

**THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER**

**MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2021**

**7:00 P.M. – PARISH HALL**

*I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant  
that you may be strengthened in your inner being  
with power through his Spirit,  
and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith,  
as you are being rooted and grounded in love.  
Ephesians 3:16-17*

**Quorum.** The June Vestry Meeting was called to order on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. The following Vestry members were present, representing a quorum for the conduct of business: Ally Abernathy, Peter Bain, Nancy Bowen, Sara Engram, James Guyton, Erin Hagar, Dixon Harvey, Kristen Heerema, Anita Richardson, Peter Shafer, and George Tracy. The following clergy members, staff members, and officers were present: David Ware, Ellen Chatard, Keri Frisch, Steven Sutor, Doug Riley, and Fern Riley. The following Vestry member was absent: Sean Goldrick.

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

**Reflection.** Sara Engram offered a spiritual reflection.

**Approval of Minutes.** Fern Riley presented the minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on May 18, 2021. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

**Rector's Report** [David Ware]. David said members of the Parish Day School Discernment Committee met with former Maryland State Superintendent of Schools Nancy Grasmick to discuss their ideas for growing the school to the elementary years. She observed the expansion is building on our present preschool model of early childhood development and learning and, therefore, recommended the school expand through third grade. Program needs for fourth and fifth grades would be significantly different, and the size of the school would greatly increase, making third grade a more natural and practical endpoint. She was excited to hear about the church's relationship with Govans Elementary School and noted the Kirwan Commission report explicitly encourages the development of partnerships between public and private schools to bring benefits to children in both school settings. Dr. Grasmick urged the school to follow the children's progress after they left to see how they may carry the benefits from their time at PDS beyond the school and out to their later years. As with its current students, the school would aim to help children grow and equip them with habits of mind and learning to thrive in their next school and bring benefits to their communities. David said the meeting was helpful and affirming. The Vestry discussed aspects of an affiliation with Govans, building for

additional classroom space, transportation, lunch meals, support personnel for a larger school, social and cultural events between the two schools, involving parishioners at PDS, and the potential for deepening our commitment, relationships, and involvement in the wider Baltimore community. David asked the Vestry to continue thinking about these plans and possibilities and to bring questions and ideas to the next Vestry meeting.

**Treasurer's Report** [Doug Riley]. Doug Riley presented a resolution to the Vestry to appoint account signatories for the church's financial accounts for the transaction of church business. A motion to approve the resolution appointing David Ware, Rector; Ellen Chatard, Director of Program; Kerilyn Frisch, Senior Warden; and Douglas Riley, Treasurer, to be financial account signatories for the Church of the Redeemer was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Doug reported the church is purchasing equipment to allow for live stream production and transmission of our Sunday services. The camera, speakers, control board, desk, and cabinetry will cost \$34,360, and he asked the Vestry to consider using money from last year's surplus of \$96,000 to pay for the equipment. A motion to use \$34,360 from last year's surplus of \$96,000 to pay for the electronic equipment, desk, and cabinetry in order to live stream our Sunday services was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Doug noted the church's financial health for the year is good. Actual expenses to date are down \$62,000, and revenue is up \$40,000 from our budgeted amounts.

**Other Business.** Keri Frisch announced the Vestry retreat will be at the Claggett Center on October 22-23. Peter Shafer said this week marks Freda Marie Brown's second anniversary at Redeemer, and he gave thanks for her significant addition to the staff and her many contributions to the life of the church. Ellen Chatard said David Crandall will be available to take Vestry pictures after church on Sundays over the summer for new Vestry members and officers. Ellen also asked Vestry members to serve as Vestry greeters for summer Sunday services. David said we will continue to wear masks for now in church so we can sing together safely. Doug thanked David for navigating Redeemer through the past fourteen months of the pandemic. David said he is thankful for the amazing clergy and staff team he works and learns with and for their ability to share in the challenges of worship and maintaining the church community in creative and flexible ways.

**Adjournment.** David offered a closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Fern Riley, Registrar