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Description

“Then I heard the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me.” –Isaiah 6:8

The vestry is a group of lay leaders, called to use our God-given gifts and talents to facilitate Redeemer’s ministries. We work on behalf of the congregation and hand-in-hand with the clergy to implement our shared vision to live through the love of Jesus Christ and to achieve God’s purpose.

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“The Rules”

- ▶ Very little national canonical guidance: The vestry “regulates all of the church’s temporal concerns,” and the vestry is responsible for “calling a rector and providing for his or her maintenance.”
- ▶ Diocesan rules require vestry members to be baptized members of record of the congregation and Redeemer’s by-laws require that vestry members be “givers of record”.
- ▶ Redeemer’s by-laws call for a vestry of 12 people, with four selected each year to serve a three-year term. There are also four non-voting officers: the Registrar, Treasurer and Senior and Junior Wardens. The officers and rector comprise the “executive committee”

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Process

- ▶ The Vestry Nominating Committee includes the retiring vestry class. In 2023 we will present a slate of 4 qualified candidates for the 4 three year terms.
- ▶ During the nominating phase, candidates will be reviewed to be sure our by-law requirements are met. Nominations must be complete by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 31.
- ▶ The committee then will introduce the slate of candidates to the congregation through short biographies in e-Redeemer.
- ▶ The slate of four candidates will be presented to the congregation for approval at the Annual Parish Meeting on April 23, 2023.

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Leadership

- ▶ We are servants of God, shepherds of our community, and stewards of our resources
- ▶ We are partners with our clergy leaders
- ▶ We are representatives of our congregation
- ▶ We are spiritual leaders by word and deed

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Spiritual Leadership

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect.” - Romans 12:2

- ▶ We pray for and support the mission of the church
- ▶ We undertake a program of personal spiritual growth
- ▶ We use our faith to guide our decisions and our interactions with one another
- ▶ We interact with the church through regular corporate worship and visible leadership of other ministries
- ▶ We maintain trust, honesty and confidentiality
- ▶ We demonstrate a positive and generous attitude
- ▶ We work for the wellness of the whole church

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Practical Leadership

- ▶ “Temporal Concerns” means responsibility for finances and buildings
 - Annual budgeting and authorization for spending. Interaction with Endowment Fund, Heritage Fund Trustees, Covenant Fund, Junior Warden, Clergy and Budget & Finance Committee
 - Authorizing funds for strategic goals and day-to-day operations
 - Annual budget approval and guidance on strategic spending
 - Spending priorities for physical plant maintenance, repair and improvement
 - Teaching and demonstrating good stewardship
 - Corporate stewardship: budgeting and financial responsibility
 - Personal stewardship: participation and leadership in giving
 - Assessing needs for new capital

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Practical Leadership

- ▶ We are responsible for the care and calling of our rector
 - Annual Mutual Ministry Review
- ▶ We are responsible for working with the rector to achieve the mission and ministries of the church
 - As committee liaisons
 - By identification of needs and problems and working for solutions
 - Communication with the congregation, reconciliation and celebration
 - Strategic plan implementation

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Commitment

- ▶ Time
 - Monthly vestry meetings: Third Tuesdays, 7:00 pm
 - Committee liaison assignments and attendant meetings
 - Task force and special projects as needed
 - Annual Mutual Ministry Review (usually in late spring)
 - Annual Retreat - This year, October 13-14, 2023
 - Visible presence at important church events and regular worship attendance
 - Availability to parishioners for communication and concerns
 - Act as greeters at Sunday services

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Commitment

- ▶ Talent
 - Each person has unique gifts from God
 - Use of talents to guide and lead committees, ministries and/or task forces according to our abilities
- ▶ Treasure
 - The vestry has personally committed to be leaders in giving
 - We strive to make Redeemer our highest giving priority

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“Speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.”

Ephesians 4:15–16

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