

## **Saint John of Damascus annual meeting held on January 26th, 2025.**

Father David opened in prayer.

All parish council members in attendance were Paul Cowan, Anya Hoats, Leif Pierson, Gideon Unger, & Stephanie Fuller.

24 members in attendance

A motion was made to accept the 2024 annual minutes by Connie Russell and was seconded by Ross Flowers

### **Old business**

- Saint John's currently has 40 new inquirers.
- in 2024 Saint John baptized or chrismated 24 people we had 2 weddings and one funeral
- We average 135 in attendance each Sunday.
- We are growing our young adult group.
- Stephanie Fuller's tenure on parish council has ended and a new parish council member and secretary will be elected.

### **Updates**

- Iconography next phase will be in the altar to complete the toweling and to adjust the Ascension icon and other icons will be gilded in gold.
- \$7,500 has been raised to go toward this phase of iconography which should cost around \$18,000.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- We received different bids to renovate our current hall, and questions arose wanting new bids to be submitted to build a new hall instead of renovating existing building.
- New bids were received for a new building with the description below:
  - 1600sf frame building
  - Stained concrete floor
  - Kitchen
  - Can accommodate 140 people
  - No bathroom facilities
  - Built on new concrete slab just north of church
  - Loss of 9 parking spaces to accommodate new structure
  - Bid is \$270k which includes walkway to cemetery and irrigation on grounds around the church
  - OCCIF approved our loan to refinance our current mortgage loan and to encompass the new construction all under one loan.

- Church member, Phil Letzo asked what will happen to existing building and loss of parking spaces and Fr. David responded that we will just have to refurbish it on our own and we will make new parking spaces along our existing driveway so that no spaces would be lost in this construction.
- The question was asked about possibly adding more bathroom facilities to the property to provide more than the two we currently have, and Fr. David stated there will not be bathrooms added to the new hall, but we could revisit this at a later time with more options.
- Construction should begin sometime in February 2025.

### Committees

- In 2025 we would like to start more committees to delegate responsibility throughout the parish which would include the following:
  - Bereavement
  - Burial
  - 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. John's
  - Custodial
- Temple needs to be consecrated

### Parish Council

- Parish Council approved a new Parish Council member, Carine Bray, to replace Stephanie Fuller.
  - Zac Carnes made a motion to accept
  - Terry Cowan seconded the motion, motion passed.

### Treasurer's Report/ Proposed Budget for 2025

- contributions were \$256,000 in 2024
- expenses were about \$217,000, which.
  - The increase in expenses was due to the mortgage restructuring where our mortgage was modified and changed to a fixed loan at 8.25%
  - Increase in insurance expenses.
  - Increase in utility expenses.
- Benevolence expense to help a young boy receive a hearing aid device.
- Due to new mortgage modification -St. John's will make their mortgage payments quarterly which total \$12,500 each quarter.
- Cost of Living salary increase of 5%.

- We support the Crossman family with seminary support at \$400.00 per month.
- We will use our benevolence fund as needed for parish members or community in need.
- we will send a parish member to the All-American Council with Father David in Phoenix in July 2025
- Phil Letzo was voted in to be sent as the lay delegate of St. John's to go to the Assembly and volunteered again.
- A motion was made by Magdalena Porter to send Phil to the All-American Council in July and motion was seconded by Ross Flowers.
- Motion passed.
- A motion was made by Harvey Durham to accept the 2025 new budget and was seconded by Kendall Stoner.
- Motion passed

#### Warden's Report

- A small committee will be constructed to oversee the janitorial duties of the church and grounds.
- A motion was made to adjourn by Zac Carnes and seconded by Terry Cowan.
- Motion passed.

Father David closed in prayer.