

Vestry Meeting Minutes
Grace and Holy Trinity church
Richmond, Virginia
February 11, 2020

Members Present: Darrell Alexander, Carl Blackwell, Lisa Dawson, Barbara Derry, Martin Erb, Thomas Ewers, David Hetherington, Glenn Moore, Todd Pawson, Jodie Pully, Elaine Quinn, Kathleen Thomas, Rosalie West.

Members Absent: Bev Eggleston, Nancy Trego, Lara Wulff, Bill Perkins

Staff Present: Bill Queen, Kim Reinholz

Guests: Barb Dodd, Mike Joyce

1. Bill Queen called the meeting to order and welcomed new Vestry members: Carl Blackwell, Bev Eggleston (in absentia), Martin Erb, Jody Pully, and Kathleen Thomas.
2. Thomas Ewers led the Opening Reflection on Joshua 1:1–9 and Prayer.
3. The Agenda was adopted unanimously.
4. New officers were elected: Senior Warden, Thomas Ewers; Junior Warden, Barbara Derry; Register, David Lewis; Treasurer, Bill Shumadine. After heartfelt thanks from the Vestry for his service, and a gift from Thomas, Darrell bid farewell and left the meeting.
5. Orientation took place with small groups getting to know each other.
6. The 2020 Annual Meeting Minutes were approved and adopted unanimously.
7. The January 14 Vestry Minutes were approved and adopted unanimously. Once approved and adopted, Vestry Minutes will be available online, and a Vestry member will provide a summary to the congregation at each service.
8. Mike Joyce provided a financial and budget overview and answered questions.
 - a. The 18% of pledges received in January can be attributed to people who pay entire pledge up front.
 - b. The Lucy Watkins Fund and the Endowment Fund are managed by Davenport but controlled by the Vestry.
9. The January Financial Reports were adopted unanimously.
10. Annual Giving Update—Barb Dodd

- a. Barb provided a handout, "Generosity Update," showing results of the Annual Campaign for 2020, with 173 pledges for a total of \$679,341. (The 2020 budget uses \$660,00 based on pledge payment history; pledges for 2018/19 were 183 for \$669,159.)
- b. As summarized in the handout, the overall goals for 2020 are to create greater awareness of the need for pledging and to explore ways to attract other gifts.

11. GHTC Trustee: Under VA law and the canons every church has to have trustees for buying property and incurring debt. Since David Purdy has stepped down, there is now a vacancy for someone to join Brad Davenport. Kathleen Thomas agreed to ask her husband, John, if he's willing to serve and will report back at the March meeting.

12. Interim Rector's Report [See also written report.]

- a. Bill suggested that for next year's voting for the new Vestry, the congregation be asked to approve a plurality of votes, not a majority.
- b. Regarding the possibility of shared activity at Hood Temple; Bill prefers more long-term relationship, to be discussed at retreat.
- c. The Parochial Report, due March 1, determines the size of the Vestry, GHTC's contribution to the Diocese, and the number of delegates to Council.
- d. Commissioning of the Vestry will take place at three services on Palm Sunday, April 5.
- e. The Vestry retreat will take place on February 29, 9-5, to look at three focus areas (Children/Youth/Families; Welcome/Inclusion/Engagement; and Communication/Transparency) instead of structuring committees around Strategic Plan.

13. Associate Rector's Report: Stations of the Cross coloring to begin on Ash Wednesday, February 24. [See also written report.]

14: Senior Warden's Report

- a. As liaison to the Discernment Committee, Thomas reported that the committee has received 239 surveys to date, with the results to be presented February 23.
- b. Thomas provided an outline of issues to be addressed by the Vestry in the coming year:
 - i. Hiring of new rector
 - ii. Re-evaluation of vendors for finance committee, i.e. insurance carriers
 - iii. Bolstering of new families as part of focus on children's education
 - iv. More efficient use of data base
- c. The Vestry should feel free to ask for reports and/or agenda items.

17. Upcoming Dates: Vestry Retreat, 9-5, February 29, Vestry Meeting, 5 p, March 10; Vestry Commissioning, April 5

8. Bill Queen adjourned the meeting with a joint reading of "Song to the Holy Spirit" by James K. Baxter from *A New Zealand Prayer Book*.

Respectfully submitted by Rosalie West, March 7, 2020