

Vestry Meeting Minutes  
Grace and Holy Trinity Church  
Richmond, Virginia  
September 8, 2020

VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

**Members Present:** Thomas Ewers, Barbara Derry, David Hetherington, Bill Perkins, Rosalie West, Lara Wulff, Glenn Moore, Todd Pawson, Elaine Quinn, Nancy Trego, Carl Blackwell, Bev Eggleston, Martin Erb, Jodie Pully, Kathleen Thomas, Bill Queen (Interim Rector), and David Lewis (non-voting Register)

**Members Absent:** Lisa Dawson

**Staff Present:** Kim Reinholz

**Guests:** Mike Joyce and Shelli Lord-Pawson

**Opening Prayer – Lord’s Prayer**

At 5:05 PM a quorum was declared, and Bill Queen called the meeting to order. The Vestry prayed the Lord’s Prayer in unison.

**Amend & Adopt Agenda**

A motion by Barbara Derry to adopt the agenda, unamended, was seconded by Bill Perkins and unanimously approved by the Vestry.

**Adoption of 8/11/2020 Vestry Minutes**

After the correction of a spelling error, a motion from Bev Eggleston to adopt the amended minutes was seconded by Lara Wulff and unanimously approved by the Vestry.

**Discussion & Adoption of Financial Reports**

Mike Joyce presented the financial reports. He noted that on the income side, pledged income is in line with last year. Non-pledged income is likely to come in under budget. Expenses will likely remain under budget until face-to-face worship resumes.

Vestry discussion included questions of how a shortage in non-pledged income would be made up, the usefulness of trend data in such an unusual year, the uses of restricted funds, and expectations for the fourth quarter, assuming the church is open for in-person worship.

Martin Erb’s motion to approve the financial reports was seconded by Todd Pawson and unanimously approved by the Vestry.

### **Generosity Committee Update**

Shelli Lord-Pawson presented an update from the Generosity Committee. The update included plans for three postcard mailings during pledge season, the summer Zoom meetings over a catered meal, plans for another such Zoom meeting, and proposed in-person gatherings (compliant with diocesan social-distancing guidelines)—all to keep people connected to each other and to the work of the parish.

Shelli Lord-Pawson asked for Vestry approval of the plans, help with thank you notes for pledges, and Vestry participation in the Zoom or in-person gatherings. Vestry discussion indicated that such help and participation would be forthcoming.

The Vestry unanimously approved a motion by Elaine Quinn, seconded by Kathleen Thomas, to accept the Committee's plan.

### **Children and Youth Report**

See attachment from Aaron Davis. The new Sunday School year begins this week. Virtual Sunday School will alternate with Children's Chapel at 11:15 each Sunday morning.

Vestry discussion included questions about teen and youth participation, parent input, and the curriculum in use for Sunday School.

### **Request to place Banners/Signs outside of G&HTC**

See attachment. After an extended discussion about the proposal and a frank exchange of views, the Vestry concluded that a decision on its part required further knowledge of the mind of the church. Two town-hall style listening sessions will be arranged.

### **Interim Rector's Report**

See attached report from Bill Queen. The interim rector additionally noted the beginning of a new Bible study, the Zoom coffee hour, and the music discussion group on Sundays.

Discussion by the Vestry focused on names for the Ministries and Mission overview group to be put in place before the arrival of the new rector. The goal is to have a representative group composed, in the first instance, of non-vestry members.

### **Associate Rector's Report**

See attached report from Kim Reinholz. There were no additions or immediate questions.

### **Senior Warden's Report**

As liaison with the Discernment Committee, Thomas Ewers reported on the Committee's interview process and proposed timeline for submitting a candidate to the Vestry. The possible

need for a special meeting of the Vestry to meet the candidate and the expected start date for the new rector were both discussed.

In other business, the Senior Warden noted that Vestry nominations usually begin around this time of year. Five candidates will be elected to the Vestry at the congregational meeting in February. The Vestry discussed the nomination timetable and process.

### **Upcoming Dates**

13 October, 5:00 PM—Vestry meeting

### **Vestry member to video summarize**

Kathleen Thomas volunteered to give this month's video summary.

### **Adjourn with a Prayer**

At 6:32 PM Bill Queen led the Vestry in a closing prayer, James Baxter's *Song to the Lord God* from *A Prayer Book for New Zealand*, p. 160.

After the prayer, the Vestry went into executive session at 6:36 PM. The executive session ended, and the meeting was adjourned, at 6:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Lewis, Register