

THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING

TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 2022

7:00 P.M. – HALE AUDITORIUM

*So let us not grow weary in doing what is right,
for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up.
Galatians 6:9*

Quorum. The June Vestry Meeting was called to order on Tuesday, June 21, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. The following Vestry members were present, representing a quorum for the conduct of business: Ally Abernathy, Peter Bain, Margie Chandler, Sara Engram, James Guyton, Erin Hagar, Dixon Harvey, Kristen Heerema, 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, Doug Riley, and Fern Riley. The following Vestry member was absent: Anne Haskins.

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

Reflection. George Tracy offered a spiritual reflection.

Approval of Minutes. Fern Riley presented the minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on May 17, 2022. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Rector's Report [David Ware]. David said the Parish Day School Building Growth Committee met with three architectural firms and has chosen GWWO Architects to begin the conceptual design phase for the new building plans to house the expanding school. The firm will meet with PDS staff and administration, community leaders from Govans Elementary School and Homeland, and parishioners to learn more about the guiding principles and perspectives of the school and the community to help in shaping the structural designs. For the 2022-2023 school year, the twelve students of the second grade class will meet in Mr. Vu's former residence updated with modest renovations, and the ten students of the first grade class will continue to use the basement classroom in the Parish Hall. For the 2023-2024 school year, two portable learning cottages will be used for the first, second, and third grade classrooms.

David announced he will be taking a sabbatical beginning on April 24, 2023, following the Annual Meeting and ending after Labor Day, 2023. He plans to spend significant time with his family, to return to walk the Camino de Santiago in Spain, and to engage in deep rest and reflection. Cristina Paglinauan will facilitate staff meetings and Vestry meetings, and the clergy and staff will lead the parish while he is away.

David said the clergy had a three day retreat in early June to begin planning for the 2022-2023 program year, noting the church will need to move forward on a new path following the losses and deaths from the pandemic and the painful revelations about racism in our country over the past two years. Youth programs for children through young adults will be offered, and plans for the VOICES Speaker Series, adult education classes, a partnership with St. James' Episcopal Church, and reinvestment in our community partners are underway. David said our church programs will aim to offer solace, order, and strength.

Other Business. Keri Frisch said the Redeemer History Working Group is beginning 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 by developing an inventory of available resources from the Pratt Library, the Diocese, Maryland state archives, and Redeemer historical documents. They will develop a timeline of important dates in the church and in Maryland history. They plan to contact other faith communities to learn about their research processes, findings, and reporting.

Ellen Chatard presented the following parishioners for the proposed slate of delegates to the Diocesan Convention in the fall: Tom Faxon, Keri Frisch, George Tracy, and Ted Winstead. A motion to approve the proposed slate of delegates to the Diocesan Convention was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Keri said the next Vestry meeting will be in September.

Upcoming Events.

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

Adjournment. David offered a closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Fern Riley, Registrar