

**Trinity Episcopal Church**  
**Minutes of the Vestry Meeting**  
**Monday, September 18, 2017**

**Present:** Rob Baldwin (Rector), Susan Terry (Assistant Rector), Steve King (Senior Warden), David Severance (Junior Warden), Jennifer Attocknie, Nora Clark, Brenda Clary, Heather Eichman, Andrew Hoyt, Kim Mandle, Allison Marker, Katherine McGillivray, Chuck Olcese, Bill Benso (Treasurer), Maria Thompson (Clerk)

**Absent:** Katie Bieker

**Guest:** Bianca Elliott

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. and Fr. Rob read a reflection by Dag Hammarskjold.

**Declaration of Quorum**

A count was taken and a quorum declared.

**Approval of the Minutes of the July and August 2017 Meetings**

Regarding the July Minutes, Brenda had concerns about the wording of her suggestion for how we might deal with the teenagers who broke into the church.

Nora made a motion to accept the Minutes of the July meeting as amended by Brenda, and the August meeting as written. Brenda seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Rector's Report**

There were two funerals and one wedding in the past month. The Harvest Festival went very well.

Fr. Rob attended the three-day Gathering of Presbyters, at which they discussed the bishop search and that community's role in taking care of each other in the absence of a bishop.

Fr. Rob's assigned tasks with the Bishop Search Committee are done, and he has resigned from the committee.

The evening service has been moved into the chapel. Attendance remains steady, with some new parishioners and some who no longer attend. There will be a Solemn High Mass on the first Sunday of each month.

Fr. Rob has talked with Jenn about making the giving statements easier to understand.

The Blessing of the Animals will be on October 8<sup>th</sup>.

We are continuing to work with the teenagers who broke into the church. Their families will pay all expenses for damages and for the consultants who are working on a reconciliation solution.

**Candidate for Ordination**

Bianca Elliott is currently serving her transitional diaconate at St. Aiden's. They've been able to keep her very busy, including leading Morning Prayer during services, attending vestry meetings and performing administrative duties for the altar guild and lay Eucharistic ministers. She plans to be ordained into the priesthood on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

After Bianca left, Fr. Rob told the Vestry that the people at St. Aiden's are very happy with her work. The *Letter of Support and Commitment from Vestry* was passed around and signed by Vestry members, Fr. Rob and the clerk.

**Treasurer's Report**

We came through the summer well and are now seeing increased pledge collections.

All bills are current.

Bill is planning to work on the 2018 budget and have a draft ready for the October meeting. We are in the black, and no longer run deficit budgets, as had been done in the past, because we are experiencing better giving, better fund collections and more intentional planning by the Vestry.

The outside audit should be done by the end of September.

### **Assistant Rector's Report**

Mthr. Susan attended the Gathering of Presbyters.

The children's part of the Harvest Festival went very well. There were not many kids in the nursery.

There will be some changes in Sunday School.

- There are two three-year-olds who are still very young, so they will remain in the nursery for a few more months.
- We have some great six- and seven-year-olds, and they need a class that is suitable to their age group. They are planning to make things to sell to raise money that they can then give away, and will meet at the same time as the other Sunday School kids.
- Steve and Vera King have offered to make a gift to the children's ministry. The plan is for the gift to be deposited directly into the Education fund, then used to directly pay for education expenses.

Nora made a motion to deposit the gift from Steve and Vera King directly into the Education fund. David seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **Senior Warden's Report**

The pledge cards have been printed and mailed. Members of the Vestry should be among the first to return their cards.

### Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee will be made up of the outgoing Vestry members: Jennifer, Steve, David and Nora. Steve is the only one who is ineligible to run again. We will also need to appoint a parishioner to be the at-large member of the committee.

### October Vestry Meeting

October 16<sup>th</sup> is a little early for the financial data to be ready, so it was suggested that the meeting be moved to October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Brenda made a motion to move the October Vestry meeting from October 16<sup>th</sup> to October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Heather seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

### **Junior Warden**

David did some miscellaneous repair jobs around the church.

There are now enough donations to cover the cost of a new tree.

### **Rector's Sabbatical**

We need to plan for Fr. Rob's sabbatical, which has already been delayed. The length of the sabbatical should be one month for each year he has served as our rector. However, he is currently thinking he will only take two or three months off. We need to plan for coverage while he's gone, including paying the person(s) who will be here in his place. He'll write up a proposal, which will need to be approved by the diocese.

### **Youth Group**

We are still looking for someone to lead the youth group. Fr. Rob has talked to several people, but so far all have turned him down.

**12-Step Program**

We have a request from a 12-step program to use our building on Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m. They would make a small contribution to off-set their expenses.

Allison made a motion to allow a 12-step program to use the church building for their weekly meetings. They will be asked to sign a written agreement before they can begin meeting here. Jennifer seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maria Thompson, Clerk