

## **Mission Council Retreat (Part Three) and Monthly Meeting 01/20/2021**

The SMAA Mission Council met for the third in a series of meetings designed to take the place of the usual retreat taken at the beginning of the year to focus our hearts and minds on the mission of the church. The focus was to make three tactical goals to be fulfilled this year. Father Charles asked for prayer requests before opening the meeting in prayer.

- Debbie Marshall's friend Jerry passed away from COVID. She also stated that she had four friends pass away this week.
- Father Charles reported that his friend Bill (and Bill's mom) is struggling with COVID.

After the opening prayer, Father Charles reviewed the results of the last two retreat meetings. Next Debbie Marshall made a motion to approve the covenant document and Pat Brandon seconded the motion. Each member was asked to affirm and agree to live by the covenant verbally. All members were in favor except Hank Gaddis who was absent and Cathy Cook who wanted time to review the covenant before agreeing. Father Charles will ask both of them at the next meeting to verbally affirm and accept the covenant.

Father Charles next led a discussion about what the group thinks the church will look like post COVID. The group came up with three tactic goals for each category:

- Outreach/inreach - to leverage technology to strengthen our communication and connection to our members and community
- Evangelism - to determine for whom we are fishing and develop a way to reach them
- Discipleship - to form 4-5 groups of four people in each group

A motion was made to approve the minutes and reports by Debbie Marshall and seconded by Sandy Rains. There was no discussion and all members approved this motion.

Father Charles led a discussion on the 2021 budget for both the ELC and church. After hearing from several members, it was decided to wait for the first quarter results before final approval for the budget for the whole year. We may even need to have a continuing resolution model (month-to-month) to see the results of pledges and expenses.

John Phillips reported that the Diocesan pledge needs to be paid for January. Jim Lawler made a motion to approve the payment of \$1750 for the Diocesan pledge and Alex Maitland seconded the motion. All members approved this motion.

Father Charles asked the group how we can make people feel connected during this unprecedented time. Debbie Marshall reported that she has been writing notes and Cathy Cook has been making calls. He encouraged all of us to make calls and send notes. He also asked that we ponder ideas of how we can further stay connected with our church family.

A mission council concern was brought up about a discipleship group for teens and what bible would be appropriate for this group. Father Charles will investigate the best options.

Lastly, Alex Maitland made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Kimberley Norris-Jones seconded the motion. All members approved this motion.