

**THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER**  
**MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, MAY 17, 2022**  
**7:00 P.M. – HALE AUDITORIUM**

*May God be merciful to us and bless us,  
show us the light of his countenance and come to us.*  
*Psalm 67:1*

**Quorum.** The May Vestry Meeting was called to order on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. The following Vestry members were present, representing a quorum for the conduct of business: Ally Abernathy, Margie Chandler, Sara Engram, James Guyton, Dixon Harvey, Anne Haskins, Kathy LaPlant, John Schmick, and George Tracy. The following clergy members, staff members, and officers were present: David Ware, Ellen Chatard, Keri Frisch, Steven Sutor, and Fern Riley. The following Vestry members were absent: Peter Bain, Erin Hagar, and Kristen Heerema. The following officer was absent: Doug Riley.

**Opening Prayer.** David Ware opened the meeting by reading the poem, “Disgraceland” by Mary Karr.

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

**Oath of Office for New Vestry.** Margie Chandler and Kathy LaPlant took the Oath of Office for new Vestry members.

**Election of Officers.** David Ware proposed the election of the following officers: Keri Frisch as Senior Warden, Steve Sutor as Junior Warden, Doug Riley as Treasurer, and Fern Riley as Registrar. A motion to elect Keri Frisch, Steve Sutor, Doug Riley, and Fern Riley to serve as Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, and Registrar, respectively, was made, seconded, and unanimously approved. The officers in attendance took the Oath of Office.

**Approval of Minutes.** Fern Riley presented the minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on April 19, 2022, and the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on May 1, 2022. A motion to approve the minutes from the April Vestry Meeting and the May Annual Parish Meeting was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

**Rector’s Report [David Ware].** Vestry members, clergy, staff members, and officers introduced themselves, and David gave an overview of the role of the Vestry to be the principal leaders and the governing body of the church responsible for its finances and buildings and grounds; for calling a rector, asking one to leave, and reviewing his/her work; and for electing delegates from the church to the Diocesan Convention. David explained the Annual Budget is drafted in the fall by Ellen

Chatard and David, is reviewed by the Treasurer and by the Budget and Finance Committee, and is then presented to the Vestry for discussion and approval. The Budget and Finance Committee serves the Vestry to monitor how all the funds are doing and where the church stands on the budget over the course of the year.

David said we are servants of God, shepherds of our community, and stewards of our resources. He encouraged the Vestry to be fully engaged with the church in worship, musical offerings, lectures, and other events, and to consider a liaison role with church committees and ministries.

**Other Business.** Ellen said the Vestry will need to choose delegates for the Diocesan Convention at Turf Valley in the fall and asked Vestry members to let her know of any parishioners who might be interested in serving a three year term.

Keri Frisch said the Redeemer History Working Group had its first meeting to lay the foundation for its work to research the relationship between the church and the institution of slavery, the adoption of Jim Crow laws, and other practices in Maryland that disenfranchise communities. They plan to begin to look at the work of other parishes, to develop methodology and guiding principles, and to identify historical resources. The group will report back to the Vestry and will guide discussions with the parish about their findings.

Keri said the Vestry will meet next on June 21 in person or virtually if needed.

**Upcoming Events.**

9/23-24 - Vestry/Staff Retreat, Claggett Center

**Adjournment.** David offered a closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Fern Riley, Registrar