

Annual Meeting
1/31/17

38 church members were in attendance.

Dean Vang called the annual meeting to order at 7:05 PM on Tuesday, January 31, 2017, and appointed Henderson to serve as clerk for the meeting and to take minutes.

Nominating Committee: Berheide thanked the nominating committee and all those who made suggestions for nominations. The vestry nominated Darren Miller for reelection as Senior Warden (still eligible for two more terms). The vestry nominated Pam Houde, Mayumi Kato and Field Horne as vestrypeople. Limoli and Manny are eligible for another term and were nominated for that term. Henderson was nominated to serve as clerk and Van Der Veer as treasurer. Nominating committee moved to accept the slate. Vang declared the nomination period open for the next hour with polls to close at 8:15.

Financial Report: Miller expressed thanks to the staff and volunteers, then briefly discussed how Bethesda approaches its finances. Wardens must approve all bills and all checks require two signatures. Monthly financial reports are presented to the vestry. Bethesda has annual audits. Capital Campaign and Capital Project funds are maintained separately from the operating accounts. We are able to keep track of this with Quick-Books, which helps avoid co-mingling of funds and allows us to track earmarked donations. Pledge and plate was about \$6,450 ahead of budget in 2016. Total income was down by about \$25,000 (largely because of a reduced income from building fund party since there was no major gift in 2016). Fuel donations were about \$1,700 over budget. Expenses were under budget by about \$6,700. Major expenses were: diocesan assessment, rector, staff (payroll and benefits) choir and building upkeep/maintenance. Total net income was -\$22,689.00. (2010 deficit was \$80,000, 2015 was \$43, but it went back up this year, largely because of the lack of major gift from the building fund party). Total estimated income for 2017 is \$298,397. Total estimated expenses for 2017 are \$295,959 (note, expenses for 2016 were \$340,301). Will be purchasing a new rectory, which should save us about \$12,000 this year and closer to \$20,000 for future years.

Rectory Search: The rectory search committee looked for something within 15 mins of Saratoga, able to accommodate a small family with no need for major renovations, energy efficient, good resale, suitable to host small church gatherings or prayer groups and within a \$450,000 budget (set aside from sale of old rectory). Buying a rectory allows us to balance the budget. Vestry voted to purchase 19 Saw Mill Court in Wilton. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Purchase price of \$435,000. \$167/month maintenance fee covers plowing, grass cutting, shrubs, trash removal. Energy star rating will reduce utility costs.

Capital Campaign: Withington reported that the Capital Campaign began in 2015 with a goal of \$330,000, and got \$426,402, but some additional larger gifts we were hoping for didn't manifest so we're having to reassess. Focusing on a mission of serving children in the area with affordable sliding-scale daycare programs. With that in mind we'll be starting a community campaign in 2017. Also applying for grants and other not-for-profit funding sources for church restoration.

Building Committee: Boyd reporting on the building status. Saratoga National Bank will partner with us in building the new Parish Hall. They suggested that, rather than rent some space to for-profit tenants, we could save money and better fulfill our mission by just going all non-profit which would allow us to qualify for a lower interest rate on the mortgage and get rid of any chance of having to pay property taxes. Especially excited about Belmont Childcare which would serve children of back-stretch

workers. Also looking into providing office/training space to restorative justice program through Skidmore.

New Parish By-Laws: There was some difficulty in locating the current bylaws and, when they were found, they were outdated. Boyd modeled the new draft after bylaws shared by the Diocese of Massachusetts. Vestry has repealed the old bylaws and adopted the new bylaws, which were approved by the chancellor. New bylaws will be made available on the website.

Interim Rector's Report: 11,394 people worshiped in 2016. Total communions were 7,372. 104 Sunday Eucharists. 275 on weekdays (counting at HGS locations). 287 private communions. 6 baptisms, 1 wedding. 0 Confirmations. 12 funerals, 8 were members. 6 first communions. Total amount for Landon's scholarship fund was \$3,960 as of last Sunday.

Elections: Berheide moved the slate, clerk voted for the slate. All approved.

Thank yous: Withington and Van Acker are finishing their vestry terms and were presented with hugs and flowers.

Henderson moved to adjourn the meeting, Claverie seconded the motion and all were in favor. Dean Vang closed the meeting with a prayer.