

**ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING**  
**ST. JAMES ORTHODOX CHURCH, BEAUFORT SC**

**JANUARY 28, 2018**

**Attendance:** Kathy Bollack; Alex Bozeman; Fr. James Bozeman, Mat. Katie Bozeman; Nick Christopher; Sue Christopher; Barbara Clarke; Walter Clarke; Derek Gilbert; Tracy Gilbert; Adrienne Guenther; Lyn Davis; Dean Hoetz; David Homyk; Jackie Homyk; Laura Homyk; Corrine Ingle; Rod Ingle; Dr. Tom Kucharichik; Bill Leschak; Bonnie Raible.

**Quorum Met for Vote- *members in good standing attachment***

- I. **Opening Prayer-** O Heavenly King- 12:15 pm
- II. **Reading of 2017 Minutes** by Adrienne Guenther. Motion- Nick Christopher; seconded Dr. Tom Kucharichik; Approved
- III. **Treasure's Report-** Kathy Bollack- Treasurer: 2017 Income to expense almost even [*see treasurer's report attachment- -income vs expenses 2013-2017, Tithing average 2014-2017, Building fund progress 2013-2018*] Income increased from 2016- \$95,000 to 2017-\$130,000; Expenses up but overall moving in positive direction, with tithing averages going up. The Building fund is up significantly with \$85, 000 currently in savings. Historically each year all moving a positive direction. Fr. James presented the **2018 Budget** [*see attachment*]. Of **Significance** the Grant from the Diocese has ended, which mean the church is now totally self-supporting. This is necessary to receive Blessing from the Bishop to build our new Church building. With that the expected income needs to increase and is reflected in the proposed budget. Our Planting grant / loan should be paid off by the end of 2018, which allows more towards the building fund. Overall the current status is "remarkable" and will continue in the same direction. This includes more towards Alms and designating more towards the Building fund. Some increases in the expenses include: \* "Priest Fica or self-employment tax" which the churches pay at least 50% \* possible increase in health insurance premiums \* Church picking up Priest compensation where grant left off. The budget is ambitious but "we can always do better than we think." We are doing very well for only a six year old church. Some increase from last year now reflected going forward include: AC unit, insurance premiums both overall property and liability plus workers compensation; outreach – Fr. Lawrence's talk; website; suggested increase in seminary support. [ 1% of total unrestricted income] Liturgical items discussed as well, increase in oil, candles, noting re-cycling of some candles by David Homyk and possible donating by church member for olive oil. Sue Christopher suggested new/ cleaned vestments for servers and overall to be discussed in open discussion. In general any surplus goes to savings and paying down debt [soon to be satisfied]. In that context. Davis Homyk mentioned that our new building should be considered this year and the loan – interest free- put off for more funds designated to building fund,

which Nick Christopher also suggested. Noted that some of the “savings” funds although considered the building fund also includes money for “emergency” funding in case of problems that arise or reductions in giving so priest can *always* be paid. Fr. James included encouragement regarding individual tithing “Give so God can Bless” not only funds but time and skills. Research also to be conducted as to proper priest salary, anticipating possible “raise”. Motion to accept budget with minor adjustments [fees. Supply priest number and correction of totals] - Rod Ingle, Seconded- Nick Christopher. All approved.

- IV. **Mission Council:** Current members- Derek Gilbert; David Homyk-Warden; Kathy Bollack-Treasurer; Barbara Clarke-Secretary; Adrienne Guenther. Considering new member for 2019 with David possibly phasing out and looking for someone to assume treasurers position.
- V. **Reports:** Laura Homyk stated Sisterhood, choir, and Sunday school all still functioning well with no significant changes. David Homyk- Warden *[attachments Warden’s annual report]* - Blessed Fr. James for all his time and talents, welcomed new members as well. Some concerns about roof leak and how to proceed with landlord; hoping for tithing increases so : Fr. won’t need to look for a “second job” and we can improve his compensation; Amazing that our loan will be paid off and the current savings level; Has had preliminary discussion with Beaufort county as to new construction , researching contractor and building designs. 2018 proves to be an exciting year asked for commitment from church member- “what else you can do to strengthen the church family”. Pastors Report Fr. James Bozeman: In general attendance has been good and consistent averaging 30-40 for Divine Liturgy and 15 for Great Vespers. Pascha was up to 45- goal 50-60 and Nativity 41 with evening format time change. Had two Chrismation’s Lyn Davis & Dean Hoetz & Baptism- Sophia on Christmas Eve morning Liturgy, with excellent attendance-47. Reviewed classes offered on Orthodox Way, Divine Liturgy, Heretics, and Fr. Tom’s maxims. Encourages participation in Holy Week services in preparation for Pascha. Noted new AC unit, no notable damage from hurricanes,. Hoping to expand church participation also in social activities, in parishioner’s home to connect. Success for the annual picnic at Sun City and pre- Nativity gatherings at Dataw Island. Encourages more of these. Would like to increase number of servers and readers, expand our missionary efforts to friends and the public and grow as a community of family and friendship- AND BUILD OUR CHURCH. *[Pastoral Resolutions attachment]*How can I better serve the church? “Feels Loved”.
- VI. **Building Committee Report:** members- Head Nick Christopher, Fr. James Bozeman, Mat. Katie Bozeman, Walter Clarke, & Derek Gilbert: Have met twice, a good team have a project plan with Flo chart, which need to be fluid, with adjustment to dates. Construction companies have been called, with David interviewing. Considered size around 3500-5700 square feet with a range of costs to be considered as well as design. No details yet will make recommendations to the council. Don’t anticipate working with the count to be a problem.



- VII. **Open discussion:** Sue Christopher suggested new vestments, a range of sizes and sets for colors with a routine for cleaning in the budget. Dr. Tom Kucharichik suggested adding to the church "wish list" including on the website. Sue Christopher inquired as to priest pension, this is included in the budget under compensation with church paying 2/3 and Fr. James 1/3. David Homyk, brought up child safety requirement that are to be met with policies, procedures, and standards including training when necessary and background checks. This includes expectations of children alone, segregated spaces, bathroom etc. Marvin noted the need for a shed for maintenance at the property but county will not allow.
- VIII. **Motion to end:** Tracy Gilbert, seconded closed at 1:50 pm.

## 2018 St James Orthodox Church "Members In Good Standing"

**According to the by-laws of our mission church, only "members in good standing" are eligible to vote on issues, proposals, elections, etc in our church meetings. A "member in good standing" is described in this way:**

- (a) have been baptized and chrismated, or otherwise canonically received, into the Church and who consciously uphold and profess the Orthodox Faith;
- (b) are regular communicants, that is, frequent participants in the Holy Mysteries of Confession and Communion. Members ideally partake of the Mysteries weekly, but in any case, no one can be a member of the Parish who fails to comply with this obligation at least once a year;
- (c) fulfill the financial obligations established by the Parish. All members are urged to make a yearly commitment for financial support of the Parish in the form of a pledge, the standard of which is a tithe (one-tenth) of their income; and
- (d) declare their intention to be members.

***Purposes of Membership*** - Privileges and Obligations of Members. Following the Tradition of the Church, the purpose of membership in the Parish is to seek the knowledge of God and union with Him through Jesus Christ by the grace of the Holy Spirit, and to express that unity with God in Christ in all family, business, and social activities. Generally, this expression consists of an enlightened obedience to the teachings of the Orthodox Faith, and is manifested in regular attendance at the Parish's divine services, in frequent reception of the Holy Gifts of the Body and Blood of Christ, in regular cleansing of the soul through Confession, in care for the Parish property and buildings, in regular contributions in fulfillment of their financial commitment, and in doing everything possible to promote the Christian spirit of love, unity, and brotherly concern among the members of the Parish. *(Taken from "Uniform Parish By-Laws")*

The following is the list of those who currently meet these requirements:

Afanasyeva-Pittman, Lyuba	Hoelz, Dean
Bollack, Kathy	Homyk, David
Bozeman, Alex	Homyk, Jackie
Bozeman, James	Homyk, Laura
Bozeman, Katie	Ianucci, Michael
Christopher, Nick	Ingle, Corrine
Christopher, Sue	Ingle, Rod
Clarke, Barbara	Kucharchik, Dr Tom
Clarke, Walter	Lanigan, Inna
Davis, Lyn	Leschak, Bill
Gilbert, Derek	Raible, Bonnie
Gilbert, Tracy	Weiland, Androula
Guenther, Adrienne	