

## St. Mary's Episcopal Church

### Vestry Meeting

26 April 2016

Final (Approved at 5.31.16 Vestry Meeting)

**In Attendance:** Todd Balfourt, Joe Ciliberti, Elizabeth Farrara, John Funston, Sally Hastings, Lenore Hubbard, Pam Lanier, Jim Menendez, Kathy Pignataro, Brendan Rogan, Father Todd, Father Steve, David Earle, Charlie Lippincott, Melissa Lewis, Trina Perna, and Tom Baker (Chair of Capital Campaign Task Force)

**Absent:** Al Krueger and Sue Riddell

**Opening Reflections and Prayer, Father Todd:** The Vestry read aloud verses 1-12 and 16-21 from Luke Chapter 10. Here, the New Testament records Jesus' selection of 36 pairs of people to act as his vanguard for every town and place where he and his disciples were about to travel. They were told to go out as "lambs among wolves" without any provisions of any kind and instructed to offer the peace of the Lord, heal the sick, and tell them "the kingdom of God has come near to you". These verses are an illustration that in modern times as well as old, good strategic work is required to prepare people for what is about to come.

**Vestry Minutes from 22 March 2016 (v.1)** – A motion by John F. to approve the minutes, seconded by Sally H. was passed by a vote of general acclaim.

**Capital Campaign Task Force– Tom Baker** (Chair) reported to the Vestry that a task force has been assembled to work on the chronic underfunding of St. Mary's Reserve and Campus Repair funds. The Task Force is comprised of Tom Baker (Chair), Alec Connolly, Kasia D'Auria, Dale Hudson, and Jennifer Lovett. Tom does not recommend combining this capital campaign with the annual fall pledge campaign. Rather, raise funds at the same time stained glass window and foundation work is being done on the church. Hope to be done by end of October 2016. Working on complete list of projects that needs to be funded. Letter will be sent out to entire congregation.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Facilities - Todd Balfourt:** Written report distributed prior to the meeting. Highlighted items are as follows:

- **Contracts have been awarded for stained glass window replacement and church foundation repairs.** Window removal starts 5/6/16. Windows will be repaired off-site and reinstalled after repairs to church foundation are complete. Insurance Company has approved both projects and is supporting them financially (less deductible). Donors to Window Project will still be recognized via memorial plaque.
- **Pittenger Center** roof has been repaired and contract awarded to refinish large wooden western doors.

**Traditional Worship Service - Pam Lanier:** Written report distributed at meeting. Highlights include:

- In the Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 St. Mary's choir sang in eleven on-campus special events, in addition to singing at the Traditional services on Sundays.
- Choir has been invited to join the **American Choral Directors Association**.
- Will be raising funds to refurbish the hand bells and children's choir robes.
- **Mary's Kitchen: Bob Schneider** fractured two vertebrae in his back recently and will be unable to cook for some time to come. Fr. Steve is filling in. The front office is working with volunteers to staff future Wednesday meals. Additional volunteers are needed to help with this vital community ministry.

**Parish Administrator's Report, Melissa Lewis:** Written report distributed prior to the meeting. Highlighted items are as follows:

- Total **attendance at Easter services** was 1234. A 12+% increase over 2015.
- **2016 Pledges now total over \$807K** from 316 families, including 54 new.
- Those on the Vestry using AOL please ask Melissa to forward your emails to the Vestry for you to ensure complete distribution to the Vestry.
- Attended **Episcopal Communications conference** in Portland, OR.

**People's Warden's Report, Kathy Pignataro:** Written report distributed prior to the meeting. Highlighted items are as follows:

- Attended the "Conversation with the Bishop on April 9<sup>th</sup>". Bishop Eaton has asked for all of us to complete the **Landscape Survey** (see link in 3/18/16 email from St. Mary's to congregation; Subject: Conversation with the Bishop).
- Jim M. volunteered to help Kathy with a **St. Mary's T-Shirt campaign**.
- Fr. Steve would like St. Mary's to **invite Bishop Peter's wife, Kate Eaton**, to hold a concert here.

**Rector's Warden's Report, Lenore Hubbard:** Written report distributed at meeting.

- Whitney Kuniholm, author of "The Essential Jesus Guide", spearheaded an excellent **Parish Retreat** and offered good insights to help us meet God in our daily lives.
- **Conversation with Bishop Peter** – Four from St. Mary's in attendance. Bishop's approach is that the Diocese should be "run from bottom up, rather than top down". One of six "Conversations with the Bishop" conferences he's held. Please complete the **Landscape Survey** (see link info under Kathy P's report).

**Assistant for Pastoral Care, Father Steve:** Verbal report given at meeting.

- Experienced **God-incidence** during recent hospital visit to parishioners when Fr. Steve was able to detect onset of stroke in person he was visiting and get immediate help.
- Meeting with **Mary's kitchen** volunteers to create a circular menu, which will repeat every six weeks. Requires teams of four. Volunteers needed. Meal on 4/27 will be dedicated to Cannon Hardman. Expecting approximately 150-160 to attend. Note: Bob Schneider is now home.
- **Tuesday Bible Study** will be studying the Alpha course material. Meetings start at 10am and are held in Classrooms 1&2 in the Pittenger Center (15-week program). Started 4/26/16.

**Rector's Report, Father Todd:** Written report distributed prior to the meeting. Highlighted items are as follows:

- **Spring Convocation** was held at St. Mark's in Palm Beach Gardens and attended by Fr. Todd, Peter Pignataro, and Charlie Lippincott (as acting member of diocesan Finance Committee). Charlie L. presented first draft of the 2017 diocesan budget (great job, Charlie).
- **Bishop James Otley** will be giving the 11 o'clock traditional service sermon this Sunday (5/1/16), and commissioning **St. Mary's first Verger, Darrel Lester**.
- Florida's volunteer death row chaplain, **Dale Recinella**, will visit St. Mary's on May 22<sup>nd</sup> and will speak at all three traditional services (Author of "Now I Walk on Death Row"). Mr. Recinella will also speak at the St. Mary's "**Law Day**" **luncheon** for local attorneys, after the 11 o'clock service. Topic: "Is it possible to be a Christian and a Lawyer?"
- Mark your calendars: **Christian's ordination will be held on Saturday 12/17/16** and conducted by our Bishop Peter Eaton. Until then Christian will be a Deacon and unable to give Eucharist and other duties limited to priests.

**Financial Report, Charlie Lippincott:** Written summary distributed at meeting (full report to follow soon). Highlights include:

- No regular financial reports due to recent April 18<sup>th</sup> tax deadline. However, it should be noted that **St. Mary's Cash account is well stocked** by virtue of insurance receipts, in anticipation of stain glass window and foundation work.
- **Easter donations** to Operating Account were about \$2K above expectation, but plate still an issue.
- Please note, in order to better protect the computer equipment used at the Contemporary Service, **additional security camera(s) will be installed in the Pittenger Center**. The Facilities committee has approved use of up to \$1500 for this purpose. Note: This expenditure is within the committee's prerogative to expend and does not require Vestry approval.
- A motion made by John F. to approve the Financial Report, seconded by Pam L., was passed by a vote of general acclaim.

### **New Business**

Alexis Stuckey and the youth mission trip participants are hosting a fundraiser to support their June mission trip to Arlington, Texas. "**A Taste of St. Mary's**" will be held Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm in the courtyard. Contact Alexis for more information.

### **Old Business**

St. Mary's has hosted a **Parish Picnic** for the past 2-years in May. In 2016, the May calendar includes "Taste of St. Mary's" and Capital Campaign project. Those interested in spear heading a parish picnic should continue conversation on-line to consolidate support.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was passed unanimously at 7:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Trina Perna, Clerk