

THE CHURCH OF THE CROSS May 25, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Fr. Owens at The Chapel in the Conference Room.

PRESENT: Fr. Owens, M. Simmons, M. Simon, S. Brach, D. Barone and Joanne Byrd

ABSENT: Rod Musselman

I PRAYER AND DEVOTION: (D. Barone)

Heart wrenching prayer opened the meeting as Doug prayed for the children, families, and victims of Uvalde, Texas school shootings this week

The devotional was entitled *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas*. His devotion focused on the Episcopal Church as the *Grinch* and the Anglican Church as the *Who's* in this 60 year old decade story revolving around love and truth. The focus is on what happens to churches when God's Word is not taught and the truth is lost allowing churches to slide into the culture. The Anglican Church will stand strong as it binds its wounds and serves the 14 churches which have lost their property, their jobs and their homes to the outcome of the final court decision. *The Grinch* tried to steal *Christmas* but he didn't succeed with those who believe in the Truth in Jesus Christ. Bishop Edgar reminds us through all this, "We must remember to proclaim the Gospel." John 15:15 was read.

II MINUTES: (J. Byrd):

The Vestry Minutes of May 25, 2022 were previously distributed and approved as written.

III FINANCES: (M. Simon):

Financial Minutes Vestry Meeting May 2022

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Our income for April was \$242,384 (vs. a budget of \$222,298) Our expenses in April were \$186,645 vs a budget of \$193,990. Restricted accounts remain in healthy standing.

** There was a motion presented by the Treasurer to pay down the BB&T loan by \$100,000 due to the strong cash position resulting from blessings of the congregation. The motion was seconded and approved, therefore passing.

Streaming

Every day, we have an average of 200 people visiting our websites of which half are first time viewers. Streaming is extremely important to most important avenue for us to reach our faithful. Just to show you the impact, just this past week, our website and streaming reached **15 different countries, 6 different states.**

Our blessings do continue to flow for which we say Thanks be to God.

IV OTHER: (Fr. Owens)

A. Cross School Board trustee appointment of Elizabeth (Betsy) Batten was unanimously approved by vote in Vestry. D. Barone motioned for approval of J. Byrd and M. Simmons on Cross School Board. Vote was unanimous.

B. Amended and Restated Bylaws for Church of the Cross, Inc. were reviewed and amended. Motion to accept new revision by M. Simmons and seconded by S. Brach. Vote unanimously approved.

C. Status of Merging Cross Church and The Church of the Cross

1. God's Goods operating funds: merged into parish balance sheet; present baking arrangement maintained; July 2022
2. Mission Fund operating funds: merged into parish balance sheet; July 2022
3. Cross Church donations being stewarded in accordance with responses to letters to donors

D. Retitling COM Properties to TCOTC

1. Argent East: no problem/no debt
2. Cross Schools: tax exempt bond issue precludes church ownership
3. Seven Oaks: lis pidens; contract to buy in place until 12/31/22
4. Allen-Lockwood House: lis pidens; contract to buy in place until 12/31/22
5. The Chapel: present debt \$1, 200,000, title easily transferred when debt free

E. Repairs to Parish Hall

Repairs to begin immediately and completed in August, 2022.... supervised by Rod Musselman, Roger Abbey and Bill Stevenson. Motion for approval by M. Simmons and by S. Brach. Vestry vote was unanimous to begin repairs.

F. Vestry meeting dates were changed from the 4th Thursday of each month to the 3rd Thursday of each month to accommodate M. Simmons and J. Byrd's attendance at Cross School Board meetings.

CONCLUSION: (D. Barone)

The meeting was closed with prayer at 5:45PM. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, June 28, 2022 at 4PM in The Chapel Conference Room. S. Brach will do prayer and devotional.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Byrd