

# Vestry Minutes

February 15, 2024

Present: Jim Grillo, senior warden; Wayne Grimes, administrative assistant; Gregg Learned; Joan Rogerson; Deb Bartlett; Richard Little; Virginia Kasser; Nick Forenz; Father Craig Hacker; Karen Derr, treasurer; Donna Noteware, clerk.

Absent: Leah Nichiporuk, junior warden

1. Father Craig called the meeting to order with prayer at 6:29 pm.
2. Gregg made the motion to accept the January 10, 2024 minutes, Joan seconded and all were in favor so the motion carried.
3. January 2024 Treasurer's Report: Since we have new Vestry members Karen explained the Treasurer's Report format. The Regular Account shows St. James operating expenses. The Restricted Account - some parishioners only give to the Restricted Account. The \$24,000 in the Renovation Fund was two donations- \$10,000 from the Meade Foundation and \$14,000 from Mercury Aircraft which were used to repair the Bell structure. After explaining Pledge payments and Plate offering which is collected each Sunday, Richard made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, Father Craig seconded and all were in favor so the motion carried. Karen suggested that we might need a new printer. There was a lot of end of year printing and the Dormann Library has a discount for church groups. After discussion the Vestry decided that St. James does not need a new printer at this time.
4. Richard said he would have the Bishop Election Update at the Vestry meeting in March. Saturday February 24, 2024 there is an in-person meeting at Hobart and William Smith. St. James has 3 votes- Luanne Graulich, Richard Little and Father Craig Hacker. The bishop will be selected at this meeting. Richard Little has been elected to the Standing Committee.
5. College for Congregational Development- There will be a meeting July 28 to August 2 of the Standing Committee. Richard and Father Craig will attend.
6. Parochial Report- The vestry completed page 6- Outreach Ministries and Volunteer Activity of the St. James Congregation. The remainder of the form was completed by Karen Derr, Father Craig, and Jim Grillo. Jim submitted the report to the diocese.
7. Coffee Hour Proposal: Jim suggested that we pay Vern for baked goods for coffee hour once a month. After discussion Joan made the motion to take the money out of

Evangelism to purchase baked goods. Jim seconded the motion and all were in favor so the motion carried.

8. Elmira Pioneers Opportunity- Nick has talked to Public Relations- possibly have the Mascot come; purchase baseballs and softballs and have them signed. Ahe has posted the Concession Stand sign-up sheet.
9. Dinner opportunity to bring students into St. James: Nick suggested bringing in different clubs: Band, Chorus, Honor Society etc. Something to think about.
10. Safe Church Update- Nick said Virginia and Deb are signed up. The remainder of the Vestry will redo in 2025. Virginia was impressed with the program.
11. Investment Opportunities- Nick suggested National Church Investment Fund. Maybe we should be better Stewards with money. Do we have a fiscal vision- a long term investment?
12. Parochial Report Review and Approval- Jim made the motion to accept the report and Father Craig seconded. All were in favor so the motion carried.
13. Vestry and Committee Introductions for Congregation- Jim will introduce Virginia Kasser and Deb Bartlett at church Sunday.
14. For the Good of the order: 1. Lenten Service and Luncheon February 21, 2024 at St. James. 2. List Vestry members, Mission committee, Altar Guild- for the congregation and post on the bulletin board. 3. Vacation Bible School: July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024 held at the Methodist Church- Linda and Father Craig Hacker will participate. 4. Carol Israel Aging in Place wants to meet at St. James once or twice a month. Vestry approved. 5. Donating money to Park Pharmacy to help with copays was discussed. Father Craig explained the program as an area of evangelism which he has already started and how rewarding it is. Nick made the motion to accept the Park Pharmacy program as an Outreach, Gregg seconded the motion and all were in favor. The motion carried. Father Craig will explain the program to the parishioners on Sunday.
15. Father Craig adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm.

Respectively submitted Donna Noteware, clerk

**Next Meeting – March 13, 2024**