

**St. Boniface Episcopal Church**  
**January 26, 2020 Annual Parish Meeting Minutes**  
**Approved February 20, 2020**

*In accordance with the canon law of the Diocese of Southwest Florida and the by-laws of St. Boniface Church, the parish meeting, having been announced in the Church newsletter, Sunday leaflets, and from the pulpit, was held at 11:30 a.m. Sunday, January 26, 2020, in the Boniface Community Center. A booklet was distributed containing the agenda for the meeting, as well as information on outreach, vestry nominees, financial & investment status, pledging households, etc.*

### **Opening Prayer**

**Call to Order** The meeting was called to order by the Rector, Wayne Farrell

### **Leadership Recognition**

- A Boniface Hero award was presented to Rita Valenti-Piovane for her work in developing and launching our Center for Spiritual Transformation, and exceptional leadership & caring in forming and facilitating our Grief and Loss Group
- A gift was presented to out-going vestry member Denise Ayre

### **Sr. Warden Report** Phil Baker

- St. Boniface is a "financially healthy" church
- The Vestry was busy in 2019
  - Organizing the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner gala & auction (which netted ≈\$4,500)
  - Renovation of the Community Center interior
  - Shining our Light stewardship campaign
  - Organization of the St. Nicholas Fair, with \$2,600 in proceeds going to Brothers & Sisters Doing the Right Thing
  - "Stay or Go" discernment: the unanimous vote was to stay, and recognizing that the campus needs to be "hardened" for disastrous weather
- The Rector presented Phil with a gift of recognition for his leadership as senior warden

### **Jr. Warden Report** Rooney Mereness

- Hurricane Dorian preparedness
- Renovated the interior of the Community Center
- Replacement of more air conditioners
- Refurbishment of the courtyard fountain
- Campus-wide power-washing
- Replaced all parking lot lights
- Plans for 2020 are to: reroof the Healing Mission and Community Center, repurpose the empty preschool classrooms, replace carpeting in the Parish Hall & Library, replace air conditioning unit in the Choir Gallery, install lighting in the courtyard fountain
- The Rector presented Rooney with a gift of recognition for his leadership as junior warden

### **Treasurer Report** Jon Gordon

- Jon will be rotating off the vestry, as he has served two consecutive terms
- 2020 operating budget: Budgeted expenses for 2020 are \$1,096,377; current pledged income of \$754,178 as of January 15, 2020 toward our goal of \$788,000
- staff will receive a 3% COLA this year, and the music administrative staff will get an increased pay rate plus additional hours
- 2019 ended with a \$29k surplus
- Generous gift bequests received this year, need to save and spend wisely

A **motion** was made, seconded and accepted to affirm the 2020 operating budget as presented.

- The Rector presented Jon with a gift of recognition for his leadership as treasurer

### **Investment Chair Report** Oliver Janney

- The Investment Committee manages the church's Endowment Fund and other investments
- Noted the generous bequests plus market strength produced 39.3% earnings in 2019

### **Member Engagement** Betsie Danner

- Shining Our Light:
  - *Ministry Groups*: We offer 40+ ministry groups which create community and carry out God's work. In 2019 we introduced 5 new ministries and 2 new worship opportunities: CST, Deaf Ministry, Migration Ministry Workgroup, Brown Bag Conversation Group, St. Nicholas Fair, Taizé service and Eucharist for Deaf Worshipers.
  - *Outreach*: Through grants and direct aid, Giving Trees, hands-on efforts, use of our church grounds and spaces – together we accomplish God's work in the world in ways that none of us could accomplish on our own. A detail of outreach efforts is in the Annual Meeting Report.
  - *Financial Stewardship*: in 2020 is off to a healthy start with response to the Shining our Light Annual Pledge Appeal (pledgers are included in the gratitude list in the Annual Meeting Report), and the addition of 12 new members to the Boniface Cornerstone Society (for legacy givers) Legacy giving through the Boniface Cornerstone Society

### **Vestry Election**

- Vestry nominations were accepted from the floor, none were presented

A **motion** was made, seconded and accepted to close the nominations. A unanimous vote confirmed the election of the slate presented; vestry members of class of 2022 are Rooney Mereness, Beverly Parker, Charlie Pettengill, Judy Stickler.

### **Rector Report** Wayne Farrell

- Thank you to the vestry for their "Stay or Go" discernment, "we are meant to stay here"
- Recognition of staff, with 7 full-time and 10 part-time employees
- Accolades to the music ministry, with the success of the Seraphic Fire concert, the newly-formed Boniface chamber singers, the Siesta Youth Chorale, young artists scholarships awarded, and recognition of Bob Bole for his many years of service as Friends of Music Committee chair
- CPR and First Aid training sessions were held this year
- Business Manager, Cindy Hannon is currently out on medical leave, thanks to Joe Master for stepping in to that ministry

- Deacon Elisa Hansen also out on medical leave, thank you to our assisting clergy for filling in
- Our 1954 first service was a wonderful celebration
- St. Boniface was gifted angel ornaments, which adorned new Christmas trees
- In 2019 we celebrated two same-gender weddings
- Embracing & supporting Fr. Richard Mahaffy's deaf ministry
- Our teaching ministries of Siesta Youth Chorale, Wonderful Wednesday programs, Sunday morning classes
- Our healing ministries of the Healing Mission, weekly healing service, peace & justice
- Our campus hosts many community meetings, our church as a concert venue
- Recognized Trish Farrell's service as the president of the diocesan clergy spouse association. We are grateful for all clergy spouses
- Programs for 2020 will include "The Beloved Community," following the Presiding Bishop's initiative, welcoming Bp. Jake Owensby in March and Bp. Garrison's visit late April
- Continue with the goal of pledges to reach \$1M by 2022, with 10% dedicated to outreach
- Rectors of Church of the Redeemer Sarasota and St. Mark's Venice retiring. We pray for their calling of new leadership, and welcome their congregants who may be visiting our church
- The Rector appoints Suzanne Gregory as Sr. Warden

### **Opened the Floor to questions & comments**

**Adjournment:** Closing prayer given by Rev. Wayne Farrell, meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Wolf, Clerk of the Vestry