

St. Simons on the Sound  
Vestry Retreat Meeting Minutes

**February 25, 2023**

Meeting was held in the Parish Hall

Members Present: Senior Warden Bob Blake, Junior Warden Matt Smith, Kristin Shinnick, Liz LaFollette, Carla Hunt, Moe Byrd, Fred Happel, Trace Morris

Also present: Father David Knight and Deacon Clelia

**1. Call to order & confirmation of Quorum**

Father David opened the meeting with prayer at 9:34 A.M.

**2. Consent Agenda**

Clelia shared that we no longer use the term “Outreach Committee”, it is now called “Community Engagement”. Much discussion about why the title was changed and the various things our church is involved within our community.

The budget for January 2023 thru December 2023 was discussed.

Father David reported that the church gets money from the Montessori school, and also from the Counseling Center.

Motion to approve the budget was made by Trace, Moe seconded.

Kristin had a question about the State Street Global Endowment money, discussion. This money cannot be used at this time.

After much discussion, motion to approve the budget passed.

### 3. Committee Reports:

**Admin:** Liz reported that the Mardi Gras fundraiser made approximately \$3900. We are waiting for the final numbers from Cyndi.

\*Note to Father David: From Cyndi, the actual total for the Pickle sales and Mardi Gras fundraisers is \$4715.24!! Yay!

**Ministries:** Ken Winslett, Executive Director of Sharing and Caring will be briefing us soon on the procedures and rules about how families apply and receive goods from Sharing and Caring.

**Blessing Bags:** Amy Dale, who is the representative for the Okaloosa County School System, will brief us on April 30<sup>th</sup> about how our Blessing Bags have helped our local students in need. On April 20<sup>th</sup>, we will be filling more bags to donate to schools.

**Property:** Matt reported on several things in and around the church.

- a. The seawall and Memorial at the Cross behind the church is sinking. Sand and water are washing it away. It needs to be addressed. There was discussion about moving the bricks in the memorial to the side of the church closest to The Boat, around the fountain. It could be cleaned up and made into a new memorial/seating area. Plants would be planted to make it look nice.
- b. Clelia brought up that Carson Augustine is coming in the next couple of weeks to remove overgrown plants and trim back several trees in front of the church. Several Crepe Myrtles will be trimmed to make the front of the church look neater and more visible from the road. Soon after, Jacque Hale's tree man is coming to assess what else needs done to improve the trees and plants and overall appearance around the church.

Father David reported that the Flower Guild is very involved with the appearance of the inside and outside of the church. James's wife Val has planted flowers at the front of the church and plans to plant more flowers before Palm Sunday.

Our Bell: The bell in the bell tower has been broken for quite sometime, repairing it is very expensive and requires a bucket truck crew just to get it down in addition to the cost of repairs. We implemented an electronic bell system a few years ago with speakers in the bell tower, but it presently is not functioning.

#### **4. New Business:**

We need to set a date to install the Vestry.

We have been asked to host "The Happening" in September. More to follow.

**Meeting concluded at 10:09 A.M.**