

**THE CHURCH OF THE CROSS**  
**JANUARY 26, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by Fr. Owens at 12:30pm in the Conference Room of the Chapel.

**PRESENT:** Fr. Owens, Millard Simmons, Michael Simon, Sallie Brach, Stew Brown, Tom Durston, Linda Laird, Craig Pelley

**I PRAYER AND DEVOTION:** Joanne Byrd

Prayer opened our meeting. The devotion was a review of the book, HOLY MOMENTS... A HANDBOOK FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE, by Matthew Kelly. The book is a 21 day Day Challenge to change one's life by becoming aware of Holy Moments in our lives and others. Holy Moments are grace-filled prayer-directed actions which are activated by the Holy Spirit through a daily prayer life which is essential. Holy Moments happen when one puts others before themselves becoming Good Samaritans as in *Luke 10:30-37*. "Jesus says go and do likewise." Mr. Kelly shares examples of those who have taken the 21 Day Challenge showing how their lives were changed. They began to see the work of the Holy Spirit transforming their actions as they reached out to touch another's life with goodness, hope and encouragement. Holy Moments are about giving "Hope to All God's People". Scripture from Matthew 17...*The Transfiguration* was illustrated as is Matthew 13: 8 *The Sowing of the Seeds* which fall on four different types of soil. Some seeds multiply hundred fold, some sixty and some thirty. Mr. Kelly's hope is that all people who read his book will be transformed; as well as passing on the 6 free of charge editions he offers to the purchaser to be passed out to others touching one person at a time with God's love and hope.

**II MINUTES:** Joanne Byrd

The Vestry Minutes for December 15, 2023 were electronically distributed and were approved as written.

**III FINANCIALS:** Michael Simon

## Financial Minutes Vestry Meeting January 2024

### **Praise God from whom all blessings flow!**

We continue to be amazed with the generosity and blessings we continue to receive.  
Our plate income for December was \$523,481.93 (vs. a budget of \$354,104.47)  
Our total Revenue income for December was \$622,193.97 vs a budget of \$427,604.47.

Our total expenses in December were \$778,266 vs a budget of \$264,229.65.  
The 2023 Fiscal year ended with the Parish is very good financial status, with all the restricted accounts in good standing.

These total November income and expenses includes the Faith Formation income, Mission Outreach Income and Donations, Cross School Scholarships, Counseling Center, Diocesan Pledge and Diocesan Blessings.

Below is the request to approve the December funds that the Mission Board recommends for disbursement.

The Mission Board has on hand at the end of December \$278,029.86.  
They have already commitments for January (funds which they allocate monthly) \$20,583.  
The Mission Board has done their diligence and research through applications, and is requesting Grant Allocations for January for \$17,343 for a total distribution of \$37,926.

Keep in mind, any request from any Mission, needs to first have an application filed, then reviewed by the Mission Board, who discuss, pray and vote for a decision.

**The financial Board reviewed the request, filed and approved a motion to recommend to the Vestry to APPROVE the request for funding.**

Linda Laird presented and reviewed the request for funds to the Vestry. There was a motion to approve the funds disbursement, it was seconded and approved unanimously by the Vestry.

Restricted accounts remain in healthy standing and our cash position remains very strong

January PLATE Income MTD is \$195,131 with one Sunday

### **Other Business**

The Financial Board met with Padre on Tuesday and reviewed . The Budget was presented to The Vestry, a motion was raised to approve and the Vestry voted to approve the 2024 Budget.

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The Sweep accounts, under CSB Intrafi Accounts, are now in place and reflect on the Balance Sheets, as current assets, keeping our accounts protected under FDIC guidelines and earned interest in December of \$1,064.04

## 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 reaches an average of **15 different countries, 9 different states every month.**

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

## Attendance Below

**In-person attendance numbers please compare December 2022 to 2023 below**

					CROSSP 10:30	CROSS SCHOOLS	CURRENT MONTH	YTD 2023	MTD 2022	YTD 2022
Dec-23	HIST 5:28	HIST 8AM	HIST 10AM	CHAPEL 9AM			6435	69,995	3886	34,609
3rd	110	97	235	187	467					
10th	113	89	258	152	495					
17th	95	46	150	105	382					
24th EVE	147	604	228	550	612	185	2,326			
31st	152	84	294	148	450					
Totals	617	920	1165	1142	2406	185				

					CROSSP 10:30	CROSS SCHOOLS	CURRENT MONTH	YTD 2022	MTD 2021	YTD 2021
Dec-22	HIST 5:28	HIST 8AM	HIST 10AM	CHAPEL 9AM			5493	5,493	3886	3,886
4TH	96	63	228	127	436	400				
11TH	98	83	230	128	361	400				
18TH	120	66	229	128	466					
24th EVE	80	369	149	279	624	333	1,834			
	394	581	836	662	1887	1133				

**To date, our 2023 in PEW attendance was 69,995 vs. 34,609 in 2022.  
Praise God.**

Submitted Respectively,

J. Michael Simon, Treasurer

#### **IV MISSION OUTREACH BOARD:** Linda Laird

Motion brought forward requesting to bring Debra Watkins onto the Mission Outreach Board. Motion approved by Vestry and seconded by Stew Brown, unanimously approved by Vestry.

#### **V OTHER**

##### **A. NOMINEES FOR VESTRY ( Fr. Owens)**

Two names were submitted for Vestry membership. They are Wayne Bowerman and Lee Watkins, both godly men. After discussion by Vestry a motion was put forth. Both candidates were unanimously accepted to serve on Vestry. Their names will be announced at the Annual Gathering on February 13th,

##### **B. STATUS OF PROJECT TO REMODEL SUNDAY SCHOOL SPACES, PROVIDE A CAFETERIA FOR USE BY CROSS SCHOOLS**

Construction on the expansion and remodeling of Cross Schools will begin in April. It should be completed in time for the new school year.

##### **C. THOUGHTS ON ANNUAL GATHERING ON FEBRUARY 13, 2024**

The Annual Gathering is on Shrove Tuesday with our annual Pancake Dinner beginning at 5:30pm; followed by the Annual Gathering —‘Looking Back and Looking Ahead’ at 7:00pm. We look forward to a blessed turnout as TCOTC wraps up 2023 and sets the pace for 2024 with God’s help.

##### **D. MEMBERSHIP**

Vestry is welcoming two new members and as we do, Vestry says ‘Goodbye’ to Sallie Brach and Mill Simmons who have served the Lord faithfully. Vestry thanks you for your dedication, unselfish service and most of all for your love of the Lord, Jesus Christ, as you have served with

grace and wisdom. May you feel His presence as you walk through the new doors of opportunity in front of you as you step away from Vestry. Thank you again....Joanne

#### CONCLUSION

Joanne closed the meeting with prayer. The next Vestry meeting will be February 23, 2024 at 12:30pm in the Conference Room of the Chapel. Michael Simon has prayers and devotional. (Devotional Schedule: March—Linda; April—Craig; May -Tom; June—Stew)

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Byrd