

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
Vestry Meeting Minutes  
December 6, 2023

**Present:** Fr. RJ, Leslie Redmon, Sr. Warden; John Willoughby, Jr. Warden; Kent Clark, Carol Hayn, Joe Hoot, Gene Little, Sara Strattan

**Not Present:** Mandy Pelger, Rick Werren

**Guests:** Charlie Kiesling, Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm with devotion and prayer provided by Sara.

Carol **motioned** to accept the minutes of the November 1, 2023, meeting. John seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

### **Wardens' Reports**

- **Senior Warden**
  - The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 28, 2024.
  - The updated Vestry Guidebooks should be ready to give to new Vestry members.
  - The Sunday School students will be presented with Christmas ornament gifts from John Willoughby after the Christmas pageant on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.
- **Junior Warden**
  - Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> is the next Sunday that St. Mark's will be helping Hope Outreach serve lunch.

### **Pledge Update**

- We have the same amount of pledgers this year as last year, and 30% of those pledging have increased their pledges.
- The Annual Meeting will emphasize the various positive things that are happening at church.

### **Rector's Report**

- There were no major changes announced at the Diocesan Convention.
- St. Mark's has started providing volunteers to assist with serving lunch at Hope Outreach on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month.
- Fr. RJ will be away from January 4-12, attending his last in-person course in Lexington, KY.
- Christmas services will be held:
  - Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> morning, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent, at 8am and 10am
  - Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> evening, Christmas Eve, at 5pm (family) and 10pm (festive)
  - Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> morning, Christmas Day, at 10am
  - Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup>, Lessons and Carols, at 10am

### **Old Business**

- **Meeting Our Objectives**
  - We are on track with developing and maintaining a good working relationship with Weaver.
  - Our Sunday attendance is continuing to increase. By year end we should average 75-80 in-person Sunday attendance.

- **Buildings and Grounds Update**
  - The Christmas tree was put up in the Family room on December 2<sup>nd</sup> so ornaments made by parishioners at the Intergenerational Service could be put on the tree.
  - The remainder of the church will be decorated for Christmas on December 16<sup>th</sup>.
  - Charlie, Geoff, and Joe fixed an access panel in the ceiling in the narthex, which saved an expense of \$1,000.
  - The sidewalk in the back has paint splatters on it, and it will be cleaned up.
- **Committee Connections**
  - There are no new issues requiring Vestry action.
  - Parishioners who indicated interest in serving on committees on their pledge cards will be contacted by the committee chairs after the first of the year.
  - Standard Thank You notes to send to pledgers will be distributed to Vestry members after the Stewardship Committee meeting. The notes will have the personal signature of one Vestry member signing "on behalf of the Vestry".

### **New Business**

- **January Meeting Date**
  - The January meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- **Extended February Meeting**
  - The February meeting will be held as scheduled on February 7, 2024. There will be a short business meeting to identify issues for the year. Afterwards there will be a new member orientation meeting with dinner provided.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17pm with a **motion** by Joe, seconded by Sara, and approved unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 3, 2024, at 6:00pm. Kent will provide the Reflection and Prayer for the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Violand  
Clerk