

St. Luke's Leeds Parish Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2023

Attending: The Rev. Trish Miller (chairing), Angela Kelman (recording), Donna Robinson, Greg Smith, Mary Haigh, Mark Jamison

Regrets: The Ven. Nancy MacLeod, Susan Thorpe

Trish opened the meeting with a devotion from Bishop Michael Curry about the word "agape", and led us in silent prayer.

The minutes from the meeting of September 21, 2023 were accepted by consensus.

Business Arising

\$360 has now been raised for the Orange Shirt Society.

Congregational Development

- We will be maintaining a separate Stewardship Team. Thank you to Donna for chairing.
- There will be a new diocesan Archdeacon for rural ministry. The portfolio is to include stewardship and congregational development. The Ven. Nancy Beale will be developing this role as of December 6.
- Very good discussions were held at the approach meals.

Outreach

- \$1000 will be sent to PWRDF for aid to Gaza hospitals.
- Coalition of Angels – There are currently 29 families on the list and 10 to 12 more are expected to be added.
- A thank you card was received from Rideau District High School for assistance with one of their families.
- The Athens Ministerial is hosting a fundraiser for Mapleview Landings in April 2024. \$2000 will be donated to this effort.
- Sweet's Corners Elementary School will need more funding for its nutrition program in the spring.
- We are applying for a diocesan Stretch grant for a truth and reconciliation initiative. Consider other suggestions for 2024. Something for schools?
- Epiphany jug campaign – We will try a virtual campaign. Receipts issued for donations of \$20 or more. For school nutrition programs at Sweet's Corners, Rideau District, and South Crosby Public School. Parish will match funds up to \$5000. Promote on social media and with a media release, and through the schools and the Seeley's Bay Area Residents Association.

Worship & Pastoral Care

Fr. Reg is leading the next Sunday service. There will be no music.

Stewardship & Financial

- Financial statements – Agapa gala transactions were under fundraising but were moved out to do the green sheets. Enough income was left to cover expenses. Extra income was moved to the Outreach category. This was done in order to avoid assessment, as they become designated funds.
- United Way reporting for a food security grant is required.
- We have a mechanism for transferring funds to the diocese without writing a cheque. Mary suggests we use this to send funds for the McDonald estate that went to the Anglican Foundation.
- Meals to Go program – a fridge was donated.
- Consider hosting a town hall meeting to discuss affordable housing.
- Silent retreat on December 16, 10am to 2pm, at the Seeley's Bay United Church.
- Lyndhurst Santa Claus Parade – November 18. Trish will be attending.
- Breakfast with St. Nick – December 2
- Light of Christ community event in Elgin on December 3.
- Intention Sunday – 6 cards were returned. \$15,370 was pledged and all included volunteer responses. Pledges are down slightly from last year. 4 or 5 more are expected to come.

Property/Personnel/Safe Church

A big thank you to the Thrift Shop volunteers for recent improvements.

Scheduling & Events

- December 6 at 7pm at the Cathedral – Nancy will be canonized!
- Consider inviting the new Bishop to an event. An evening Sip 'n Shop at the Thrift Shop?
- Vestry meeting – February 24 at 11am in the Elgin Community Hall. Reports due by February 11. Close the Thrift Shop for the day or switch Mark's shift with someone so that he's able to attend Vestry.

Next meeting: January 25, 2024 at 7pm on Zoom. We have to approve the budget.