

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
VESTRY MEETING  
MINUTES  
February 25, 2023

**Present:** Senior Warden-Marlo Pratt, Junior Warden-George LeBlanc, Treasurer-David Brierley, Clerk-Mattie Gustafson, Rita Verespy, Anne Wood, Richard Updegrove, Alex Simmons, John Corbishley, and the Rev. Jennifer Pedrick.

**Absent:** Lee Ferreira, Cory Thurston Lallo, and Lauren Lema

**Music Transition – Jennifer**

The fact the Michael Templeton, our Pastoral Musician, is leaving, has now been made public. His last Sunday will be April 16, 2023.

- David Warfield will play organ and lead the choir from April 23<sup>rd</sup> until May 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Flo Oliveira will play piano and lead the choir while we are outdoors – June 4<sup>th</sup> until October 4<sup>th</sup> – our last Sunday outdoors.
- David will then take over until the end of the year.
- A celebration will be held at the Rectory for Michael, the Choir and other musicians on March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- The Parish will host a celebration for Michael on April 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Jennifer is planning to form a committee to look ahead to 2024 and determine where we are going with our music program.

**Coffee and Conversation – Jennifer**

The public announcement of the name of our new Associate Rector will be made on Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, after the worship service. On March 19<sup>th</sup> we will hold a Coffee and Conversation to provide a platform for parishioners to react to the many transitions that have happened and to envision where St. Mary's is going. Jason DeFalco has agreed to facilitate the conversation.

The purpose of this Coffee and Conversation is “holy community building.” Some possible questions are

- What has it meant to you to have been here for the past three, difficult years?
- Who needs what you have found here?
- What is it you need?

Jennifer will work with Jason to further refine and direct these questions. The questions should be open-ended, with listening our goal.

Anne asked what we could do to insure “quiet folks” and folks that were not there could still have a voice. We need to make it clear that members should feel free to talk to or email any Vestry members. Email contact information appears on our Website (My St. Mary's – Parish Leadership) for the Executive Committee only. We will add a sentence to the website that says “If

you want to contact any Vestry member, please get in touch with Karen, Parish Administrator, for their contact information. (As a matter of policy, she will only give this information out to Parish members.)

Alex Simmons asked about a new, pictorial Parish Directory and new nametags – for those who have lost their tags and for new folks. Rita will contact Pauline Davis, as head of Pastoral Care, to look into both of these actions.

### **Parochial Report – Jennifer**

Jennifer made a motion, seconded by Rick U., that the Vestry approve the Parochial Report for 2022, as written. The motion passed.

### **Invite, Welcome, Connect – Mattie G.**

The IWC Committee had two accomplishments to report

1. Signs that say Parking for Families with Young Children have been installed in both upper and lower parking lots.
2. Moving forward on starting a “Sunday School,” Jason DeFalco has agreed to lead this effort, and one more person has volunteered to teach. Two others will be asked if they are interested. The first planning meeting of this group will be February 26. An additional Focus Group has been postponed until after the Sunday School has started, so that parents will be able to comment on how it is (or is not?) meeting their expectations.

### **IRS Application for 501c3 – Rita V.**

Rita reported that we would really have to establish an entirely separate foundation in order for this to work. Rick added that Chris B. (our accountant) was not in favor of this effort, saying there were too many requirements and might result in a loss of control. Jennifer said that Ron M. was concerned that we would need grant monies to help maintain the historic church and this would be one way to make seeking grants easier and more fruitful. It was decided that Rita, Rick, Chris and Ron would meet to discuss pros and cons. Rita will set up the meeting.

### **Junior Warden Report – George L.**

- In keeping with our focus on Creation Care, St. Mary’s is trying to do as much as possible to reduce our carbon footprint. We have already erected 1 solar lamp in the lower parking lot and are looking into trying out 3 or 4 more in the east parking lot. Also, there are 4 short light poles (lighting up pathways and such) that are not working. We are hoping to convert these lights to solar.
- Lightning rods are up!
- A/C is scheduled to be installed in Gibbs House (Sea Rose) in April.
- Jon will be working on repairs on the Churchyard lawn.

### **Consent Agenda**

Jennifer explained what the Consent Agenda is. The Consent Agenda contains “things that are important to read and approve, but that we don’t really need to talk about.” David, our treasurer, does offer a quarterly financial report that he reports on. Jennifer made a motion, seconded by George L., that we pass the Consent Agenda, consisting of the Vestry Minutes and Treasurer’s Report for January 2023. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mattie Gustafson