

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

VESTRY/AGENDA MEETING

September 20, 2016

The Vestry met at 6:00 p.m. in Richardson Hall and the meeting was called to order by Senior Warden Jim Wiley.

Opening Prayer: The Vestry members prayed in unison: *Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall chose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Approval of Minutes/August 16, 2016: Karen Eckford made a motion for approval. The motion was seconded by Julie Magee. Motion carried.

Search Update:Status: The Profile has been posted. It will be approximately 45 days before the action actually begins. The Search Team should begin the official search by mid-November, and we should hear from them by mid-December.

Regular Reports:

- Senior Warden: Jim Wiley stated Safe Church Training is scheduled for October 21. All Vestry members who do not have this training are required to attend. Sunday School Teachers are encouraged to attend even though it is not necessary.

It has been confirmed that we do not need any formal "approval" to clean up our informal or mailing list church roll; clean-up of the official Parish Register will have to wait until we have a new Rector. We should keep a record of why/how we changed our informal roll, as reference for a new Rector.

We will be investigating new software for the church office and, possibly accounting, (though the latter is not necessary, but may be built-in to the former). Anyone who feels they have expertise in this area should talk with Dennis Magee, to assist in the selection of new software.

The new website is up and running; a release form for children's pictures has been approved by M. Burns.

The Senior Warden has re-started Worship Planning meetings with the Vergers as we start thinking about Advent and Christmas services.

- Junior Warden: Johnny Burns stated that a gate has been installed for the Kindergarten playground. He also stated other areas of concern were the water pressure in the kitchen and the irrigation system for the Memorial Garden.

Note: There was considerable discussion reference the Memorial Garden Issue but no consensus was reached.

- Treasurer: Bill Herbert passed out a financial statement as follows: He stated he was concerned about financial conditions and that those concerned are not sticking to their budget allocations, and people must be held accountable. He further said in a recent audit, there was a clean statement for the past three years.

Grace Episcopal Church
Statement of Income
For the Eight Months Ended August 31, 2016

	August 31, 2016			
	For the Month		Year to Date	
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
Total Income	\$18,897.85	\$23,526.40	\$251,109.02	\$203,211.40
Total Expenses	\$26,125.27	\$27,656.97	\$219,003.41	\$221,258.12
New Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$7,227.42)	(\$4,130.57)	\$32,105.61	(\$18,046.72)

- Stewardship: Karen Eckford stated the Gifts of Grace Showcase and Talent Show is scheduled for October 15th. Gratitude Sunday is scheduled for November 20th with a catered luncheon. Prior to this time, Sunday School lessons and lectionary readings will lead into the gratitude topic. Barbara Taylor, Music Director, is incorporating the theme into a six-week period. Also, Gratitude Journals will be handed out.

Other Business:

- Barbara Taylor Salary: Jim Wiley stated that according to the American Guild of Organists (AGO), Ms. Taylor is below the required amount. A cost-of-living adjustment is in order, and she now spends extra time with the youth choir. He recommended an increase of \$2,000 yearly. Her current salary is \$35,568, and this would be reviewed when Grace has a new Rector. Jim Wiley made a motion to this effect. Motion was seconded by Dennis Magee. Motion carried but was opposed by two Vestry Members (Bill Herbert and Jim Parrish).

Note: Karen Eckford stated she would like to go on record with the following comment: I do not believe that taking from reserves to pay ongoing expenses is a fiscally wise-thing to do. However, with as much as our parish has been through, I feel this could be perceived negatively by many parishioners. Therefore, based on the amount of the proposed increase and in an effort to maintain stability, I am going to support the motion.

- SHIFT Program: Jim Wiley stated the objective of this program is to train trainers who can conduct group sessions at Grace. The next event is October 14-15 at St. Mary's in Columbia, with the October 15 event ending at 4:30. This program seeks to make the church relevant, to make disciples, not members, and not consumers but partners. The question applicable here is: Where are examples of God's Kingdom breaking out here? Jim Wiley asked that Vestry members send to him by e-mail suggestions of whom should go.

- Blue Grass Mass (scheduled for November 6): There was discussion as to where this event should be held. Jim Parrish made a motion that it be held at the church. Motion was seconded by Harriet DuBose. Motion carried with one Vestry member opposing.
- Picnic: After discussion, it was decided that the picnic discussed in a previous meeting will not be held until April/May of next year (2017).
- Bishop Reception: Bishop Charles Duval will be at Grace on October 30. Reception will follow in Richardson Hall.
- Teddy Bear Ministry: The question was asked if this should be an Outreach or Pastoral Care function. After discussion, it was decided this will be an Outreach function.
- EYC Weekend at Camp Gravatt: Bill Herbert stated that the EYC is requesting \$1200 for a planned weekend at Camp Gravatt. At this time there is \$3700 available in restricted funds. Bill made a motion that this amount be granted from restricted funds. Pam Jackson seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Closing Prayer: The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer said in unison at 7:30 p.m.

Present: John Burns, Dwight deLoach, Harriet DuBose, Karen Eckford, Bill Herbert, Pam Jackson, Dennis Magee, Julie Magee, Jim Parrish, Marti Wallace, and Jim Wiley.

Absent: Frank Trapp

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Baird, Clerk of the Vestry

MEETING CALENDAR FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR

<u>Executive Committee</u>	<u>Vestry</u>
October 4	October 18
November 1	November 15
December 6	December 20

