

VESTRY MEETING CHRIST CHURCH BY THE SEA, MARCH 9, 2017

A vestry meeting was held Thursday, March 9, 2017 at the home of Don Bailey. The following vestry members were present: Dana, Janet, Fr. Jack+, Fernando, Jennifer, and Joyce (via Skype). Also present were: Allan Affleck by invitation, and Shirley Wehrs, Vestry Clerk.

1. **Prayer for healing**: Fr Jack+ led a prayer for healing for Don and Kathy Bailey, Mary & Ray (Kathy's parents), and Sharon (the Wehrs' daughter).
2. **Minutes**: Fr. Jack+ welcomed Don Bailey back onto the vestry. Dana commented that he felt the placing of a cross (+) behind a priest's name was inappropriate, as they only use that when they have a signature. Fr. Jack+ stated that when writing and especially among clergy some use that as a sign of respect. Dana made a motion that this be discontinued in the minutes, and the motion failed for lack of a second. The minutes of the meeting of February 14 were read and approved. Janet moved, Don seconded.
3. **Sr. Warden letter** - everyone agreed that Janet's letter to the entire church regarding paying off the mortgage was well received. She said she was upset it took so long for it to be sent after Fr. Jack+ approval. He reported that initially the letter would not download onto his computer, and after that he was rather involved in handling the affairs of his son's death on February 13, dealing with the Sheriff of Placer County, the Coroner, the crematorium, and having to deal with the notification of his extended large family. The letter did result in some pledges, totaling to date approximately \$9,000.
4. **Rector's report** - Fr. Jack+ said the last few weeks had been a trying time for his family. Ash Wednesday was well attended and the Lenten Series was going well, they had 9 people last meeting. Fr. Bob+ will take the 15th while Fr. Jack+ and Shirley, are in San Diego, and Fr. Rob+ the 22nd. The architect is obtaining a bid for repairing and replacing the window where the break-in occurred, including metal bars over the opening. He reported that Pastor Peter Schmidt and his wife, Vickie, may return to guest preach, as they were so impressed with the congregation and the apartment. Fr. Jack+ asked him for any recommendations to make the apartment more comfortable, and he gave some minor suggestions: soap dish in shower, shower head to reach the person showering, more lights to read by in the salon, and a shade over the kitchen window. Fr. Jack+ will look into this and get a list of the expenses involved. He said he and Shirley will be in San Diego from March 10 to 19, for Shirley's medical tests, and to scatter John's ashes. Attendance at services has been good, last week there were 72 people. Easter Week will include Maundy Thursday Foot Washing at 5:30, Friday some will meet downtown for the Passion Parade. Ed and Carol Pennington have completely revamped the instructions and photos for Altar Guild, and are performing the set-up services. Dennis and Sandee Stendler are doing the take-down. Shirley continues to do the linens each week.
5. **Jr. Warden report** - Fernando said we have had three new couples come to church from Ex-Pats. He has received \$13,000 in three months as pledges. Fr. Jack+ stated Fer and Maria were doing a fine job on the accounting reports.
6. **Outreach** - Shirley reported that the church was still giving food to the hungry, visiting the schools to find out what people are in need, and that Jan Scott is doing a stellar job of teaching English to the kindergarten, with Dana's help, and one of her neighbors. She could use more help. Shirley also said she considered the new Sunday School an Outreach project, as it will ultimately bring in the parents, if they are not already coming. There are presently three regulars, and when a family visits with children over 4 years old, the children are invited to come up to the Chapel, and they do and have been having a wonderful time.
7. **Social** - Don and Kathy hosted another successful B,B&B night. We plan on another brunch following the Easter Sunday service April 16, with the church providing beverages, turkey and a ham, and the

parishioners bringing side dishes. Last Easter there were 115 attending the service, and 50 stayed for the brunch.

8. **Blessing of the Animals** - Janet suggested the church have a service around the time of St. Francis' Day in October, Fr. Jack+ said he will talk to Michael+ about that.
9. **Communications** - it was noted that the e-mails being received by the church web-site had been left unanswered. Fr. Jack+ said he will get with Curt and find out the problem. The address on the web-site for MMM needs to be changed to: P.O. Box 252, San Diego, CA. 92106. Since this is the Mail service that the Wehrs use, and the mail is received here in Vallarta by them about every ten days, we will know sooner what pledges come in and possibly be able to deposit the funds with people returning to the states who can mail in the deposit.

Fr. Jack+ reported that a letter had been distributed to the vestry from a parishioner, not including Fr. Jack+, about this person's taking issues with certain church practices. Fr. Jack+ read the letter aloud (as he had been given a copy) and indicated which items were not, in fact, correct. Dana Faris had written another letter in response to this person's correspondence, not including to Fr. Jack+, agreeing with several points made. Fr. Jack+ had been given that letter also, and read it aloud to the vestry. Some of the items included were the Lease Agreement the church held with the landlord, the ownership of the church, the status of MMM, the present market value of the property, along with other matters. It was moved, Dana, seconded, Don, and carried that an opinion letter would be requested from a knowledgeable real estate broker in the area. Janet said she would take care of that. A question arose as to whether or not MMM could own Casa de Celebracion, the Mexican Corporation that owns the church property. Other issues were raised about what would happen once the mortgage was paid, who would be in charge, etc.

Allan Affleck mentioned in the discussion that the vestry should allow Shirley to retire as Vestry Clerk as she has an extremely busy schedule and has performed this service since the church started.

- 10.00 Music** - Janet stated that she felt a new music person should be found to replace our present one. Don suggested returning to the Hymn Box that played the hymns perfectly. Fr. Jack+ stated that Kathy is also a parishioner and should be treated fairly. If anyone is able to find someone else, they will audition for the vestry and it will be determined at that time whether to proceed with a new person.

THE NEXT VESTRY MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2017, 10:00, PLACE TO BE DETERMINED.,

There being no further business to be conducted, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Wehrs, Vestry Clerk

CCVestry/ March 9, 2017