

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting
26 May 2015**

FINAL - (Approved with corrections on 8/25/15)

In Attendance: John Funston, Sally Hastings, Lenore Hubbard, Al Krueger, Pam Lanier, Jim Menendez, Tom Morris, Nick Pasken, Peter Pignataro, Sue Riddell, Harriet Stone, Father Todd, Father Ian, Charlie Lippincott, Melissa Lewis, and Trina Perna

Absent: Todd Balfourt, David Earle, and Father Steve

Opening Reflections and Prayer, Father Ian: The Vestry read together Luke 12, verses 13-21, "The Parable of the Rich Fool". In these verses, Jesus is asked both to divide an inheritance between brothers and judge the plans of a rich man who wants to prepare for his future (by filling large storage facilities with worldly goods). Jesus' response to the rich man is "You fool!"

Be on your guard against all kinds of greed. Storing up goods on earth does not assure you a worry free life. There is nothing wrong with being rich, but collecting physical goods and thinking only of one's-self, is foolish and achieves only temporary wealth at best. Remember, you can't take it with you. This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich in their lives with God. Store up those things that can be associated with God, and then you won't have to worry about your stuff, worry about your life, because God knows the purpose of all our lives.

Closing Prayer: Dear God, Help us to seek you. Give us wisdom to be good stewards of what you have given us. You are the center of who we are.

Minutes, 28 April 2015 (v.2): Motion was made by Peter Pignataro and seconded by Harriet Stone to approve version two (v.2) of the minutes from the April 28th meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Sally Hastings, Youth and Children's Ministry – Written report distributed prior to the meeting. **The number of children and youth St. Mary's serves, continues to grow at a rapid pace.**

	December 2014	May 2015
3-4-5 program (ages 3 to 11)	21	55
R.O.C.K (youth to 12 th grade)	<u>+61</u>	<u>+ 65</u>
Total(s)	82	120

Youth are a mark of growth in the church, and in that measure we are growing. The ROCK (young adults) has over 60 kids enrolled – two thirds from St. Mary's or another church, the balance having no church at all. Essentially, the kids have been growing their own ministry by bringing non-church friends. However there are still shortages. Grants received from Mary's Closet for basketball hoop, TV, DVD's and other technology. Kelly needs more Bible School volunteers, especially this summer and in the fall.

What to ask ourselves: Where are the parents when their children are participating in activities at St. Mary's? How do we get the kids to get their folks to come? Kelly is trying to get a life group to meet while the kids are in Sunday school. Alexis is working with Father Todd to get more help on Sunday night ROCK functions.

June Mission trip to Tennessee is the next item on the youth/ROCK agenda. Still short some money (approx. \$4K at time of Sally's report).

Al Krueger, Caring Ministry – Written report distributed prior to the meeting. Last luncheon, held May 14th, went very well. Speaker was Dr. Leach (Chiropractor). Lecture series done for summer until September when the Salvation Army will present (presentations given on second Wednesday of each month; lunch is provided). Would like to increase attendance at the luncheons. Eucharistic visitors are doing well also. Healing Center beginning to gain traction. Note: Meals-on-Wheels is looking for volunteers from Mary's Kitchen to deliver Wednesday evening meals to nearby residents. Need 4-5 volunteers (one per week) for this duty.

John Funston, Stewardship and e-Giving – Written report distributed at the meeting. Stewardship is not about money, or fund raising. Being a good steward means giving of your time and talents as well. All we have comes from God, and is ours to use for only a limited period of time. We are all charged with learning how to be good stewards of our god-given talents in this world. Stewardship can be fun! Have had two meetings this spring with a small core group. Expanding group to include Finance (Treasurer), Marketing (Susan Murphy), and Parents' perspective (still looking for a younger mom to fill this last role). Want to rebrand, with a standing committee that addresses use of St. Mary's time, talent, and treasure, including increase of communication with the parish.

E Giving at St. Mary's is expanding beyond PayPal (fees = 2.2% + 30c per transaction) to include including use of "Faith Street" (avg. fees = 1.5% + 30c) and, i-Pad "kiosk" at church.

Resolution made by John Funston and seconded by Sue Riddell, as follows:

"Therefore be it resolved that the Stewardship Committee develop a multistep plan to promote e-giving for implementation for the 2016 St. Mary's Church Budget and Stewardship Campaign."

Roll call vote requested. Voting yes were John Funston, Sally Hastings, Lenore Hubbard, Al Krueger, Pam Lanier, Jim Menendez, Tom Morris, Nick Pasken, Peter Pignataro, Sue Riddell, and Harriet Stone. Voting 'no' – none. Absent and unable to vote - Todd Balfourt. Motion passed.

Ministry Minute Reminders:

- **31st May – Todd Balfourt, Stain Glass Window Repairs and Parking Lot Completion**
- **August – John Funston, Communications**

Please coordinate who will be presenting at what service(s) with Fr. Todd

Parish Administrator's Report, Melissa Lewis: Written report distributed prior to the meeting. Copies of licensing and insurance documentation of therapists working in the Healing Center will be kept on file in the office. Additionally, St. Mary's will be added as "additional insured" on all therapists' policies. Martin Health System has been using Smith Hall quite a bit and has paid to add wireless Internet service to this area (thank you MHS!). Rector's Discretionary Fund was reviewed by Harriet and found to be in order. Do-It-Yourself (DIY) Mission will be headed by Bob Pearson and held on October 3rd. More information to come.

People's Warden's Report, Nick Pasken: Verbal report given at meeting. Church Picnic will be held Sunday, May 31st (BYO drink and side dish). Thanks to all who are helping with coordination. Looking forward to seeing you this weekend.

Rector's Warden's Report, Harriet Stone: Written report distributed prior to the meeting.

Vestry Nominating Committee -Keep your eyes open and start thinking about good people to replace outgoing vestry members.

Madagascar Luncheon – Thanks to Barbara Godfrey, Diane Kimes and Suzanne Pearson for their help in making this a success.

"Support your local church" Mission- There are items on our campus that need attention - from power washing to painting, to learning how to do minor repairs. Look for a "Do It Yourself" presentation to be given by Bob Pearson in the fall. Repair Mission to be held 9/26 or 10/3/15.

Summer Schedule – No Vestry meetings in June and July. Meet on August 25th.

Gift Recognition Program – Brass plaques to recognize those who have made lasting donations to St. Mary's have been designed (sketch circulated at meeting). Plaques will be installed on pillars facing the courtyard. Harriet Stone moved to take up to \$10K out of the reserve fund to pay for two plaques. Motion seconded by Lenore Hubbard and passed unanimously by the vestry.

Rector's Discretionary Fund – The Rector's Warden, Harriet Stone reviewed the funds expenditures and found them all to be done for charitable purposes and therefore issued in accordance with his covenants. Similar review will be done on an annual basis.

Assistant Rector's Report, Father Ian: Written report distributed prior to the meeting.

Preaching new summer series on First and Second Samuel at CFW service (13 weeks).

Starting new Life Group this with his wife Nikki. Focus Ephesians' study on marriage.

Alpha will be restarting this fall

Summer Schedule: Will be here most of the summer with exception of the first week of August (after conclusion of Vacation Bible School).

Rector's Report, Father Todd: Written report distributed prior to the meeting.

Summer Schedule: Will be gone for a part of July
Martin County School district honors St. Mary's – Hooray for our outreach crew!!
St. Mary's was nominated by JD Parker Elementary as "Business Partner of the Year" due to our involvement in the Backpack Buddy program. St. Mary's went on to win the category for Martin County. For more information, go to http://www.martinschools.org/files/EFDct/7e1e9cfef786398e3745a49013852ec4/Volunteers_of_the_Year_-_post-event.pdf

A Verger at St. Mary's – Darrell Lester (choir member) has agreed to attend a nine-month training program to become St. Mary's first Verger (will help with training new lay 'recruits' to help with services, and execution of services (similar to Master of Ceremonies).

Expansion of missions at St. Mary's – as we go out in the world we not only change the people with whom we interact, but ourselves as well. Being out there and involved changes us. It is wonderful to see the mission aspect of Christianity growing at St. Mary's. Hope to develop lasting partnerships rather than one-off projects (example: Madagascar, Haiti, and possibly Cuba). Ugandan coffee provided at coffee hour available for purchase – helps to support Ugandan coffee workers and St. Mary's mission initiatives.

Growth and Decline - Please read article Fr. Todd sent out with this report (ref: email sent approx. 5/25/15, Christ Fellowship in Martin and St. Lucie Counties)

At 8:00 pm John Funston moved to extend meeting 30 minutes, seconded by Harriet Stone. Motion passed.

25th August meeting – Will include focus on results of SMART goals & Spiritual/Reveal surveys.

New Bishop's Consecration - no discussion

Financial Report, Charlie Lippincott: written report distributed prior to the meeting.

2015 Budget Status – Charlie is fairly comfortable with pledge collection results. Plate (collections) is still an area of concern - might not make the 2015 budget target. Need \$6K for trimming of campus trees (not part of 2015 funding). Charlie will start playing with draft 2016 budget over the summer.

2016 Diocesan Assessment- Up approximately \$4K due to budgeted expenses associated with transition to new Bishop.

New Business
Old Business

At 8:10 pm meeting adjourned.

FYI – In August, Sue Riddell will be reporting on Stewardship and Jim Menendez will be reporting on Contemporary Worship Service

Note: Vestry minutes represent the highlights of meeting discussions and/or reports. Full reports should be distributed electronically prior to meeting (vestry@stmarys-stuart.org).