

Church of the Holy Cross
40700 W. Ten Mile Rd., Novi, MI 48375
Minutes of the Annual Meeting
January 21, 2024, 11:45am
In-person and via Zoom

- + 11:51am: Rev. Ian Reed Twiss called the meeting to order.
- + **Present:** 38 parishioners (33 in person and 5 on Zoom), plus Rev. Ian Reed Twiss and Rev. Deacon Cleda Smartt
- + Opening prayer: Rev. Ian Reed Twiss
- + Katherine Housman made a motion to appoint Karen Wang as secretary for the annual meeting, seconded by Joanne Quinlan. A vote was held and the motion carried unanimously.
- + Tryn Hinkle made a motion to appoint Katherine Housman as parliamentarian for the annual meeting, seconded by Ray Sackett. A vote was held and the motion carried unanimously.
- + Definition of voting eligibility. Parliamentarian Katherine Housman explained who is eligible to vote during the annual meeting. A voter must be a communicant in good standing and a giver of record, age 16 or older. Parliamentarian further explained that all present qualify to vote, except Ian, Cleda and Teri.
- + Q: Is today's meeting agenda available online?
- + A: Yes, it was emailed this week, and the agenda is included in the annual report.
- + 11:55am Ray Sackett made a motion to approve the minutes as written from the January 29, 2023 Holy Cross annual meeting, seconded by Katherine Housman. A vote was held and the motion carried unanimously.
- + Rev. Ian Reed Twiss presented the slate of candidates for the Vestry:
 - Pam Janson (3 year term)
 - Tim Lovelace (3 year term)
 - Gael Grossman (3 year term)There were no new nominations from the floor. Bruce Hinkle made a motion to approve the slate of candidates, seconded by Anne Maher. A vote was held and the motion carried unanimously. The Vestry will meet immediately following today's annual meeting.
- + 11:58am Rev. Ian Reed Twiss presented the slate of delegates and alternates to the Diocesan Convention:
 - Delegates: Bruce Hinkle, Tryn Hinkle, Teri Landreth
 - Alternates: Pam Janson (1st alternate), Karen Wang (2nd alternate)There were no new nominations from the floor. Joanne Quinlan made a motion to approve the slate of delegates and alternates for the Diocesan Convention, seconded by Katherine Housman. A vote was held and the motion carried unanimously.
- + 12:01pm Recognition of Ministries Rev. Ian Reed Twiss
 - Bye Bye, Birdies (outgoing Vestry members): John Janson, Ray Sackett
 - Bathrooms and Carpets and floors, Oh My! (building improvements): Pat Nielsen, John Janson, Ray Sackett

- Java Jive (8am coffee team): Chris Jamieson, Pat Nielsen, Marge Bixby
- Wire YOU still here? (organizing and wiring): Mercedes and Rob Williams
- Account-ability: Leon Collins, Bruce Hinkle, Sherilynn Casiano
- Make Our Garden Grow: Minerva Melville
- Four Little Maids and School (rejuvenating our religious education program): Teri Landreth, Renee Brennan, Ashlie Price, Pimam Manzi

- + Review of 2024 Church Budget from Treasurer Bruce Hinkle: 2023 finances ended positively, with almost \$4,000 net income. Pledges were below the expected amount by about \$15,000. We currently have about \$31,000 in cash. In 2024, budgeted expenses will be higher than 2023. Pledged income is decreasing. This leaves us with a deficit in our 2024 budget. We have added a line item under income for "faith income." The "faith income" was added for the purpose of balancing the budget, and we are hoping that parishioners will increase their pledges to help reduce the deficit. We do have money on standby, but balancing the budget will allow us to accommodate unexpected expenses. We have carried a deficit budget in the past, and the last two years have been balanced budgets. Prayerfully consider what you may be able to give from your surplus to help close the deficit.
- + Comment: As individual parishioners, prayerfully consider increasing your donations by up to 10%. This is a private, individual choice.
- + Comment: The Vestry already went through the budget line-by-line to make manageable cuts, but the budget leaves very little room for changes due to inflation, increasing utility costs, and necessary building repairs.
- + Call for acceptance of 2024 Budget: Bruce Hinkle made a motion to accept the 2024 budget as written, seconded by Pam Janson. A vote was held, and the motion carried unanimously.
- + Katherine Housman made a motion to accept all committee reports, seconded by Tryn Hinkle. A vote was held, and the motion carried unanimously.
- + Comment: Souper Bowl, sponsored by Sunday School students, will be on February 18, the weekend following the actual Super Bowl. This is an annual fundraiser for a charity chosen by the students.
- + Motion to Adjourn: Karen Wang made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:24pm, seconded by Gael Grossman. A vote was held and the motion carried unanimously.
- + Closing Prayer, Blessing, and Dismissal by Rev. Ian Reed Twiss and Rev. Deacon Cleda Smartt.

