

VESTRY MEETING – 5 DECEMBER 2022, 19.30, in-person & on Zoom
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, WATERLOO

Present: Rev. Sunny Hallanan (Rector), Katie Osweiler (Curate), Paul Hirsch, Derek Pullinger, Mike Breton (Treasurer)
Online: Susan Downhill (Senior Warden), Kathi-Sue Rupp, Vincent Musschoot, Carol Ducastel
Staff: Fiona White

1. Vincent Musschoot opened the meeting with a **prayer**.
2. **Absences:** Nick Fern (Junior Warden), Jane McBride
3. **Approval of minutes:** The minutes from 7 November were approved with two changes.
4. **Vestry check-in:** Vincent led a discussion on the missions. What does the Vestry feel their message and their purpose are? It was felt these two areas need to be discussed separately. Our missions have happened organically. It says in the Bible that Jesus sends us out to baptize the world in His Name, so our mission is to share the faith with the world. Where are the places that are ripe to hear the Gospel? The needs are different in our three missions; how do you communicate with them? Charleroi, Mons and Namur each became All Saints' missions to meet different needs for different communities. Is there a restriction for missions in Belgium? Generally, CofE takes Flanders; the Episcopal Church takes Wallonia. Vincent was asked how he feels about the support provided by ASC's congregation, as he is trying to restart the Namur mission. He doesn't feel unsupported but he does feel alone. There's something precious there that needs to be rebuilt. Sunny feels that currently ASC parishioners need to focus on strengthening ASC itself. Mons is currently bigger than ASC, with attendance near 50 people on a Sunday and 15 or more children for Sunday School. When Namur services restart Sunny will ask ASC people to come to make a more critical mass for the service so when visitors come it will encourage them to join. The services will be in French.
5. **Committee reports:**
 - 5.1 **Building & property**
 - a. Paul Hirsch had submitted his report (attached).
 - b. Mike Breton had two questions. 1. Who will decide on the trees? Building & property should report back to Vestry. 2. The urinals: These are blocked despite a variety of chemicals going down so it was felt the time had come to get in a plumber.
 - c. ASC was informed today that the fridge in SMARTgreen had broken. Is it our responsibility to replace it? Paul said he would talk with Mr Clement.
 - 5.2 **Outreach & service**
 - a. Derek Pullinger had submitted his report (attached).
 - b. Carole Ducastel attended Domisum's open day and reported on it.
 - c. There was a suggestion of giving €200 to the Children in Distress Romania charity supported by Rev. Steve Smith and recover some of our funds by putting out a shoebox. It was agreed to do this.
 - d. Katie Osweiler had candles at €35 each to support Relay for Life. This money is added to Team All Saints' donations.

5.3 Our Community

- a. Carole reported that the Thanksgiving Dinner had been a great success. Over 70 people were there, there was a good ambience and plenty of food. She suggested designating people to certain stations to make serving more effective next time and will draw up a report. We also had a dozen Ukrainians there who really appreciated being invited.
- b. On 14 December we have the Community Carols with fellowship afterwards. Logistics for 100 people attending were discussed.
- c. On 17 December we have the Christmas Carol sing-along and bring-a-dessert at the Rupps.
- d. We need one more turkey for the meal on Christmas Eve.
- e. The AGM will be the next fellowship event.

5.4 Education & environment

- a. Vincent had nothing to report.
- b. Katie and Sunny have been endeavoring to put education into the sermons.
- c. There is a new string of LED lights outside the church, using less energy than the old lights.

5.5 Finance

- a. Mike presented the 9-month figures (attached). Expenses are exceeding budget but there's nothing too frightening. These were not discussed in detail because those online did not have access to them. Fiona White will distribute them.
- b. €46,000 has been sent to our lender so far this year so Mike's confident of making the target of €50,000.
- c. Nick Fern has calculated that we've paid for more gas than we've used so far.

6. Other business:

6.1 Mutual Ministry Review: Susan Downhill had sent out the set of questions she'd received from Linda Grenz. She felt that they cover all aspects of All Saints' life but maybe it can be suggested that people don't have to answer each question. They will go out on Google forms from Linda which she will prepare. She will also need a list of email addresses and postal addresses for those we want to have receive it. There will be no limit to the size of one's answer and all questionnaires will be anonymous. It was suggested to ask about online worship and communication. The questionnaire should be sent out in early January, with 10 days for people to complete it. That will also give us time to inform parishioners that it will arrive in the New Year.

6.2 ASBL update: Susan reported that the motion about Vestry being on the ASBL is not yet done. The tax return is also late. The ABSL AGM needs to take place by June 2023.

6.3 Safeguarding plan: Sunny reported that unfortunately it's not possible to do some of the safeguarding plan in a group; it should be done as each person is doing the course. The new Convocation safeguarding officer wants to make some changes. Sunny will talk with her and take it from there.

Carole reported that she'd worked on a general safeguarding plan with a former Convocation safeguarding officer, Yvonne Cockcroft (Munich), with the idea that

each parish can work with a prototype and thus take less time. Sunny said she would follow up on this.

6.4 AGM date, plans and Vestry members: It was decided that the AGM will be held on 5 March. Having served two terms, Susan has to come off Vestry; Kathi-Sue may stand for a second term. We need one member to replace Susan and one to fill the position formerly held by Sylvette. The new Vestry retreat will be held on Saturday, 11 March.

6.5 Any other business: Following on from the point made last month, Fiona White had discovered that it's not possible to put our services in another color on the website calendar. However, services and ASC events are now entered in block capitals.

- 7. Curate's report:** Katie reported that so far there are only two children signed up for YAE in Paris and they're from ASC!
She is hoping to do a Sunday School video again for Christmas.
Katie, Fiona and Alasdair White went to *West Side Story* at St John's where two children from the parish were taking part. It was a great show.
She has been to Germany to hang out with the Lutherans, which is her education for the year.
Katie's contract finishes at the end of August 2023 and she has been appointed Chaplain at a Methodist School in Kent, Tunbridge Wells to start the following month. Everyone was full of congratulations for her.
- 8. Rector's report:** Sunny had to write a recommendation for Katie and noted how much she has done for ASC. She is in the process of finding a new curate to replace Katie. We don't have much money and the person must be ordained. She will use the gifts they bring and she will complement them.
23 January: ASC is hosting the Waterloo Christian Unity service. As hosts, we need to encourage parishioners to attend. This year's theme comes from Minnesota, which could make it very American.
She is going to tell the parish that the Vestry has put money aside to help those needing help financing energy bills this winter.
She is doing baptism classes preparing to baptize three people on 15 January: Vincent's two grandchildren and James Berghans.
- 9. Closing prayer:** Vincent offered a closing prayer.

The meeting ended at 21.47.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building group report

Garden.

Enormous quantity of leaves swept up and composted.

Painting.

Railings leading towards the crèche and downstairs toilets repainted.

Next steps.

Clean up remaining leaves.

Decide if we want trees planted in the back garden. If so, which species?

Last attempt to unblock the downstairs gents' urinals before calling a professional plumber (anyone know a good plumber willing to come before 2035?).

Paul Hirsch

Outreach & service

At our last meeting the Vestry was informed that the balance of the Outreach budget 2022, estimated at €646, and 50% of the proceeds from Joelle's piano concert, would be allocated to the rector's discretionary fund, in order to support parishioners experiencing difficulties in paying their energy bills.

However, a week ago we received a request from the Reverend Steven Smith at **Children in Distress Romania** to support their action **Christmas Gifts from the Heart** in favour of needy children and seniors in Romania (see page 19 of the cid Autumn 2022 magazine attached).

We hereby propose to contribute an initial €200 from our Outreach budget 2022, and launch an appeal to parishioners, through the eBlast and at next Sunday's service, to augment this amount with personal contributions. A collection box can be placed at the back of the church on Sunday.

The amount allocated to the rector's discretionary fund in 2022 will therefore be reduced to around €750. However if further funds are required to support parishioners throughout the winter, then an additional sum could be made available from the 2023 Outreach budget.

Derek Pullinger

MMR questionnaire

These [questions] arrived this week, so in perfect time to discuss on Monday. It's the same thing in 2 formats.

We would need to consider:

a) questions - too many, not enough, not the right ones? Note that Linda Grenz says she could send with instructions that not every question has to be answered.

b) timing - we had discussed giving people a short window in which to answer (one week, maybe two). I'm not sure this remains fair if we send out such a questionnaire now, at this busy time of year. But let's see what your thoughts are.

See you tomorrow/Monday,

Susan Downhill

YEAR 2022 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

(Jan. 01 to Sept. 30, 2022)

| Category | Description by Category | JAN TO MARCH Amounts in € | APR TO JUNE Amounts in € | JULY TO SEPT Amounts in € | TOTAL Q1+Q2+Q3/2022 Amounts in € |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| INCOME | | | | | |
| | Concerts/Funerals.... | | | | 0,00 |
| | Pledge | 13.440,00 | 14.085,00 | 14.845,00 | 42.370,00 |
| | Collection plate | 1.521,50 | 1.556,45 | 1.652,20 | 4.730,15 |
| | Donation | 2.422,66 | 4.285,88 | 8.760,00 | 15.468,54 |
| | Outreach (masks, cakes, books,...) | 345,40 | 355,55 | 300,00 | 1.000,95 |
| | Convocation grant Mons and Servais | 7.700,00 | | | 7.700,00 |
| | Convocation grant heating | | 10.000,00 | | 10.000,00 |
| | Convocation loan heating | | 10.000,00 | | 10.000,00 |
| | Rent | 2.550,00 | 9.370,75 | 10.175,54 | 22.096,29 |
| | Building fund | | | | 0,00 |
| TOTAL INCOME | | 27.979,56 | 49.653,63 | 35.732,74 | 113.365,93 |
| EXPENDITURE | | | | | |
| | <i>Rector:</i> | | | | |
| | Allowance | 3.600,00 | 6.000,00 | | 9.600,00 |
| | Car expenses | 0,00 | 895,11 | 445,50 | 1.340,61 |
| | Discretionary fund | | | | 0,00 |
| | Health | 75,00 | 88,08 | 119,04 | 282,12 |
| | Pension | 2.235,00 | 1.965,00 | 1.647,36 | 5.847,36 |
| | Rector | 5.910,00 | 8.948,19 | 2.211,90 | 17.070,09 |
| | <i>Associate Rector:</i> | | | | |
| | Allowance | | | | 0,00 |
| | Pension | | | | 0,00 |
| | Associate Rector | 0,00 | 0,00 | 0,00 | 0,00 |
| | <i>Church Building</i> | | | | |
| | Maintenance/Repairs | 5.591,45 | 9.048,21 | 36.924,25 | 51.563,91 |
| | Telecoms | 235,56 | 235,56 | 235,56 | 706,68 |
| | Utilities | 6.758,95 | 1.499,40 | 4.076,76 | 12.335,11 |
| | Security/Fire | 2.963,36 | 867,11 | 1.904,82 | 5.735,29 |
| | Insurance | | | | 0,00 |
| | Cleaning | | | | 0,00 |
| | Church Building | 15.549,32 | 11.650,28 | 43.141,39 | 70.340,99 |
| | <i>General Administration:</i> | | | | |
| | Convocation Fees | 1.927,00 | 1.927,00 | 2.727,00 | 6.581,00 |
| | Anglican Council of Belgium | 0,00 | 1.103,00 | 1.103,00 | 2.206,00 |
| | Automobile | 1.535,33 | 535,24 | 254,50 | 2.325,07 |
| | Petty cash | 0,00 | 100,00 | 173,30 | 273,30 |
| | Assoc All Saints fabrique | | | | 0,00 |
| | Office | 1.917,27 | 2.031,97 | 1.967,56 | 5.916,80 |
| | Outreach | 1.025,00 | 517,00 | | 1.542,00 |
| | Sunday School (incl.JAE) | | | | 0,00 |
| | Building Loan | | 10.500,00 | 6.500,00 | 17.000,00 |
| | Convention Fees | | | | 0,00 |
| | Mons expenses | 422,94 | 1.861,21 | 10.959,20 | 13.243,35 |
| | General Administration: | 6.827,54 | 18.575,42 | 23.684,56 | 49.087,52 |
| EXPENDITURE : | (a+b+c)= | 28.286,86 | 39.173,89 | 69.037,85 | 136.498,60 |
| NET DEFICIT (EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME): | A-B = | -307,30 | 10.479,74 | -33.305,11 | -23.132,67 |
| CASH IN BANKS : | | | | | |
| | <i>KBC bank opening balance</i> | 53.669,45 | 54.974,90 | 67.221,96 | 53.669,45 |
| \$23,695.92 | <i>RBC \$ bank opening balance</i> | 19.922,50 | 18.309,75 | 16.542,43 | 19.922,50 |
| | CASH IN BANKS ON 01 JAN 2022 | C 73.591,95 | 73.284,65 | 83.764,39 | 73.591,95 |
| | <i>KBC bank closing balance</i> | 54.974,90 | 67.221,96 | 34.985,06 | 34.985,06 |
| \$17,674.72 | <i>RBC \$ bank closing balance</i> | 18.309,75 | 16.542,43 | 15.474,22 | 15.474,22 |
| | CASH IN BANKS ON 30 SEPT.2022 | D 73.284,65 | 83.764,39 | 50.459,28 | 50.459,28 |
| CASH MOVEMENTS | D-C= | -307,30 | 10.479,74 | -33.305,11 | -23.132,67 |