

A Summary of Vestry Actions taken at the September 12, 2024 Meeting:

OUTREACH UPDATE

St Paul Suppers are going strong with about 60 meals served weekly. Switching soon back to Crosswinds Restaurant for the meal preparations. Libby Tracey appealed to all Vestry members to stop by a session of Laundry Love. Ruth Pitts of the Food Pantry asked for more in-kind donations. We are considering a possible new volunteer to deliver weekly the blue bags to the Pantry. Ready, Set, Read and snacks for the extended day students both going well. We have developed a strong relationship with the Community School. The J-1 Bike Library program boomed with over 170 bikes – a ministry that is relationship building with foreign students. Discussion on acknowledging stitchers and donors for the needlepoint rug. Church Preschool is on track – the state inspection is imminent.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Martin McKerrow noted St. Paul's is in a "cash-building period, partly due to the capital campaign." Income, which has been strong, has slowed down. Unless we start to see larger capital campaign donations or large grants, we may have to change the budget. We must be careful as we have some unforeseen expenses. Martin suggests we have Mass Save investigate the air conditioning at the Rectory to see if the building would be eligible for Mass Save.

INVESTIMATE RESULTS

Year to date, we are up. We continue to grow; things are moving in the right direction. The market has gone up and down. Everything looks good, we are following the guidelines from the finance committee. "Slow and steady wins the race "

CAMPUS UPDATE

Steve Paradis reported on **Gardner Hall** – he is walking through with 3 potential General Contractors, all of whom have construction documents. Once they have a handle on the scope of work, we will hear back from them with costs so we can determine if we want to hire them. We've been working with Emeritus closely on an additional egress and bathroom redesign. Emeritus will work with the HDC and to get building permits. Discussion on the importance of a fire suppression system. Suggestion of a fire drill before Christmas Market

Parish House: the work will begin on 9/23/2024: Mac Davis Flooring will do flooring; flooring will be fast to install. Will start in the front half then the second half. After the flooring, the painting will get done. Adam Zanelli of Nantucket Heritage Painting will do the painting. A committee will be formed to help with the project. Estimate of 4 weeks to get work completed.

WARDEN'S REPORT

Definition of benevolence – we want to be generous, but what does it mean as a church, what we can /cannot do. The preschool is an example of benevolence, seeing a need and offering a solution. Large acts and also small acts; we could provide more love to parishioners who are suffering. People feel kindness in different ways, connect spiritually in different ways – come in to the sanctuary and feel peace.

How do we nourish our fellow parishioners, welcome fellow pew mates? Our involvement in the community has increased, and how we proceed in the community matters, how we can reinforce our image of benevolence within the community; our responsibility to manage our benevolence better – such as build a support for the bike program.

Make friends with people we do not know. The love that we share in the church, people take with them when they depart – the generosity in their hearts allow them to go out into the world.

The elements of a benevolence program and Policy: include and describe what you can use your money for - we do not have a policy in place and need one. We need to be explicit. We cannot give people money unless there is a process and a policy. Much discussion ensued. Discussion of Max's discretionary fund as an opportunity to use as charitable gifts to folks going off to college.