

**ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH
608 WEST JEFFERSON STREET
TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI 38804**

**MINUTES OF
MONDAY, APRIL 19, 2021
VESTRY MEETING**

PRESENT:

The Rev. Phillip Parker	Caleb Bedillion	
Dinetia Newman, Sr. Warden	Art Chambers	Mary Jane Meadows
Fred Cannon, Jr. Warden	Karen Dieckmann	Kamme Riddle
Bud Nelson, Treasurer	Anna Fleming	Grant Smith
Tommie Moore, Clerk	Stan Furr	Donna Timmons
	Mickey Gray	

ABSENT: Michelle Hester, Mark Maharrey, Paul White

The Rev. Phillip Parker opened the meeting with a prayer at 6:04 p.m.

CHECK IN: Phillip advised that ushers are needed for both the 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. services on Sundays. He asked Vestry members to consider serving in this role.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

- March 2021 Financial reports
- March 19, 2021 Vestry minutes
- April 12, 2021 Executive Committee minutes

MOTION: (Cannon/Riddle)

Approve Consent Agenda as submitted.

APPROVED.

MEDIATION IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE REPORT: No report

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT: No report

BUSINESS:

Treasurer's report

Bud reported that we received approximately \$49,000 in revenue of a budget of \$42,000 in March. He stated that due to mail receipt delays related to the ice storm some of our larger bills for February (utilities, insurance, lawn service) were not paid until March.

Bud advised that All Saints' is in receipt of a very generous bequest from the Estate of Tom Evans. He noted that Tom did not designate how the financial gift was to be used.

Bud reminded the Vestry to follow all written instructions when handling their Vestry Person of the Day duties noting the confidential nature of the information they are handling.

MOTION: (Cannon/Newman)

Approve Treasurer's report as submitted.

APPROVED.

Discussion of VPOD process

Phillip advised that several concerns had been raised by those serving as VPODs (Vestry Person of the Day) about making the deposits after night services. During the discussion, several options were discussed about how to make this process safer and more secure, after which the following motion was made:

MOTION: (Dieckmann/Chambers)

When making the deposit after services on Sundays, both Vestry Persons of the Day should accompany each other to the night deposit. In those cases where a deposit is made after an evening service, the VPODs should call for police to meet them at the night deposit. Work with this system for one month and revisit the issue at the May Vestry meeting.

APPROVED.

Discussion of designation of gift from the estate of Tom Evans

As Bud advised in the Treasurer's report, All Saints' is in receipt of a generous bequest from the Estate of Tom Evans in the amount of \$50,000. The Vestry gratefully acknowledged Tom's generous bequest and gave thanks for his service in different areas of ministry. Bud stated that Tom did not designate how the bequest was to be used. A discussion followed of ways in which the bequest could be used.

MOTION: (Cannon/Chambers)

Delay designation of the bequest from the Estate of Tom Evans, until Treasurer, Bud Nelson can research options to find the best application of at least part of the bequest to the building loan or to refinancing the loan. In addition, have a conversation with the chair of the Flower Guild, Deanna Alford, to see if there are any needs within that ministry that are not being met and report back to the Vestry in May.

APPROVED.

Discussion of Sexton position

Phillip notified the Vestry on April 13 that after almost 10 years of service to the church, Rick Armstrong had decided to retire from the Sexton position, effective April 3. He gave thanks for Rick's willingness to serve and thanked him for his years of service in this position as we learned about the maintenance, upkeep and use in a new, larger facility. Phillip advised that he has been in conversation with the Wardens about how to proceed in filling the position. The Vestry asked for a copy of the Sexton's job description, which will be sent to them via email. After a discussion, the following motion was made:

MOTION: (Newman/Timmons)

Work with volunteers to handle any issues that arise until the staff position can be filled on a more permanent basis. The Wardens and Phillip will work toward finding candidates to apply for the position.

APPROVED.

Discussion of Commission/Convener system

Dinetia advised that the Vestry members serving as conveners of the Christian Growth, Christian Service and Christian Stewardship Commissions rotated off the Vestry in February. She has been working with Phillip and Fred Cannon to secure new conveners for each of the Commissions. Dinetia advised that they agreed the best option was to recruit conveners from 2nd year Vestry members. She submitted the following Vestry members for approval as Commission Conveners:

Christian Growth Commission – Kamme Riddle
Christian Service Commission – Anna Fleming
Christian Stewardship Commission – Mickey Gray

MOTION: (Timmons/Chambers)

Approve the following Vestry members as Commission Conveners:

Christian Growth Commission – Kamme Riddle
Christian Service Commission – Anna Fleming
Christian Stewardship Commission – Mickey Gray

APPROVED.

Rethinking ways to do ministry

Phillip advised that as we seem to be coming out of the restrictions imposed by the Pandemic, now would be a good time to step back and look at: what's working?, what's not?; where does our focus need to be? He stated it would be a good time to refocus on our mission, while developing disciples. He reported he is currently reading the book, "*Cultivating the Missional Church: New Soil for Growing Vestries and Leaders*" by Randy Ferebee. The book outlines the development of an atmosphere of discipleship formation in the church so that the people will be equipped to serve the world in the Name of Christ. Phillip has asked the Wardens to read the book as a way to begin this conversation.

CHECK-OUT: Phillip read from the Gospel of John, chapter/verse 10:11-18.

CLOSE: With no further business, Phillip closed the Vestry meeting with a prayer at 7:25 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS TO THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING:

March 2021 Financial reports
March 19, 2021 Vestry minutes
April 12, 2021 Executive Committee minutes
Vestry Retreat notes