

Vestry Minutes for the Regular Meeting of June 2021
Grace Church, Lexington
Hybrid Meeting/Parish Hall and Zoom
Monday, June 28, 2021 Iranaeus
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Call to Order 5:00 pm

Fr Tuck

In attendance: Fr. Tuck Bowerfind, David Connolly, Punky Dod, Carole Elmore, Elizabeth Grist, Kathy Hill, Diana Kenney, Bill McCorkle, John Milford, Liz Moss, Judy Schram, Cecile West-Settle.

Absent: Rob Minor, Buster Lewis, Treasurer.

Officers: Lisa McGuire, Clerk

Meditation

Kathy Hill

Kathy shared this reflection by Henri Nouwen: *Prayer is not a way of being busy with God instead of with people. In fact, it unmasks the illusion of busyness, usefulness, and indispensability. It is a way of being empty and useless in the presence of God and so of proclaiming our basic belief that all is grace and nothing is simply the result of hard work. Indeed, wasting time for God is an act of ministry, because it reminds us and our people that God is free to touch anyone regardless of our well-meant efforts. Prayer as an articulate way of being useless in the face of God brings a smile to all we do and creates humor in the midst of our occupations and preoccupations.*

Thinking about my own prayer, I realize how easily I make it into a little seminar with God, during which I want to be useful by reading beautiful prayers, thinking profound thoughts, and saying impressive words. I am obviously still worried about the grade! It indeed is a hard discipline to be useless in God's presence and to let him speak in the silence of my heart. But whenever I become a little useless I know that God is calling me to a new life beyond the boundaries of my usefulness.

Discussion

- Renewal Works
- Transitional Deacon - *From Gadsden minutes: Bishop Mark is proposing that a curate be placed at Grace in June of 2022. The problem to consider is compensation and benefits. Gail ran some rough figures of costs after the candidate is ordained in the spring and placed at Grace. We would be paying him for half of 2022, the full 2023 year, and half of 2024. He would be housed in Roanoke. Considering the candidate is single, estimation of salary, pension and health insurance is roughly:
Second six months of 2022 - \$28,000 (Dioceses would pay \$10,000 of this)
Full year 2023 - \$62,000 (Diocese would pay \$20,000 of this)
First six months of 2024 - \$31,000 (Diocese would pay \$10,000 of this)*
- Vestry Retreat – Liz found 3 possible locations for the Vestry Retreat 2022. Douthat State Park, Sweet Briar College (Elston Inn), and Roslyn Episcopal Conference Center in Richmond. The Vestry decided that they would have their retreat at Sweet Briar College, Friday February 11 and Saturday February 12. John Milford will contact Cathy Mays 434-381-6207 at Elston Inn, Sweet Briar.
- July/August Vestry Meeting – for now the vestry will not meet on July 19 for wHoly Conversation. There will be a July vestry meeting.

Consent Agenda

Wardens' Reports

Vestry Minutes for May 17, 2021

Vestry Minutes for Special Meeting June 14, 2021

Treasurer's Report

Final Vestry Minutes 6/28/21

Rector's Report 06282021

Committee Reports

- Administration and Personnel
- Christian Ed
- Gadsden
- Memorial Gifts
- Property Committee
- Stewardship Committee
- Strategic Finance
- Worship Committee

Old Business

- **FINANCE COMMITTEE INVESTMENT POLICY RESOLUTION**

The purpose of the Investment Policy Statement ("IPS") is to set forth the policies and procedures that will guide the Vestry of the Church in supervising and monitoring the Church's endowment. The policy calls for an annual review and update.

WHEREAS: The last formal update of the IPS was approved by the Vestry February 23, 2019.

WHEREAS: The IPS was amended in October 2019, reflecting the addition of the Berry Fund.

WHEREAS: There has not been an annual review and update in over a year.

WHEREAS: Several changes are warranted to the IPS. There are several editorial and grammatical changes. The major changes are:

- Addition of a Table of Contents,
- Expansion of wording under Statement of Purpose as to how purpose to be accomplished,
- Introduction of more stringent performance monitoring and measurement,
- Deletion of two funds which are no longer funded,
- Recognition of the Gadsden Trust as a part of the church endowments, although not managed by the Finance Committee.

RESOLVED: The IPS attached be approved effective June 2021. **Approved**

- **ADMIN COMMITTEE BY LAWS RESOLUTION**

- Resolved the Vestry of Grace Episcopal Church, Lexington dissolve the current By Laws and be governed by the Canons of the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia.

Vestry discussed and will have the clerk of vestry send an announcement to the parish regarding the matter. The vestry will receive any concerns from parishioners and when they reconvene at the next vestry meeting will make a decision as per Article XVI (below) regarding proposals to amend, supplement, or repeal the Bylaws.

PARISH BYLAWS ARTICLE XVI

EFFECTIVE DATE AND AMENDMENTS

Section 2. Proposals to amend, supplement, or repeal the Bylaws shall be made to the Vestry in any of the following manners:

- a. upon recommendation of the Rector, and with the concurrence of two-thirds of the Vestry;
- b. upon written petition, submitted to the Wardens, by at least thirty (30) members who are qualified voting members of the Parish;
- c. upon request of two-thirds of the Vestry.

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Any proposed changes in the Bylaws shall be given a first reading at a meeting of the Vestry, with a vote on the changes at a subsequent meeting of the Vestry no sooner than four (4) weeks following the first reading. Notice of the Vestry vote shall be made to the Parish a minimum of three (3) weeks prior to the meeting. The Bylaws changes proposed shall be specified in the notice given for both meetings.

Proposals to amend, supplement, or repeal the Bylaws shall be approved by a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) vote of the Vestry.

New Business

Becoming Beloved Community funding application for Allyship Training approved by the Racial Equity/Justice Coalition and Christian Outreach Committee. **Approved by Vestry**

See attached application for information on Allyship training and Becoming Beloved Community Framework.

Adjournment

Closing Prayer