

**Episcopal Church of the Advent  
Vestry Meeting  
October 16, 2022**

The meeting was convened in prayer by Fr. Alan at 12:05 PM.

**Attendance:** *Present Vestry* – Rev. Alan Leonard, David Hammond (SW), Barbara Smith (JW), Lew Price, Noel Smith-Wong, Carol Hoffman, Frank Garcia, John Coyle, Scott Griffith, Sharon Werth, and Richard Hudson. Also in attendance was Alison Cioffi-Brown (Treasurer).

*Absent* – Martha Francis.

**Minutes:** Motion by S. Werth, seconded by D. Hammond to approve minutes of September 19, 2022--  
*Approved*

**Treasurer's Report:** A. Cioffi-Brown reported that:

- Pledge income is below budget YTD through September (by \$16,249) which is typical in late summer, early fall. We typically make this gap up in the fall as parishioners' return to services. Attendance has improved over the past several weeks.
- Utilities and repairs are over budget YTD through September, especially electric (by \$3,875) due primarily to increased utility rate increases resulting from recent inflationary trends.
- Overall, net Ordinary Income YTD through Sept. is \$14,046 under budget due primarily to delayed pledge payments.

Motion by F. Garcia, seconded by N. Smith-Wong to approve the Treasurer's Report (P & L Budget Performance for September 2022)—*Approved Pending Audit.*

**Rector's Report:** Fr. Leonard reported that:

- Sunday service attendance has been increasing over the past month.
- Father Alan will be on vacation from Oct. 27 through Nov. 9. Father Dan will be filling in for services and pastoral care.
- The Cape May Ecumenical Youth Group is back up and running. Advent has two youth participants.
- Confirmation Class, including two youth and several adults, will commence in mid-November. F. Garcia is working on various aspects of the program.
- Father Alan has been asked and is considering participating in a two-week assignment with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary (CGA) as a Chaplain on a Coast Guard Cutter. Father Alan has been promoted as a Lt. Commander in the CGA. Congratulations Father Alan!

**Senior Warden's Report:** D. Hammond had no new report.

**Junior Warden's Report:** B. Smith reported that:

- Trees have been trimmed on the entire property.
- The post on the Bride's porch has been repaired by a contractor.

- The newly installed door security system in the Parish Hall needs some adjustments.
- The mechanical chair lift has been unreliable.
- The organ repair project is still in progress.
- Corbin Cogswell is planning to power wash the ambulatory and emergency stairs.
- The Sexton is purchasing additional COVID masks and sanitizer.

### Old Business

- **CPR/AED Training**—We will have 9 attending the training on Wednesday, Oct. 19 from 3 to 6 PM at the Cape May County Technical School.
- **Advent Dinners**—No one is willing to step up as the Chef for the dinners. The ECM will prepare and host a Shrove Tuesday supper and assist with Lenten Suppers. N. Smith-Wong agreed to Chair a Lenten Supper Committee with the help of the ECM. Father Alan is going to ask other potentially interested local Churches (e.g., the Lutheran Church) if they might be interested in hosting joint Lenten Suppers.
- **Advent Service Appreciation Awards**—M. Francis is working on the implementation of the award program.
- **Security**—F. Garcia continues to be in conversation with the Cape May Police regarding the development of an active shooter drill program. This would be the first such program in the City. Father Alan is going to bring the need for support from the City Police up at the next Cape May Ministerium Meeting.
- **Nominating Committee**—The committee plans to meet soon to nominate persons to fill openings created by the following five individuals whose Vestry member term ends in 2022, including D. Hammond, B. Smith, S. Griffith, J. Coyle, and L. Price, as well as for Junior and Senior Wardens.
- **Diocesan Grant/Loan Proposal**—B. Smith reported that the grant application (approved at the September meeting) for \$15,000 to the Diocese to improve our outside building appearance and grounds has been prepared and will be submitted over the next few days.

### New Business

- **Stewardship**—Joel Rutenberg is chairing the Stewardship Campaign. The campaign is off to a strong start. The Senior Warden's Stewardship letter will be sent to the parish in the next few days.

### Other Committee Reports

- **Outreach**—The Committee will be meeting Wed., 10/19/22 at 3 PM. It has recently sent contributions to support hurricane victims in Florida, Hatti, Cape May Free Medical Clinic, and the Food Pantry.

**Next Meeting Scheduled**—November 20, 2022 at noon.

Motion to adjourn at 12:55 PM by F. Garcia, seconded by S. Griffith--*Approved*