

ST. MARGARET'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
12663 Perkins Road
Baton Rouge, LA. 70810

VESTRY MEETING MINUTES
December 11, 2023, | 6:30 PM

In attendance: Fr. Tommy, Brittany Zimmerman, Jay Weber, Susan Rains, Michele Fuselier, Molly Blackwell, Amy Warrington, Ross Young, Dayna Wheatley, Jack Warner.

Absent: Handy Acosta.

Guest attendance: Joan Weber, Michael Weber

Fr. Tommy opened with Devotion.

Fr. Tommy called the Vestry meeting to Order.

Approval of July Vestry Minutes:

- Motion – Molly Blackwell, 2nd Dayne Wheatley. Approved.

Candidacy for Ordination – Joan Weber

- Motion – Fr. Tommy, 2nd Jay Weber. Approved.

Sr. Warden Report: Brittany Zimmerman

- No Report

Jr. Warden Report: Susan Rains

Repairs and Maintenance

- Ice Machine motor replacement \$485
- Painting the posts at the entrance of the sanctuary costs 75 per hour -purchase Sherwin Williams paint. Sand, paint. \$210
- Nuisance skunks have not been seen as of late, we have Wildlife fisheries contacts if we have a problem. They may have relocated.
- Take out a tree behind Montessori School during Christmas break. This tree is dying better take it now, before large branches at the top begin falling. \$700
- Regions Bank facilities contact out of Arkansas, has been called many times, but no results in getting the trees out that are on the bank's property. Will keep trying. Contact is Jason Haley 501-551-1719

Treasurer's Report: Jack Warner

- November revenue revealed good news.

Rector's Report: Fr. Tommy Dillon

- Our Average Sunday Attendance continues to grow, reflecting a positive trend over the past three years:

2021: 92
2022: 114
2023: 119

- Burial today of Steven Wright. The family bought three plots and we gave them one. They gave us a \$500 donation.

- The office will be closed for the Christmas Holidays from December 25 – January 1. We reflect the same dates that the diocesan office is closed.
- Attended a COPE meeting along with Jenny Hasting. Hoping to have a meeting at St. Margaret's in 2024. Communities Organizing for Power through Empathy.
- Follies a big Success! Biggest yet!
- Happy about the new video system
- Will attend ordinations on Wednesday, December 20 at Christ Church Cathedral.
- Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass is tomorrow at 6:30 PM – Tamale Party
- Attended two small groups last week.
- Spent lots of time working on Stewardship.
- Participated in Advent Retreat last Sunday.
- Advent 4 and Christmas Schedule:
 - **Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 24 Morning**
8:00 AM - Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass
9:00 AM Adult Faith Formation
10:00 AM Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass
 - **Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve**
3:00 PM Christmas Eve Family Eucharist with simple Christmas Pageant (Church)
5:00 PM Solemn Christmas Eve Mass with incense (Church)

I will preach and preside at St. Augustine's Church in Central at 7 PM
 - **Monday, December 25, Christmas Day**
10:00 AM Christmas Day Eucharist with Hymns (Church)

 There will be NO Healing service on Wednesday, December 20 and 27

Old Business

- **Meditation Garden – Molly Blackwell**
 - Retreat was nice with beautiful weather. The Spirit was present.
 - Tentative retreat in the Spring.
 - The garden is responding well to the rain.
 - Fred Devall is the new Diocesan leader for Creation Care.

- **Children's Ministry – Brittany Zimmerman**
 - Advent wreath making was a success.
 - Gingerbread ornament event is scheduled.
 - Christmas Eve pageant is ready.
 - New furniture will be assembled.

- **Live Stream Update – Ross Young**
 - Ross Young, Bill Bethea and Rick Weimer installed the new cameras, and are working well.
 - Speakers are temporarily wired.
 - A consultant will be brought in to review the sound wiring.
 - Security is concerning with equipment sitting on table.
 - Many thanks from the Vestry for this project.

- **Stewardship**
 - 12 new pledges
 - Need new sources of income.

- 2024 Vestry retreat will be March 1st.

- **Security**
 - Doors have been found unlocked on 2 Sundays.
 - Vestry member of the Day needs to be implemented.

Meeting was closed with Prayer by Fr. Tommy.