

2022 St. Matthew Orthodox Church Annual Meeting

12:00 pm opening prayer by Father John.

Rollcall was completed and it was considered that a quorum was met, 40 voting members.

The minutes from last year's annual meeting were reviewed. Motion made by Dorothy Olson to accept minutes, seconded by Matt Tomac. All approved

Father John report:

We give thanks to God for all good things. He wanted to give thanks for all those who help grow our church including Father Eugene, parish council, ministries services, Jeff and Sara in the choir, Deacon Spyridon, those who support the church with financial giving, cleaners of the church and all others who give.

Statistically, we had 4 infant and 1 adult baptisms, 2 chrismations, 5 individuals became catechumens. There was 1 funeral service and multiple memorial services. May their memory be eternal.

We did well through the COVID-19 pandemic with its restrictions. Father was pleased how we approached this obstacle in peace and in a Christian manner.

Regarding mission contributions, Father would like to support Father Phil McClanahan and his family as they minister in Indonesia through OCMC. The mission is to bring people to Christ.

Lent is approaching. Father reminds us to focus more on prayer, fasting and almsgiving. He encourages all of us to make an effort to start the first week of Lent in preparation.

He thanked all for welcoming him and his family.

Motion to accept Father's report by Chuck Bayerl, seconded by Matt Tomac. Approved by all.

Paul Novak, the President's report:

Paul reviewed the roles of each of the Parish Council members.

Last year our annual meeting was on Zoom. We have made a lot of progress and 'momentum' in our church. We restarted Sunday school, completed phase two of the iconography project, parishioners attended a baseball game, we had the St. Matthew luncheon, created the Men's group, traveled to Sister Bay to clean Transfiguration Chapel, continued with our adult group. There have been new catechumens and new parishioners that have moved into the area and are attending St. Matthew.

Paul reviewed the projects that are being considered for the future.

Phase 3 iconography was reviewed in detail involving the upper walls on the North and South walls and below the icon of the Theotokos on the left wall. This may include medallion shaped icons. This would cost about \$38,000. We have \$8,458 in the fund at this time. It would take 8-12 months and Dimitri would be present for 10-12 days. Matthew questioned how long it would take to raise the funds. We raised \$32,000 to repair the roof in 7 weeks. There have been other discussions with Dimitri regarding lighting and chandeliers. He does not believe there should be any lighting directly on the saints. He also felt the chandelier would not 'fit' the design of this building.

We purchased this building in 2014 with the understanding that the siding would need to be replaced at some time. We had it painted at one time and that has kept us good up until now. The southeast side of the church appears to be most damaged. On some of the sides, there are holes. The siding needs to be addressed before any other projects. Deacon Spyridon has volunteered to direct this project with volunteers from the parish. We have received two quotes...\$40,000 and \$57,000. We will be obtaining one other quote. It is thought this would be a 6-7 week project depending on availability. When the funds are available, we will start the project – no loan is projected at this time. This would include the windows in Herrick Hall. Deacon Spyridon believes the materials will cost about \$30,000. The siding being considered is a resin-based siding which is felt the most durable today. The color is yet to be determined. We are prepared for additional repairs that are currently unknown. This is the most critical project that needs to be addressed. Questions were answered in detail.

Motion for the above was made by Paul and seconded by Bernie. All in favor and approved.

Motion to accept report was made Gregg and seconded by Brandon. All approved.

Matt Tomac, the Vice President's report:

Matt thanked everyone on the cleaning crew. Recently, we improved electrical outlets in Herrick Hall. If anyone is wishing to be placed on the cleaning list to clean the Church, please call Matt. He appreciated everything everyone has done over the past year.

We will plan another 'deep clean' prior to Pascha.

Chuck motioned to approve Matt's comments, seconded by LinLan. Approved by all.

Tom Jullian, treasurer's report: Budget was reviewed. See attached.

First, Tom wanted to thank everyone for the support and 'extra giving' for special requests and projects.

It is felt the mortgage may be retired in 9 years if we consider the pace that we are currently maintaining. Monthly pledges have been helpful, but also the additional \$42 a month contributions from

the P42 project has been helpful also. He would like the P42 project to cover the mortgage every month. This monthly payment is \$1,187. Over this past year, we have been able to add additional \$313 monthly for a total payment of \$1,500.

The second biggest check we right is to the Diocese. That comes from our general giving. That amount is currently \$1300.

We have requested an increase in giving to missions. We increased to \$9,900.

Tom established a legacy and endowment fund. It currently has \$9,100. At least half of the earnings on the endowment fund needs to be used every year. There will continue to be contributions without penalty and with no capital gain. Tom requests that we consider any contributions to the church including wills.

In 2021, Tom pointed out, that 87% of our giving was made by parishioners over age 60 years. He reminds us to be faithful to each future generation.

Tom reviewed the 2022 budget in detail. Our recurring major monthly expenditures is \$10,155.00. The budget between to 2021 and 2022 is very similar.

Jeff asked if the legacy fund should be in the budget. Tom clarified that he is required to report this income, but it is a stand-alone item and is not in the budget.

Questions answered regarding the Diocesan assessment and how the dues were calculated, answered by Paul and Tom. The dues are based on revenue.

Bernie approved the above report, seconded by Catherine. Approved by all.

All the parish council members have agreed to continue for another term on council. Motion to approve was made by Catherine and seconded by Paul Tolzman.

Pedro asked to consider if there could be overlapping of replacing members so they are not all replaced at once to help with continuity. Paul clarified the bylaws, stating that a member can service 3, 2 year terms and can continue to serve beyond that if approved by the congregation. Jeff requests this as an item of discussion at the next parish council meeting.

Sara questioned: in the past, there were submissions or recommendations for council positions but that this has not been done in the past few years. Paul was able to clarify this. Paul suggested that if anyone is interested in a position in the parish council, to consider attending meetings and mentorship. Jeff also agreed that the nominations for parish council positions be open to discussion.

Upon discussion of above regarding parish council nominations, discuss was opened for discussion and suggested nomination. No voice made and existing motion was carried.

The All American Council. The meeting is July 18-22, 2022 in Pennsylvania. Paul is unable to attend due to family wedding and Father John is unable to go as his baby will be due in July. Father proposed Pedro as our lay-delegate candidate. Father asked for any other delegates who would be interested in attending. There were none at this time.

Father nominated Pedro, Jeff seconded. All agreed. Pedro accepted.

Unfinished business: none per Paul. He questioned if anyone had any unfinished business – none.

New business: Paul requested to reestablish soup and salad for presanctified meals, starting March 09. Bonita Zdrale has managed this in the past. Joy volunteered to arrange for availability of sign-up sheet which was accepted.

Midnight Pascha feast: Last year we blessed baskets and left for home. This year Paul proposed a smaller event. Then have an outdoor picnic meal after Agape service along with an egg hunt. Discussion ensued with some thoughts of resuming the Pascha meal after Saturday night service. Father suggested that we have both meals and people can attend the meals they wish. Will continue to have the egg hunt the following day. Paul asked if there was any volunteer for coordinator for the midnight meal and Catherine volunteered. Therefore, we will have a midnight service and a meal after Agape Service.

Paul motioned for adjournment, seconded by Jeff. Approved by all.

Father led closing prayer at 2:09 pm.