has been forgiven, there was a nice cash balance, and nothing in the long term liabilities. She expressed pleasure with the giving through both pledged and plate offerings. We are over budget in Maintenance and expect Grounds to also be over budget.

LG&E cut down part of a tree, which will save us money.

Rhody Streeter moved and Bill Shory seconded that the report be approved pending audit. The motion passed unanimously.

Stewardship Update: Rev. Kirby presented a report on the Pledge Statistics. Our goal is \$665,000 and as of 11-16-2021 we were at \$650,782 or 97.86% of the goal. She reviewed a breakdown of the responses and stated that she was very pleased. Parishioners had returned pledge cards and responded to vestry calls much more quickly than in many years. The trend in Episcopal churches is that big churches are getting bigger, and small churches are getting

smaller, or dying. St. Matt's seems to have been exceptional in the response to Covid issues because members were determined to stay connected and found ways to make things happen, like revamping the Food Pantry to allow it to continue. Pledges have done very well at this point and there are more that are expected to come in after the first of the year.

2022 Budget: There were no questions or discussion about the budget after its presentation at the October meeting. Phil Eschels moved and John Shelby seconded a motion to adopt the 2022 proposed budget. The motion passed unanimously.

Convention Summary: Troy Petrie stated that the convention was much drier and less exciting than some years since it was held via Zoom. There were no resolutions presented. Elections were held. The Diocesan budget was passed.

Next year the convention will be held at the Cathedral

Vestry Committee Liaison Reports: The Building and Grounds report was based on the minutes from their meeting on 11-15-2021. The comment was made that the streaming capabilities that we were able to use had a big influence on pledges. We received pledges from some from out of town who are attending online.

There are big expenditures anticipated due to HVAC work to be done. Speed Stodghill moved to accept the attachments presented and David Holz knecht seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

Kelly reported that we will exceed the Buildings and Grounds budget and asked for approval for an additional \$10,000 in expenses by the end of the year. If bills come in to exceed that \$10,000, the vestry will be consulted again. Speed Stodghill moved and Bill Shory seconded a motion to fund the pre-approved excess expenditures of \$10,000 over the annual Building Maintenance budget. The motion was passed unanimously.

Nominating Committee: John Shelby reported that the committee met four times to consider 26 individuals who had been vetted plus 2 volunteers. As of this meeting 5 adults had agreed to run: Diane Clark, Kevin Clark, Dave Johansen, Robin Garr, and LaVonne Fingerson (for the 1 year term ending in 2023.) One more adult is needed to commit for a 3 year term. Sophie Kirby had been nominated by Hannah Savells to take her place as the youth representative. Rev. Kirby pointed out a potential conflict. Our by-laws state that no family of staff should serve on the Vestry. John Shelby moved and Rhody Streeter seconded a motion to make an exception to the by-laws for Sophie to be able to serve. There was much discussion about the pros and cons of that action. At that point David Neihaus moved that the motion be tabled and Phil Eschels seconded. The motion was passed unanimously. Rev. Kirby will provide the nominating committee with a list of eligible youth to be considered for the Youth position.

Vision Implementation Team: Peggy Woolley reported.

Goal #1 - A survey has been developed to provide data on ways that our members have been engaged in social justice work in recent years. Melissa Klassen will lead a small committee to review the audit and the survey to help discern next steps and to begin to narrow our focus as a church. These results will be considered by the end of November and early December. Melissa will report on Kentucky Interfaith Power and Light at the next committee meeting on Dec. 8.

Goal #2 - Sara is developing a Hospitality/ Welcome retreat for Vestry and staff for a day in January or February.

Goal #3 - Benjamin is beginning to collect recommendations for community talents to present skills classes as the program is expanded into its third year.

Outreach: Faith reported that more than 100 articles of clothing had been collected for the Afghan families that we are helping, one of which has already moved in. The Advent Tree is being developed and will provide gifts for immigrants, including many from Cuba.

Wardens' Report: Phil Eschels commented on how hard the Vestry had worked during the past year and that it was unusual not to have had conflicts. He said that the Lord is working through us and for us, and that it is important to take note of what is good in the midst of what is not so good. Speed had no additional report.

Rector's Report: Kelly reviewed the results of the survey taken by the Collegeville Institute, in which 45 respondents participated. The results were very favorable with the parish deemed to be in the most positive category of an integrated one.

Kelly raised the question of how to deal with 3 meetings scheduled for Vestry in February. It was decided to hold a retreat on Saturday only on February 5, to cancel the February Vestry meeting, and to meet with Bro. Vryhof on February 18 from 6:00-8:30.

Theological Reflection: We feel the Holy Spirit working in our peaceful and engaged meetings as we move closer to our mission and goals.

Compline: Faith led us in the Meeting Room and then the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Woolley, substituting for the venerable Gibbs Reese

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting

December 21, 2021

Vestry Members Present - Sara Ceresa, Faith Cirra, Phil Eschels, Gaylee Gillim, David Holzknecht, David Neihaus, Troy Petrie, Gibbs Reese, Hannah Savells (Youth), John Shelby, Rhody Streeter, Speed Stodghill and Peggy Woolley.

Others Present – Edie Nixon, Treasurer

Absent – Bill Shory

Clergy & Staff – The Rev. Kelly Kirby, Rector and The Rev. Benjamin Hart, Director of Congregational Life.

Opening Prayer – Rev. Kirby opened the meeting at 6:15 with the traditional prayer and noted that a quorum was in attendance.

Reading/Reflection – Phil Eschels spoke about a writing from former Presiding Bishop Katherine Jefferts Schori that seems to speak to our life and society today. In her words "The world seems like a miserable and tragic mess this year...". While stated some years ago, it still seems like our society and world continue to remain a mess. The alphas and omegas remain stronger than ever with no collegial community in sight. In a season of waiting for the Christ child, we must find patience and understanding, two key components for moving forward collegially together. Key responsive words today become patience and endurance. In this season of patience and in community with one another, what are we waiting for at St. Matthew's?

Approval of Minutes – The minutes of the November meeting were approved as written.

Financial Report – Edie Nixon provided highlights for each of the following reports for the month of November as follows:

Balance Sheet:

She reported that there was nothing extraordinary to report on the Balance Sheet.

Profit & Loss

She was most pleased to report that pledged income and plate offerings continue to exceed the year-to-date budget. This portion of the income totals \$625,000 versus the projected budget of \$584,000. Total income is exceeding budget by \$41,000. On the expense side, both Building Maintenance and Grounds are somewhat over budget but within anticipated amounts. She believes we are in excellent financial condition and was very complimentary to the vestry for its leadership and work during this challenging

year. On a motion made by Peggy Woolley with second by Phil Eschels, the report was accepted, subject to audit.

Nominating Committee

The committee was composed of outgoing vestry members Gaylee Gillin (Chair), John Shelby (Secretary), Faith Cline, Gibbs Reese, Hannah Savalls (youth representative) and two parishioner members at large, Bob Clark and Mike Riskey. Vacancies for the new incoming class of 2022 include the remaining one-year term of Teri McDonald, which expires in January 2023, as well as four (4) new three-year terms of the adult members. The youth representative serves a one-year term.

The committee unanimously approved the following slate of adults and youth. They recommend these individuals for approval by the vestry: Diane Clark, Kevin Clark, LaVonne Fingerson (one year term), Robin Garr, Dave Johansen, Phil Poore and both Lauren and sister Julia Ceresa (shared) for the youth position. On a motion made by Gibbs Reese with second by John Shelby, these persons will be presented to the congregation at the forthcoming annual meeting for acceptance. Motion carried.

Vestry Committee Liaison Reports

- Building and Grounds – Met in October. During a regular inspection by our building maintenance company, they discovered that a hot water system recirculating pump serving the kitchen area needs repair or replacement. A new pump will be installed at an approximate cost of \$4,914. Authorization was granted to proceed accordingly.
- Dimensions of Faith – Met December 2nd and reminded all that Mr. Steve Crump, who has produced a compelling documentary on racial truth telling, will be coming the evening of February 27th for a presentation to continue our discussions related to this topic. Additionally, Br. David Wryhof will be with us the weekend of February 18th for two sessions and John Philip Newell is coming in the fall to speak.
- Finance – Reported above. Meets again January 12th.
- Nominating Committee – See above.
- Outreach – Meets January 16th. An application has been submitted to sponsor another refugee family with approval anticipated next month.
- Planned Giving – Met December 13th. Focus was on finding additional sources to raise revenue including neighbors who utilize our church property by way of letters, discreet signage with collection boxes and the like.
- Stewardship – Finished meeting for the year.
- Vision Implementation Team – Met December 8th. . Peggy advised that there was a very small response to the survey prepared and distributed by Benjamin. Melissa will review the responses and bring forth suggestions as what to do with the survey results. Will potentially join another group Interfaith Power and Light to potentially join. More information needed. Also looking at another group Sacred Ground project to our community and possibly invite other Episcopal congregations to join. It was also noted that we are in our 4th year with the Collegeville project.

Wardens' Reports

- Senior Warden Phillip Eschels – Phil Eschels Nothing to report. Merry Christmas.
Junior Warden Speed Stodghill – See report above.

Rector's Report

Rev. Kirby spoke to each of the following:

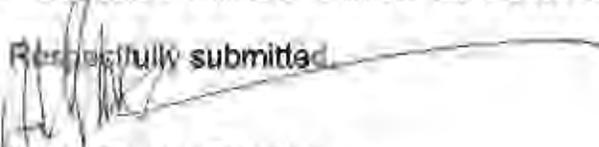
- New Staff – Crystal Tolbert on weekends only will provide housekeeping type services and assist with the Sunday morning Nursery classroom(s).
- New Staff – Dr. Maggie Owens – Interim Director of Music. Previously worked at St. Matthew's for about 5 years. Previous work within the Lutheran church. Has two young children who will use the nursery. She will direct the choir but may be only minimally involved with playing the organ. Will start in mid-January following Derrick's departure.

Compliments were shared by vestry members for the work and coordination Kelly has accomplished during the new staffing changes and coordination with this group of persons.

Theological Reflection – With the increase of the Omicron Variant of the COVID disease, Kelly is encouraging parishioners to return to virtual worship or attend the 8:00 AM or 5:00 PM service.

Compline – Phil led us in the Nave followed by adjournment of the meeting at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Gibbs Reese, Secretary