

**Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church**  
**Parish Council Meeting**  
May 12, 2016

A regular meeting of the Parish Council of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church was held on Thursday, May 12, 2016 at the Church. President Tracy Pappas called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with Secretary Nick Dervenis present.

**Clergy Present:** Father Bill Bartz, Father Jarrod Russell

**Members Present:** Matt Albean, Nick Dervenis, Dennis Dickos, Greg Dickos, Tracy Pappas, Julie Rowlas, Nick Saran, Irene Sarris, Gail Zeheralis

**Members Absent:** Bob Dine, Angelo Julovich, Steve Kollias, George Pappaioanou, Nick Sofianopolos

**Opening Prayer**

Father Bill Bartz led the Parish Council in singing the Resurrection Hymn "Christ is Risen".

**Approval of the April 14th minutes**

Nick Saran made a motion: "I move to accept the minutes of the March 10 meeting." There was a second to the motion. There was an opportunity for discussion. A vote was taken. The motion was approved.

**Treasury Report**

Nick Saran presented the Treasurer's report including an overview of the balance sheet as of May 12, 2016 as follows:

PNC Operating Acct.	\$ 228,914.44
PNC Fundraising Acct.	\$ 16,839.87
PNC Designated Acct.	\$ 141,384.60
Schwab – Cash	\$ 126,104.56
PNC Building Fund	\$ 527,850.17
PNC Building Fund CD	\$ 0.00
Total Assets	<u>\$1,041,093.64</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 0.00</u>

Dennis Dickos made a motion: "I move to accept the Treasurer's report." There was a second to the motion. There was an opportunity for discussion. A vote was taken. The motion was approved.

Dennis Dickos suggested to leave monies in the Schwab account for now, but develop a future financial plan as account balances increase.

Tracy Pappas proposed to have the Finance Committee develop a financial strategy for higher yields on existing accounts.

**Finance Committee Report**

Nick Saran coordinated a meeting with two accounting firms, Greenwalt and Capincrouse on April 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss best practice and auditing options available to the Parish with Nick Sofianopoulos, Julie Rowlas, Cindy Watson, and Father Bill. Capincrouse is the more experienced firm catering their services to churches with over 1,000 church clients. The church checkup consists of five

areas of service which can be purchased individually or collectively to meet your specific needs. Nick recommended Capincrouse and suggested 5 years between check-ups.

Nick Saran stated the Archdiocese is currently encouraging the ACS program, creating pilot programs with some parishes. This program potentially replaces the Shelby program and could result in a substantial savings. The Finance Committee will review and make their recommendation.

### **Stewardship Committee Report**

Dennis Dickos presented the Stewardship Report.

#### 2016 Stewardship as of 5/10/16

Total Parishioners Pledged to-date	382
Total amount pledged to date	\$662,553.37
Total amount contributed to date	\$284,183.46
Total Unpaid balance to date	\$378,369.91

#### Comparison: 2015 Stewardship on 5/19/15

Total parishioners pledged	369
Total amount pledged	\$606,844.00
Total amount contributed	\$264,367.23
Total balance unpaid	\$342,476.77

#### 2015 Stewardship as of 5/10/16

Number of parishioners pledged for 2015	408
Total amount pledged to date	\$676,780.80
Total amount contributed to date	\$661,296.30
Total Unpaid balance to date	\$ 15,484.50

Dennis reported that 90% of stewards have commenced their pledges and Holy Trinity will achieve the stewardship goal of \$675,000! The Stewardship Committee is working on new inserts for the stewardship package and noted the new Stewardship Cards will be blue. Dennis was pleased to report the flooring and pews initiative has not impacted stewardship.

### **Clergy Reports**

#### **Father Bill Bartz's Report**

Since our 14 April Parish Council meeting, the Akathist Hymn was offered and the last Presanctified Liturgy was celebrated. There were 11 Confessions. The 14 Divine Services of Holy Week and Easter were also celebrated with overall good attendance. There were three funerals. There were 25 visitations and two blessings at businesses. One wedding was celebrated.

Dr Despina Prassas was the speaker for our annual Lenten Retreat with Saint George Church. Her presentation was informative and interesting. Approximately 90 people attended on Saturday. She preached the sermon on Sunday, 17 April, which was also well received by Parishioners. Father Jarrod's recommendation proved to be a very good one.

Philoptochos coordinated our Palm Sunday Luncheon that was delicious and beautiful. The annual Anastasi Fellowship was also well organized and delicious. These events are important, enabling the faithful to gather socially and interact as a community. The Anastasi Fellowship cost \$1,042. The freewill offering was \$357. This results in a deficit of \$685. The collection trays during Holy Week and Easter cover the deficit.

The Divine Services of Holy Week and Easter were meaningful and magnificent. Dean Maniakas and the chanters, Bill Christoff and the Choir, those in the Altar, and those in the Narthex, including the Parish Council members, all contributed to create an inspiring and beautiful week for the faithful. Father Bill thanked the Parish Council members for working these Divine Services and assisting the faithful. Some Parish Council members came late to fulfill their duties and some were absent. These duties were volunteered, not assigned.

Father Jarrod's growth as a Priest has been witnessed by the Parish. His assistance during Holy Week and Easter was greatly appreciated by Father Bill. The faithful also expressed their appreciation of his growth as a Priest and his presence during Holy Week and Easter.

Thirty four Leisure Timers enjoyed a lunch at Cheesecake Factory, celebrating our community.

Effective today, Father Bill is no longer the Chaplain for the IUPUI OCF. Father Zachariah Trent is now the Chaplain for IUPUI OCF.

The two-month evaluation of Willa occurred on Thursday, 21 April. She received a favorable report, itemizing her strengths and weaknesses. It seems that the job "clicked" around early April and she now feels as though she has it. Cindy also concurs that Willa is more confident in her job. Her three-month evaluation is next week. The intent is to hire her as our part-time employee.

Father Bill and Presbytera Emily took two and a half days off after Easter. They are planning a trip to Akron to visit Father Bill's mother around Memorial Day.

### **Father Jarrod Russell's Report**

#### **Religious Education:**

The Holy Friday Retreat was a great success with 76 participants. The clergy addressed the younger students at the beginning of the retreat and Father Jarrod also conducted an educational session with the older students. All the separate events for each age group were visited and it was a very impressive retreat in every respect.

The final Church School class visit will occur on Sunday, May 15. The visit will be to the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade class.

#### **Youth Ministry Events:**

The Sr. and Jr. GOYA worked the soup kitchen on Saturday, April 16. Four Sr. GOYAns, five Jr. GOYAns, and six adults attended the soup kitchen. This event occurred on the Saturday of the Lenten Retreat sponsored by the Women's Ministries of Holy Trinity Church and St. George Church.

#### **Orthodox Christian Fellowship:**

The OCF at IUPUI has concluded for the academic year.

#### **REAL:**

A meeting with a couple interested in the new small group for young married couples occurred on Thursday, April 21. So far, there are four couples interested in this group, and events are being planned for the summer.

#### **Metropolis of Detroit Events:**

The St. Nicholas Summer Camp is scheduled for July 24-30, 2016, in Pleasantville, Tennessee. Early registration, which includes a \$50 discount, continues through May 31. This has been promoted in the Koinonia and by the youth advisors. The Metropolis is providing a bus to reduce the length of travel. The campers are being charged \$50 for the round trip. For this year, Holy

Trinity campers are being encouraged to board the bus at the Assumption Parish in Louisville, Kentucky.

## **Parish Council Committee Assignments and Reports**

### ***Flooring – No Report***

#### ***Pews – Dennis Dickos***

Dennis said \$575,000 in pledges have been received for the flooring and pews. The install date for the pews is slated to begin on September 6<sup>th</sup>. Dennis reported the wood is maple. We are waiting for the samples with different stain colors for review to ensure proper stain is selected. Dennis noted undercoating helps determine shade of color. New Holland Pew Company has not made final measurements as the handicap seating has not yet been finalized. Dennis stated it will take 4 months to make the pews and chairs.

#### **Lighting for Iconography—Father Bill**

Father Bill reported the lighting supplies will be delivered by May 20<sup>th</sup> with the project to begin on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and completion within 3 weeks.

#### **Building Fund Plaque**

Father Bill reported 2 plaques are in need of re-tinting. Upon removal of the 2 plaques, mold was present with water behind the wall behind the plaques. Bob Dine will look into the water issue in the wall and make a recommendation. Matt Albean recommended 1/8" spacers to be used to rehang the plaques.

### **Ten-Year Facilities Plan – No Report**

#### **Repairs-Iconostasion—Dennis Dickos**

Dennis reported the company that was used initially for the construction of the icon screen was sold recently. Dennis will contact the new owners to review the history and inquire if they can make a visit to Holy Trinity to view the icon screen and the repairs needed.

#### **Repairs-uneven sidewalks & mold—No Report**

#### **LED Lighting in parking lot- Father Bill**

Father Bill stated the exterior parking lights have been installed. The ground and dome lighting have yet to be completed. There was concern expressed over the darkness during early morning hour events and to ensure Parish leaders know how to operate the lighting during these special events.

#### **Counting the collections after Divine Services**

Nick Saran reported there was a collection tray that did not get counted and was placed on a desk within the office. It was determined this tray was the freewill offering tray from Saturday night's Anastasi Fellowship and not after the Divine Liturgy. There was discussion of possibly removing the 2<sup>nd</sup> trays from Holy Friday and Holy Saturday evening services unless designated for a specific entity or outreach.

#### **Old Risers—Father Bill**

Tim Bryant needs to be consulted about storage area, before a decision can be made.

**Software Proposal—Matt Albean**

Since it has been recommended to use the accounting program ACS instead of Shelby, Matt Albean will discuss with IT contact Bill Perdue to ensure compatibility. Matt reported expenses of approximately \$4,000 and will provide long term savings of approximately \$6,000 a year with the elimination of Rackspace. Matt made a motion to accept Bill Perdue’s proposal to move from a cloud-based server to a Parish-based server. There was a second to the motion. There was opportunity for discussion. A vote was taken. The motion was approved. Matt recommended an off-site backup.

**Bylaws approved by his Eminence Metropolitan Nicholas**

Members in good standing defined by fulfilling their previous year’s commitment and commencing their current pledge payment by March 1<sup>st</sup>. The increased expenditure limited were also approved.

**Greekfest Aug 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>—Julie Rowlas**

Julie recommended Mike Hendricks attend the next PC meeting to review traffic patterns stemming from the new carryout and concerns over costs associated with the proposed gravel drive.

**Calendar events for 2016-2017—IOCC event**

Tracy Pappas asked everyone to begin thinking about fundraisers for the new calendar year and present them at the next Parish Council meeting on June 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Miscellaneous**

Gail Zeheralis will look into renegotiating the contract with the Montessori school for next Fall. Gail will consult with a commercial realtor to discuss the possibility of a rate increase for next year prior to meeting with Vivian.

Tracy Pappas thanked everyone for a successful and meaningful Holy Week.

**Next Meeting – June 9, 2016**

**2016 Meetings – 14 July, 11 August, 8 September, 13 October, 10 November, 8 December**

**Adjournment**

Gail Zeheralis made a motion. “I move to adjourn the meeting.” There was a second to the motion. There was an opportunity for discussion. A vote was taken. The motion was approved.

Father Jarrod closed the meeting with a prayer. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

  
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Nick Dervenis, Secretary

6-9-16  
Date

  
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Tracy Pappas, President

6-9-16  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Father Bill Bartz, Presiding Priest

9 JUNE 2016  
Date

