

2023 ANNUAL MEETING
THE PARISH OF ST. RAPHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
FORT MYERS BEACH, DIOCESE OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA
Sunday, February 26, 2023 following 10:00am worship

- Meeting called to order by Priest-in-Charge, The Rev. Jean Hite
Opening prayer:
Almighty and everliving God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with us this day as we convene to acknowledge and plan for the renewal and mission of your Church in the parish of St. Raphael's. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
- Election of a New Vestry member.
 - The Vestry presented one candidate for election to serve a three-year term: Kathleen Leson was nominated and unanimously elected.
 - Kathy joins current members: Ross Miller, Jeff Dewey Franklin, Phillip Babcock, Tracey Gore and Mary Ann Gee. (Michael Cunningham is no longer serving on the Vestry.)
 - Ross Miller and Jeff Franklin will continue to serve as Co-Wardens.
- Recognition of ministry leaders:
 - Susan McFarland – leadership role in the Healing and Prayer Ministry
 - Mary Ann – chairperson of the 2023 Stewardship committee
 - Ellie Bunting – multiple ministries
 - Ann Fossum – parish nurse
 - Garnet Bowden – head of the group of volunteers who work to clean up the grounds
 - Kathy Leson – head of the committee for Refurbishing the Sanctuary and Nave areas of the Church building

- Finances:
 - Financial records were destroyed during Hurricane Ian; they are being reconstructed with the help of financial gurus from the Diocese
 - Summary of receipts in response to Hurricane Ian -- totals received October 1, 2022 through January 30, 2023
 - Gifts from outside the parish \$72,576.23
 - Donations from parishioners
 - Continued weekly, monthly contributions \$5,090.00
 - New pledges for 2023 (some prepaid in full) \$30,500.00
 - Deductible reimbursement from the Diocese \$38,000.00
 - We will be needing more money. 2023 Stewardship campaign led by Mary Ann Gee will be coming up within the next month
 - Challenges to St. Raphael's current financial picture:
 - Financial pressures on parishioners who have, themselves, lost so much in Ian
 - It has continued to be huge challenge just to keep the minimal bills paid in 2022
 - Insurance and FEMA money will help with restoration of buildings and furnishings – but can't be tapped for on-going routine expense
 - 2023 Provisional Budget –
 - The outline provisional budget, previously approved by the Vestry, was approved by those gathered at the Annual Meeting.
- Sr. Warden's Report
 - Ross Miller gave an update on rebuilding.
- Priest-in-Charge closed the meeting
 - Thanks to all who have made St. Raphael's a place of *Healing, Hope and Hospitality* here on Ft. Myers Beach during 2022.
 - Closing prayer
Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
 - Call for motion to adjourn; made and seconded, approved.