

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

VESTRY MEETING MINUTES
May 13, 2024, | 6:30 PM

In attendance: Fr. Tommy Dillon, Jay Weber, Rick Lipscomb, Ronny Daley, Michele Fuselier, Jack Warner, Amy Warrington, Ross Young, Paul Allman, Dayna Wheatley, Sujuan Boutte.

Opening Devotion – Ronny Daley
Fr. Tommy called the Vestry meeting to Order.

Approval of March Vestry Minutes:

- Motion – Rick Lipscomb, 2nd – Ross Young

Sr. Warden Report: Rick Lipscomb

- Grow Together Ministry Booklet describing various ministries of St. Margaret's distributed.
- La Mesa bilingual classes: Taking a break for the Summer.
- EFM classes ongoing
- Adult Christian Education ongoing
- Episcopal 101 classes ongoing
- Outreach Opportunity Joan Weber assisting St. Augustine in efforts to supply personal hygiene items to the needy
- Sunday April 21: Earth Day Celebration in Meditation Garden led by Molly Blackwell
- Saturday April 27t : St. Lukes Vestry; St. Margaret's hosted a one-day retreat for St. Lukes' Vestry. Lunch supplied by St. Margaret's Vestry
- Sunday April 28th: Newcomers Dinner; St. Margaret's hosted a dinner for newcomers to the parish .
- Upcoming Activities
 - Church Periodical Club; Special Collection Sunday May 19th
 - Stop the Bleed Training May 16th Registration open to parishioners.
 - Lester Mut's Ordination Monday June 10th

Jr. Warden Report: Ronny Daley

- The freezer fan has been repaired and is now working properly.
- The pine trees have been removed.
- More plumbing backups have been discovered. Roto-Rooter was called on March 9th. An additional clean-out drain was found. Same issue as before.
- The Montessori School will be adding a wooden pergola to help during the hot months, allowing the children to play outside.
- New planters have been installed along the breezeway.
- Trash has been dumped behind the dumpster. Will get quotes to have items removed.
- **Future Projects**
 - Five sheets of plywood will have to be replaced under the breezeway and painted.
 - The Sanctuary wooden doors will need maintenance this year. The last time this was done was 2020. Varnish will need to be applied to prevent cracking and splitting.

Treasurer's Report: Jack Warner

- \$68,354.02, cash in bank.
- \$756,019.76 Total Fixed Assets

Rector's Report: Fr. Tommy Dillon

- I am honored to announce my attendance at Austin Rio's ordination as Bishop of California on May 4th, followed by the Provence IV Synod from May 8th to 10th at Kanuga. Canon Morgan MacIntire will preside and preach during the services on May 5th.
- We are eager to organize a La Mesa Fundraiser this summer. Additionally, Danielle and I have been granted a \$600 scholarship to attend Nuevo Amanecer in June.
- This week, I have the privilege of presiding at the Episcopal School twice for Holy Eucharist, strengthening our ties with the school community. Our Episcopal 101 class begins this Wednesday with 10 enthusiastic participants. Joan and I will co-teach, providing a comprehensive introduction to our faith tradition.

- As Earth Day approaches, we are planning a special event in the garden this Sunday. I will offer a blessing, emphasizing our duty to care for God’s creation and the importance of environmental stewardship.
- Our Pastoral Care Team continues to provide support to those in need. Let’s keep our lil community members in our thoughts and prayers during this time.
- Heartfelt thank-you notes from St. Luke’s and Rainbow World Fund have been received for donations made from my 20th anniversary collection. It is heartening to see our generosity making a difference beyond our community.
- La Mesa concludes for this semester this Sunday, with post-gatherings planned.
- The Newcomers dinner is scheduled for April 28th.
- Bowling with the Bishop will also be held April 28th.
- St. Margaret’s will host, I will lead a Vestry retreat at St. Luke’s on April 27th.
- Holy Week and Easter Attendance Comparison:

Event	2022	2023	2024
Palm Sunday	130	121	146
Maundy Thursday	38	35	45
Good Friday	39	42	45
Stations	13	10	15
Good Friday	37	30	44
Holy Saturday	14	10	15
Vigil	55	72	81
Easter Day	140	170	140

Old Business

- Michele Fuselier presented the results of the Abundance Leadership Survey.
 - **Ministry and Program Growth**
 - Elderly Ministry – 80
 - LGBTQ+ Ministry – 73
 - Music Ministry – 71
 - Outreach Ministry – 70
 - **Community Building and Celebrations**
 - Meeting places available to community – 77
 - Outdoor labyrinth and stations of the cross – 75
 - Celebrations with St. Augustine – 72
 - Community Garden – 71
 - Children’s Mass – 66
 - **Invitation & Harvesting Abundance**
 - Invite family and friends to a church service - 75
 - Community art event – 72
 - Collaborate with Perkins Road Merchant Assoc. – 69
 - Setting up a resource table at events – 68
 - Collaborate with BR Master Gardeners to create community garden – 68
 - **Strategies and Implementation**
 - Eliminate church debt – 83
 - Poll congregation to identify resources, skills, interest and talents – 82
 - Music – 80
 - Social media content – 78
 - Rental of church properties - 74

New Business

- Safeguarding God’s children class is needed for some. Sandra will provide the link.
- We will be applying for a FEMA grant to construct a fence, install security camera and install new locks with key fobs.

Meeting was shortened, due to inclement weather and closed with Prayer by Fr. Tommy.

Margaret’s Episcopal Church is a joyful community, grounded in the love of Christ that welcomes and includes ALL with meaningful worship, service to the community, and commitment to growing as faithful Christians.