

THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2021
7:00 P.M. – VIRTUAL MEETING

*Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.*
Isaiah 58:9

Quorum. The March Vestry Meeting was called to order virtually on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. The following Vestry members were present, representing a quorum for the conduct of business: Nancy Bowen, Sara Engram, Sean Goldrick, Lis Green, Beverly Griffith, James Guyton, Erin Hagar, Anita Richardson, Peter Shafer, George Tracy, and Ted Winstead. The following clergy members, staff members, and officers were present: David Ware, Ellen Chatard, Keri Frisch, Steven Sutor, Tony Brandon, and Fern Riley. The following Vestry member was absent: David Wallack.

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

Reflection. Sean Goldrick offered a spiritual reflection.

Approval of Minutes. Fern Riley presented the minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on February 16, 2021. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Rector's Report [David Ware]. David reviewed plans for Holy Week and Easter. Freda Marie Brown will lead a virtual Maundy Thursday service on April 1 at 7:30 p.m. for individuals and families to be able to participate in a meaningful way from home. An overnight vigil will be held virtually from Maundy Thursday to Good Friday from 8:30 p.m. on April 1 through 11:30 a.m. on April 2; parishioners can sign up to light a candle and pray for a one-hour time period through the night. Cristina Paglinauan will lead a virtual Good Friday service from the church on April 2 at 12 noon. Holy Saturday Easter Vigil service will be held at 8:00 p.m. on April 3 starting at the new Columbarium, moving to the courtyard and then into the church for the Eucharist with appropriate masking and distancing. Easter services will be offered outside in the courtyard on April 4 for groups of 75 at 8:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 1:00 p.m. and virtually at 9:30 a.m. A pre-recorded Morning Prayer service will be available from the church website at 8:00 a.m. Parishioners will need to sign up in advance for all in-person services.

To improve our worship experiences as we move ahead, David said we are working with a contractor to design a three camera audiovisual system to be able to broadcast live streaming services from the church. He hopes the equipment will be installed this summer. A lighting designer is also working with Junior Warden Steve

Sutor to make plans for using durable LED lighting that is warm and pleasing to illuminate the church effectively.

David announced the Annual Meeting will be held virtually on Sunday, May 2 during the 10:00 a.m. service. We will update the parish on events over the past year, welcome new Vestry members, and give thanks for Vestry members who are completing their terms.

David reported he has been in conversation with three area universities about making meaningful gifts from the Covenant Fund to support education and to address the root causes of poverty. A \$25,000 gift to the University of Maryland School of Social Work will fund two or three graduate students to work as interns doing front line, innovative work at a local non-profit organization. The funds will facilitate hands-on learning experiences for the students and will contribute to strengthening the organizations they will be serving. Gifts of \$25,000 to Coppin State University and Morgan State University are also being planned to support students in their education. David said we would hope to develop relationships with the students involved in these programs at all three schools. The Covenant Fund is now at almost \$2.5 million, and we have committed over \$650,000 in gifts given or pledged from the Fund. A motion to endorse using \$75,000 from the Covenant Fund for gifts to the University of Maryland School of Social Work, Coppin State University, and Morgan State University was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Junior Warden's Report [Steve Sutor]. Steve reported the HVAC control station has been upgraded, and its new software will alert Mark Schroeder to issues that can be adjusted remotely. The Parish Day School will use funding from the Heritage Fund to remove a cinder block wall to open up classroom space. Work on the Southeast Parking Lot drainage system will begin this spring. As noted previously in the meeting, Steve said the design plans for changing the nave lighting to LED lights are underway and will bring more energy efficient light to the pews, the lectern, the pulpit, and the altar. LED lighting usually lasts for 55,000 hours, so the new bulbs may work for 15-20 years. Steve noted the Women's Council Room will be renovated this summer to be available for parish and rental use this fall.

Treasurer's Report [Tony Brandon]. Tony Brandon reported he has been happy to observe over the past 5 years that the congregation has been generous in its giving and the market return has brought the church's finances to a substantial level. He said it is time for new leadership and vision, and he announced he will be stepping down as Treasurer in May. Tony thanked David for the privilege and the opportunity to serve in this position and said it has been a joy to work together. He wishes the Vestry and the next Treasurer success in all endeavors. David thanked Tony for his service and all he has learned from him, and he said it has been wonderful to work with him.

David said he has asked Doug Riley to be the next Treasurer, and Doug has agreed to serve. David said Doug will bring wisdom and thoughtfulness to the position. David will announce this change in leadership to the parish at the Annual Meeting.

Other Business. David said Vivian Campagna has been made a postulant for Holy Orders by the Diocese. A motion by the Vestry to nominate and endorse Vivian Campagna as a person worthy to be admitted as a postulant for ordination to Holy Orders and to pledge to contribute \$1,500 to support her preparation was made, seconded, and unanimously approved. David said Margaret Brack is to be ordained to the priesthood by the Diocese later this year. A motion by the Vestry to certify, after due inquiry, their assurance and belief that Margaret Brack is a person worthy to be ordained to the priesthood was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Adjournment. David gave the dismissal, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Fern Riley, Registrar