

St Michael's Annual Meeting 2015

Tuesday November 17

Meeting convened 7:30pm

Meeting chaired by the Vicar, The Reverend Steve Webster

1. Introduction

The Vicar (SW) welcomed all and opened with a prayer of thanksgiving.

Songs of praise were sung led by – Hannah Craven (God Is Love & This Is Amazing Grace)

Intro (SW)

- Outlined the agenda for the meeting of hearing reports, giving thanks, reflecting on ministries, new appointments, prayerful about the year ahead
- Thanked those for attendance
- Thanked those who have helped in the evening – HC, RL, Emma Sugars
- Agenda for the evening:
 - Reading of reports
 - Pass the minutes of 2014
 - Receive parish electoral roll
 - Question time
 - Financial reporting
 - Parish statistics
 - Wardens report/elaboration
 - Election of new Parish Council and Incumbency Committee
 - Further questions/comments/proposals

Roaming Mic: (AG) – giving thanks for the year

- (3 minutes of group discussion – what was your involvement in St Michael's this year?)
- Group sharing:
 - Hilary Toppin – post-service welcome and lunches; people offering homes for hospitality; most people present went to one of those lunches
 - Steve Webster – “everything box”
 - Cindy Shay – small groups; quality of group time
 - Hannah Craven – the new sign on the corner of the property; 3 new families because of the sign
 - Penne Webster – neighbour wanting to know about the sign and the church
 - Janette Allen – book group; good time; good food etc.

Annual Reports and previous minutes available online

Clipboard recording attendance is passed around – attendance recorded here at end of night

Present:

- Hannah Craven
- Leanne McCoy
- Graham McCoy
- Sharyn Young
- Peter Summers
- John Young
- Chris Ward
- Janette Allen
- Beth Allen
- Penne Webster
- Marilyn DiStefano
- Franco DiStefano
- Hannah Young
- Julian McCoy
- Lawrie Smith
- Catherine Merry
- Fred Batterton
- Hilary Toppin
- Bill Toppin
- Peter Alsen
- Su-Hsien Kuan
- Shelley Knight
- Grant MacKenzie
- Chris Appleby
- Brad Watson
- Victoria Koumakis
- Ann-Michel Greenwood
- David Wagner
- Jacqui Wagner
- Greg Davies
- Bob Lile
- Audrey Lile
- Lawrence Davis
- Anne West
- Don Holmes
- Cindy Shay
- Noelene Horton
- Steve Webster

Apologies:

- Tom Craven
- Dianne Shay
- Barry McGaw
- Kay McGaw

- Kathrine Houghton
- Lucy Watson (Digory Watson)
- Suzy Davies
- Carolyn Alsen
- Di Appleby
- Melanie Lamb

2. Minutes of previous annual meeting presented – SW

- Previous meeting held November 24, 2014
- Motion: that the minutes from the 2014 Annual Meeting be received as a true and accurate record.
- Moved by: Cindy Shay
- Second: Greg Davies
- Further Comments: None
- Result: Carried

3. Parish electoral roll – SW

Directories available to take home

Electoral roll list available for checking

SW submits parish electoral roll

Motion: That the latest version of parish directory be received as the electoral roll for tonight's proceeding. This is available for members to check tonight

Moved by: Janette Allen

Second: Chris Ward

Further Comments: None

Result: Carried

4. Annual report

Vicar's Report – Rev Steve Webster

- Summary:
 - Annual reports are in black and white – colour on the website
 - Thanks to parish council of past year
 - Rod Kelly, Sharyn Young and Don Holmes will not be continuing on parish council next year
 - Brad Watson will step down from church warden
 - Parish Council(PC) is responsible for the health of the evangelism, pastoral care and discipleship in the parish
 - Trial in the last year – PC meetings every second month, members having responsibility to catch up with parishioners in between meetings
 - Building on the idea of giving people specific portfolios
 - End of 3-year vision/action plan cycle – good time to reflect on the vision, esp. as it's SW's third cycle (nine years at SMNC)
 - Things to be thankful for in the past 12 months
 - Looking forward

- Financial promises made last year – be able to grow and support staff workers for specific areas of the parish. This needs to continue in the new vision/action plan (youth minister, children’s and families minister)
- Every fortnight – pastoral staff meetings
 - Volunteers and paid workers meeting to discuss growth in different areas of the parish – youth, children etc.
 - New members – Ann-Michel Greenwood (5:30 service) and Chris Appleby (preaching and teaching)
- Thanks to everyone who volunteered time to help out at the services etc.
- Still areas we want to expand
- Farewelled Lyn Paul as Hall Hire Coordinator – still part of the parish – acknowledged her role in the staff team in the past
- Thanks for encouragement and prayers throughout the year
- Thankful to God for encouragement and the past 9 years

Finance Report – Cindy Shay on behalf of the Wardens

- Summary
 - End of 2014 the plan was to grow our giving by the end of 2015 such that our ministry needs were fully funded. Whilst our budget was not met our giving increased by 3%
 - 2014:
 - Needed finances for youth minister, family-friendly services (Sunday school or activity) – both now employed
 - Grew giving but lost \$12,000 in hall rental – due primarily to Reach Church relocating for their expanded ministry, we however now have greater access to our facilities
 - Drew on reserves throughout the year
 - Budget for next year – still have reserves, but need to use about \$30,000. The plan is 3% growth in giving and using \$30,000 of the reserves. If we wanted to not use the reserves we would need 150 people to increase their giving by approximately \$3.36 per week.
 - Could get more income through hall rental or giving – hall rental would reduce the use of our spaces
 - Thankful for the ministry team in place to execute vision, now we just need the financials to support them
 - Thanks particularly to Ray (bookkeeper) and Shelley (treasurer)
 - Ray is employed to relieve pressure on volunteers and to deal with the complexities of legislation

General questions addressed to writers of reports – none

Note that reports are official documents that are sent to and kept by the diocese – names are important! Thanks to those who wrote reports.

Thanks to Shelley

- Accounts are fully audited before Annual Meeting
- Shelley thanks Ian Jungwirth for help with the auditing along with Ray Lenthall.

Churchwardens Comments:

- Cindy Shay - Thank you to those who volunteered to help throughout the year with general tasks

Statistics – Steve Webster

- Annually submit statistics to the diocese
- Marriages, baptisms, funerals, attendance, etc.
- Special notes:
 - Drop in Sunday service attendance – occasional attendance
 - Average attendance was 85 in 2014, 75 in 2015, but there are many more on the roll
 - Anecdotal evidence – too many conflicting appointments/busyness/disconnection
 - Regular attendance builds connection and community – how do we encourage this?
 - 6 small groups (65 people) in 2015 – other groups meet together though
 - Want to see more small groups in 2016
 - Prayer for this and greater connection in the church

5. Parish Council 2015

- 2015 PC announced:
 - Julian McCoy
 - Shelley Knight
 - Brad Watson
 - Peter Alsen
 - Leanne McCoy
 - Lawrie Smith
 - Franco DiStefano (vicars appointment)
 - Bethany Allen
 - Dianne Shay (IC)
 - Chris Ward (IC)

 - Su-Hsien Kuan (warden)
 - Cindy Shay (warden, Vicar's appointment)
- Shelley Knight – election of auditors
 - Need to elect auditors
 - Desire to appoint Ian Jungwirth as auditor
 - CPA needs to be appointed if income is greater than \$250,000.

(8:40) Questions/Comments:

- Bob Lile – new council members are added to the roster – request members to note their availability on roster calendar
- Cindy Shay – Question of Hannah Craven re her new role and being deaconed, what can we pray and what can we change?
 - Hannah Craven – thanks for the welcome received by Cravens, difficult stage of life, great encouragement
 - Join in HC’s prayer for children’s and families ministry, bring new families and 2 new Christian families to be involved in SMNC and two new Christians
 - Feel like they’re in a good spot, good balance etc.
 - SW – tricky thing for Hannah and SMNC is that the parish is responsible for children’s and families’ ministry, not just Hannah.
 - SW – prayer happens in every ministry, it’s the crux of the ministry
 - Victoria Koumakis – youth group meets once a month to play music, how can those who don’t play music get involved? Are there plans to expand this group?
 - SW – end of a “life cycle” in youth ministry, music group is just one part of the ministry
 - PW – discipleship groups were running, but the numbers were too low, not meeting a need. There is mentorship for youth as well. Hoping to expand the worship ministry – more than just playing music, being worshipful together, studies and prayer will also be involved in this ministry
 - SW – pray for Callum and Penne – beginning new ministries
 - Catherine Merry – wardens’ report – can we replace the playgroup cupboards? Put that on the agenda
 - SW – point of business at the first wardens meeting
 - Leanne McCoy – paperless church, lights off at 5:30pm in Summer
 - SW – reduction in annual meeting related paper usage
 - Sharyn Young – looking into solar panels for church and vicarage, looking into saving potential, but need to check with council/diocese, reminder of the People’s March in Melbourne on Nov 27.
 - SW – Sharyn has stepped down from parish council, but work specifically on this project. Grown out of a long discussion, there is now movement. Anyone interested, talk to Shayrn, she will be coordinating that effort
 - Hannah Young – Noelene is leading a group about reconciliation
 - SW – related to the diocese reconciliation action plan, get involved, talk to Noelene or Steve if interested
 - Brad Watson – reminder re noting apologies for annual meeting. Apologies sheet is passed around.
 - Grant MacKenzie - Formally thanking Steve for his ministry – hard job is to be a minister, very fortunate to have him, ministry is tough, encourage people to attend Sunday services as a way of encouraging Steve
 - Thanking Penne too

- Sharyn Young – want to do another Alpha course, Alpha Australia is having a media campaign for all churches in Australia to run an Alpha course in 2016, SMNC can/should do this next year, is the parish interested in this?
 - Catherine Merry – has had interest in an Alpha course from a friend
 - SW – Alpha has been helpful in the past, talk to Sharyn
 - Hilary Toppin – has the course been updated?
 - John Young – yes, it has been updated

6. Conclusion

Steve Webster - The grace said by the whole congregation standing

Meeting concluded at 8:50pm