Junior Warden’s Report

August 10, 2021

**Town Hall Meetings Salient Points**

At the August 15th Town Hall Meeting we presented an overview of “The Full Reserve” report to the congregation. The consulting firm Association Reserves recommends a fully funded reserve balance of $1,577,840 and recommends we contribute $200,000 every year to fund it.

The September 8th Town Hall meeting with Rt. Rev. Rickel was well attended and was a huge success. He did an excellent job thanking Marda for her service, welcoming Beverly as our new rector, and asking the congregation to actively support her and the importance of a successful stewardship campaign. He mentioned we are a Cardinal parish.

**The Thrift Stop:**

We had a very successful End of Summer Sale August 20-21. We had 189 transactions for $3428.47 making the average sale $18.14. We moved out a lot of goods and especially things we will not carry in the future.

A representative group from the Finance Committee and Thrift Shop had a very productive meeting September 9th. Rev. Beverly Moore-Tasy, Judy Davis, Byron Richards, Kris Peterson, Steve Connelly and I were in attendance. Byron Richards, our Finance Committee Chairperson, agreed that it makes sense to zero out the balance owed by the Thrift Shop to start with a clean slate and make a motion to the vestry to do so. I intend to present two resolutions below at Tuesdays’ vestry meeting and will call for a vote at our October retreat.

* Resolution: The vestry approve adjusting journal entries through September 30, 2021 YTD to zero out cumulative Thrift Shop fund expenditures and to transfer these expenditures to the Church’s operating P&L. These journal entries will be fully coordinated with the Church’s bookkeeper.

This resolution will significantly enhance the parish’s ability to collect startup contributions and allow the Thrift Shop to open in October 2021. Additionally, it will help our fall stewardship campaign by removing conditions to some pledges.

* Resolution: The vestry approve the reopening of the Thrift Shop in early October because all material conditions have been met.
* We have achieved or mitigated (not doing robust eCommerce to start) all the steps to all the gates of the MOU.
* However, we have added a mutually agreed upon Operating Agreement to the criteria to open. A draft has been drawn and it is being worked through between Byron Richards and myself. We will take it to the forementioned Ad Hoc Committee for vetting and then, hopefully, to the vestry for approval. As long as we are working in good faith, this should not be a holdup.
* Before we open the Thrift Shop, we want the parish admin person to be hired.
* Contingent upon Vestry approval hoping to open in early October with a soft opening 4 days a week
* Merri Day was offered a job from Bridge Ministries on Wednesday September 15th and turned it down in anticipation of our Thrift Shop opening. She emailed me on that Thursday, “*I would love to be considered to manage the Thrift Shop again and that is truly where my heart is*.”

**Stewardship:**

The Fellowship Committee did an excellent job organizing the Ministry Fair. It was a huge success. Getting parishioners reengaged is important to our sustainability. What is currently going on and what’s to come:

* Supper Club actively going through October – Andrea Feist
* Bunco Night/Potluck struggling with getting enough people to sign up to come.
* Adopt a Highway Program – We intend to start in the fall. We are required to have 2 cleanup events a year.
* Re-start Newcomers Welcome program – Mike and Andrea
* Ugly Christmas Sweater – December 10th
* Re-start “God with Us” program four times per year starting in 2022– Curt LeMaster.

Rev. Beverly Moore-Tasy, Judy Davis, Jeanie Totten, Patti Magers, and I are all attending the Project Resource Stewardship Training provided by the Diocese. We will have our 3rd meeting by the time the vestry meets. The class is very well presented and stimulates a lot of thought and subsequent ideas. The purpose of the class is to provide a strategic yet practical approach to stewardship.

**Additional updates:**

All other information was included in the Senior Warden’s report.

Your Brother in Christ,

Curt LeMaster