

## THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

### MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2020

7:00 P.M. – HALE AUDITORIUM

*“No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”*

*Matthew 5:15-16*

**Quorum.** The January Vestry Meeting was called to order on Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The following Vestry members were present, representing a quorum for the conduct of business: Millicent Bain, Nancy Bowen, Sean Goldrick, Lis Green, Beverly Griffith, Anita Richardson, Doug Riley, Jan Schroeder, Peter Shafer, David Wallack, and Ted Winstead. The following clergy members, staff members, and officers were present: David Ware, Ellen Chatard, Keri Frisch, Tony Brandon, Steven Sutor, and Fern Riley. The following Vestry member was absent: Anna von Lunz.

**Opening Prayer.** David Ware opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Reflection.** Nancy Bowen offered a spiritual reflection.

**Approval of Minutes.** Fern Riley presented the minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on December 17, 2019. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

**Rector’s Report** [David Ware]. David reported we have hired Beth Van Dyke to work as a temporary part time bookkeeper, and he will be interviewing five candidates to fill the position permanently.

David gave an update on the new Columbarium, noting that 31 of the 240 niches have been sold for a total of \$155,000.

David discussed attendance at the Christmas Eve services. A second 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service was added this year in the chapel with Caroline Stewart officiating and Henry Lowe and 8 choristers providing the music. This service was added in response to last year’s 4:00 p.m. church attendance of 1,107 people. The chapel service was well-attended and well-received with 236 people participating. The 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve pageant service in the church had 1,062 in attendance, and the 9:00 p.m. service had 466 in attendance. Overall attendance for the three Christmas Eve services in 2018 was 1,897, and attendance for the four Christmas Eve services in 2019 was 1,943.

David distributed a handout of the 2019 Community Engagement Grants summarizing the 11 grants totaling \$33,900 given by the church to the following 10 organizations:

Adelante Latina!	\$1,500	Provide meals for high achieving Baltimore Latina school students as reduce barriers to
high part of program to college enrollment		
Brown Memorial Tutoring Program	\$4,000	Tutoring children in Baltimore
Boots for Baltimore	\$3,800	Socks to go with boots for the homeless and those in need
CASA of BC	\$3,000	Recruit, screen, and train new volunteer advocates for foster care
GEDCO	\$3,000	CARES Career Connection and rental assistance
	\$2,500	CARES for fresh eggs
Helping Up Mission	\$5,000	Women's Center on Chase Street
Paul's Place	\$2,500	Tutoring programs
Rebuild Johnston Square Neighborhood Organization	\$3,500	Community improvement projects
The Samaritan Community	\$3,000	Crisis Intervention Assistance and Empowerment Programs
Shepherd's Clinic	\$2,100	Health care and wellness services to uninsured patients

**Stewardship** [Ellen Chatard]. Ellen Chatard reported we have received 401 pledges for 2020 totaling \$1,259,000. Our budgetary goal for 2020 is \$1,485,000. We are hoping to receive pledges from 72 previous pledgers who have not yet responded, and we will be sending letters to them to request that they consider making a renewed pledge. E-Redeemer will communicate our goals and the need for additional pledges to meet them. The 2020 budget includes \$100,000 of additional funding to add a fourth clergy member to minister to youth and young adults and to support the work of the new Center for WellBeing. While a small proportion of the budget is supported by funds from the Endowment Fund, the bulk of the funding for

the church comes from our annual pledges of support for our current ministries and the staff and materials necessary to conduct this work.

**Junior Warden's Report** [Steve Sutor]. Steve Sutor gave an update on the North Parking Lot redesign plans to improve storm water run-off management and lighting. The estimated construction costs will be approximately \$792,011; actual contractor estimates will start to be determined in February. Steve said we have received the following grants for the work: \$169,458 from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, \$50,000 from the France Merrick Foundation, \$74,043 from the Chesapeake Bay Trust, \$95,000 from the Middendorf Foundation, and \$50,000 from the Feather Foundation. He notes we will use \$50,000 from the Heritage Trust Fund in 2020 and \$50,000 in 2021, and we will need an estimated \$179,943 from the Endowment Fund. An additional grant from the Maryland Port Administration for \$100,000 is pending as are potential parishioner contributions. Steve said the construction work will begin after Easter and take about four months to complete. It will include bioretention areas at the rear of the lot with two in the center. These filter water runoff and slow the water running into the drain, reducing the possibility of flooding downstream. All plantings will be native species. We have worked with our neighbors to include them in the planning process and will be writing to them to discuss the dates and details of the construction work. Cars will need to use street parking during the construction. Permanent lighting to replace the rental lighting we are now using will be installed for better visibility and safety; lighting will also be installed up the sidewalk to the main entrance to the church. David said this work will have a positive impact on the health of the Chesapeake Bay, and we will be discussing the environmental benefits and the financial help from these several foundation partners with the congregation.

Steve noted members of the American Institute of Architects will be visiting Redeemer on February 18 to tour and learn about the church building and see the designs and materials from our archives detailing the work of architect Pietro Beluschi in creating the main church.

**Vestry Housekeeping** [Ellen Chatard]. Ellen requested the Vestry to address the approval of the 2020 Clergy Housing Allowances as outlined in the 2020 Operating Budget. A motion to approve the Clergy Housing Allowances as outlined in the 2020 Operating Budget was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Ellen noted we will be forming a Vestry Nominating Committee made of the retiring Vestry members and several other members of the congregation to propose a slate of candidates for the Vestry prior to the April 26 Annual Meeting.

Ellen said we are seeking two delegates to the Diocesan Convention on May 15-16 to replace retiring delegates Alison King and David Pantle. Delegates serve for a three year term.

David said Ted Winstead has agreed to serve as the Vestry liaison to the Parish Day School. David thanked Ted for his willingness to serve the school and the church.

Ellen circulated sign-up sheets for Vestry Greeters for the 10:00 a.m. Sunday morning service.

**Sacred Ground.** The group discussed the materials from session four of the Sacred Ground anti-racism training course.

**Upcoming Events**

February 2, 5 p.m.	Evensong for the Feast of the Presentation
February 16, 8 p.m.	Compline
February 23, 10 a.m.	Jazz Mass

**Adjournment.** Doug Riley gave a closing prayer written by Martin Luther King, Jr., and the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Fern Riley, Registrar