

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

VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL

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

Members Absent: Elaine Quinn

Staff Present: Kim Reinholz

Guests: Shelli Lord Pawson and the Rev. Duane J. Nettles

Opening Prayer – Lord’s Prayer

At 5:03 PM, Bill Queen called the meeting to order, declared a quorum, and led the Vestry in praying the Lord’s Prayer.

Amend & Adopt Agenda

After the addition of Nancy Trego’s report on giving, a motion by Martin Erb to adopt the amended agenda was seconded by Nancy Trego and passed by unanimous vote of the Vestry.

Adoption of 11/10/2020 Vestry Minutes

A motion by Thomas Ewers to adopt the minutes from November’s meeting without amendment was seconded by Barbara Derry and passed by unanimous vote of the Vestry.

Discussion & Adoption of Financial Reports

Discussion of the financial reports included considerable expressions of gratitude for parishioners’ faithful stewardship. Pledge income is particularly robust with income up this month compared with this month last year.

A motion by Martin Erb to adopt the financial reports was seconded by Thomas Ewers and passed by the Vestry’s unanimous vote.

Generosity and Communications Report

See attached report from Shelli Lord-Pawson, who updated the Vestry on the continuing pledge campaign. Discussion included the number of pledges received so far, comparisons of the

present campaign with previous years, and general giving patterns in times of transition. Shelli described forthcoming mailings and communications. The Vestry thanked her—and all of the Generosity Committee—for excellent work in challenging times.

Thomas Ewers provided the Vestry with an update regarding the bequest for bells. The estate's trustees have been notified of the Vestry's resolution.

Nancy Trego presented summary findings of how giving trends in the parish align with patterns seen nationwide. Insights into changes in how people support organizations like Grace and Holy Trinity Church will be useful in engaging parishioners making a financial as well as a spiritual response to the work of the church. Discussion included how, over the longer term, our efforts should take account of new giving patterns.

Children and Youth Report

See attached report from Aaron Davis. The Vestry had no further questions but expressed how much they were looking forward to this year's pageant.

Next Steps on racial inequality and G&HTC

The committee is not yet up and running but persons wanting to serve have expressed their interest. Barb Dodd is working on the banners.

Missionary Society Request of disbursement of funds to aide Belize's relief efforts

See attached letter from the Missionary Society. Vestry discussion included how the non-profit was set up to disburse funds and the results of conversations with donors about the proposal.

Thomas Ewers made a motion that the Missionary Society be allowed to take \$3000 from restricted funds to distribute through a non-profit for hurricane relief in Belize. Barbara Derry seconded the motion, and it passed by unanimous vote of the Vestry.

Interim Rector's Report

See attached report from Bill Queen. The interim rector noted that one of his final tasks will be the compilation of an exit document for the benefit of the new rector. Bill provided the Vestry with a summary of this—a “state of the parish” as it were—in the form of Luke the Evangelist's “Blessings and Woes.”

The Vestry thanked Bill for the thoughtfulness of his views, his fresh take in this time of transition, and for his ministry in our parish over the course of an exceptional year.

Associate Rector's Report

See attached report from Kim Reinholz. Vestry discussion focused particularly on Red Door Ministry, its funding, staffing, and changes necessitated by COVID-19. Mo. Kim additionally

updated the Vestry on Campus Ministry, whose members continue to meet for Compline, and on a growing pastoral care list.

Sr Warden's Report

Thomas Ewers noted the Discernment Committee's now-completed work. The Vestry recognized the difficulty of the task amidst COVID closures and expressed thanks for the committee's efforts. Announcements of the new rector's appointment are underway.

The Senior Warden provided the Vestry with an update on Vestry nominations.

A transition committee to assist the new rector is being put together. So far, members have been added from the Vestry and Discernment Committee.

The Senior Warden—and the rest of the Vestry—thanked Bill Queen for his work at Grace and Holy Trinity. The Zoom coffee hour on January 3rd will offer an occasion to say good-bye.

Upcoming Dates

January 12th, 5:00 PM – Vestry Meeting

Vestry member to video summarize meeting

Thomas Ewers volunteered to provide the video summary.

Adjourn with a Prayer – Bill Queen

Bill Queen led the Vestry in prayer and reflection on “This time of working together” from Avery Brooke's *Plain Prayers in a Complicated World*, p. 88.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:19 PM.