

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
Vestry Meeting Minutes  
January 8, 2025

**Present:** Fr. RJ, Leslie Redmon, Sr. Warden; Beth Bletzacker, Kent Clark, Joe Hoot, Ken Jaeb, Rick Werren, Kathy Wise, John Willoughby

**Not Present:** Sara Strattan, Jr. Warden

**Guest:** Charlie Kiesling, Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Fr. RJ. Joe provided the devotion.

John **motioned** to accept the minutes of the December 4, 2024, meeting. Leslie seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

### **Rector's Report**

- **Attendance**
  - Average Sunday attendance in 2024 was 87. This does not include those viewing the live service online. Online averages around 6 views, and each view could be more than one person.
  - Over 150 people attended the 3 Christmas services, and 99 attended the Christmas pageant.
  - These attendance counts are significant because it indicates a return to pre-pandemic attendance levels.
- Nominees for the Vestry Class of 2025 are Marcia Tirpak, Patrick Watters, and Patrick Wilson.
- Fr. RJ thanked departing Vestry members Leslie, Sara, and John for their service and dedication to the Vestry over the past 3 years.

### **Wardens' Reports**

- **Senior Warden**
  - A Chili Cookoff is being planned in February after a 10:00 service.
- **Junior Warden**
  - No report.

### **Liaison Reports**

- Lindsay Argenti is starting a youth group for students in 5<sup>th</sup> grade and above. They will meet during Sunday School twice a month. Pam Clark will assist Lindsay, and Beth Bletzacker will coordinate fun activities. There are currently 6 students in the group. The goal of the group is to prepare for Confirmation.

### **Buildings and Grounds**

- De-greening of the church will be on Saturday, January 11, 2025, at 9:00am.

### **Old Business**

- **70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Update**
  - 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary apparel samples and order forms will be available in the narthex every Sunday through March.
  - Invitations are being printed and will be mailed in February with an RSVP.

## New Business

- **Chairs for Undercroft**

- The chairs in the undercroft are in disrepair, as many have torn vinyl covers and cannot be used. The chairs do not stack easily and take up a lot of storage space.
- The Building and Grounds Team has been researching new stackable banquet chairs. The Finance Committee has suggested that the Memorial Fund could be used to pay for the chairs.
- We would need to purchase 100 chairs well as storage dollies.
- On behalf of the Building and Grounds Team, Joe **motioned** that the Vestry authorizes the Building and Ground Team to complete their investigation and purchase new banquet chairs for the undercroft at a cost not to exceed \$4,000. Kathy seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:44pm with a **motion** by Beth, seconded by Joe, and approved unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 5, 2025, at 6:00pm.

**NOTE:** *At the Special Meeting of the new Vestry following the Annual Meeting, the February meeting was rescheduled for Wednesday, February 12, 2025.*

Kathy will provide the Reflection and Prayer for the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Violand  
Clerk