

Vestry minutes September 17, 2023

The meeting began at 12:15 with Mother Darlene asking each person if we feel we did what God called us to do in our own vocation and now.

JoLynn opened with prayer. Attended: Mth Darlene Kuhn, Tim French, Peggy Lefebvre, Judy Joseph, JoLynn Haley, Phyllis Norris, Jan Anderson, Barbara Ryan
Peggy discussed the finances. We are \$5000 ahead in budgeted pledges but \$17,000 in arrears due to building repairs. Paul Cromheecke's memorial and part of Bob Tibbles' will be used for the building. The diocese agreed to reduce our apportionment from \$14,300 to \$7500 for this year. A discussion was held regarding Mother Darlene changing to part time to further reduce our costs. Mother Darlene stated she was willing to do that. The elevator inspection and furnace inspection were more than had been budgeted. Peggy will review pledge cards received, contact people who usually pledge but have not and encourage them to pledge, and review income from Fall Fling then present the 2024 budget to the vestry.

A discussion was held regarding inserting an ad in the Harbor Country magazine with information regarding Mediator. It was mentioned that mail fliers do not work, most second homeowners do not receive mail here anyway. It was suggested that the Episcopal shield be in the ad with the pride flag in one segment of the shield. Phyllis suggested a sign be placed at the triangle tip, Red Arrow at Lake Shore Road, with church name and service times so people know the church is coming up as people are past the church before they actually see the sign in front of the church. Barbara suggested Phyllis contact Chikaming Open Lands and Chikaming Township to see if there are any restrictions.

The memorial for Bill Card will be used to purchase new candelabras for the altar and have been ordered. Three plaques have been ordered for outside 1) names of people whose ashes have been scattered in the labyrinth, 2) names of those who donated to the building of the labyrinth, and 3) pets who have been buried in the pet cemetery.

Altar guild/flower guild report: currently have more funds than they have spent.

Fellowship/coffee hour has spent more than has been taken in on the donation plate set out on the food table.

A quorum was not present, but Mother Darlene was added to vestry total to make the quorum. Tim moved and Judy seconded that the reports be accepted. Passed.

The Sunday mass held in St. Joseph was a success with nine from Mediator attending along with parishioners from St. Paul's and St. Augustine's.

Mediator parishioners supplied five packed back packs for families requested by Neighbor by Neighbor.

There will be a combined vestry meeting Monday October 2 of the vestries of Mediator, St. Paul's, and St. Augustine's at Mediator at 7 pm.

Wednesday, October 11, 5:30 – 8:30, there will be an eucharist, potluck dinner, and panel discussion of Politics and Religion: Why Should I Care. Rev Jay Johnson, All Saints' Episcopal Church, Saugatuck, MI, will speak on Christianity and Social Justice. Rob Burgess, St. Augustine's, Benton Harbor, MI, will speak as a lay person on the subject, and Mother Darlene and Tim will speak on why social justice is important.

It was decided to purchase 50 -74 church calendars for parishioners and to give to visitors and new people.

Judy said Barbara would help with the chalice and Mother Darlene agreed since Kris has left.

Judy closed with prayer at 1:35.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Ryan, Vestry Secretary