

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

**MINUTES OF
MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2021
VESTRY MEETING**

PRESENT:

The Rev. Phillip Parker		Mark Maharrey
Dinetia Newman, Sr. Warden		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
Michelle Hester, CtK		Paul White

ABSENT: Caleb Bedillion, Art Chambers, Mickey Gray

The Rev. Philip Parker called the meeting to order with a prayer at 6:05 p.m.

CHECK IN

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

- Update on curate candidate
- Discussion of mask policy

CONSENT AGENDA:

- September 2021 Financial reports
- September 2021 Vestry minutes
- Christian Growth Commission report
- Christian Service Commission report

MOTION: (Riddle/Cannon)

Approve Consent Agenda as submitted.

APPROVED.

MEDIATION IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE REPORT:

Phillip reported progress is being made on several items:

Since the hiring of a new Youth Director, several of the agreements related to EYC are now in progress. EYC participated as lectors and intercessors in the Blessing of the Animals service. Emily Jackson has mentioned having a youth led service sometime in the spring.

Phillip hopes to restart the Centering Prayer group in Advent.

MOTION: (Cannon/Newman)

Approve Mediation Implementation Task Force report as given.

APPROVED.

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT:

Mary Jane Meadows, co-chair of the Stewardship committee advised that the information which will be in the stewardship packets is in progress. The cover letter is being drafted by Phillip and several members of the committee; the office is working on the 2022 pledge card; the theme and graphic are being finalized by her and other members of the committee; Albert White has drafted the “essential facts” for the campaign. The pledge drive kickoff will be Sunday, November 7 when Bishop Seage is at All Saints’ for his annual visitation. A hospitality time will be offered after each service as a way to meet and greet Bishop Seage and those being confirmed that day. December 5 has been set as the date for 2022 pledge cards to be turned in. Mary Jane advised that the Stewardship Committee encourages all leadership to turn in their 2022 pledge card no later than November 1. After December 5, the committee will begin contacting parishioners who have not made a pledge for 2022.

MOTION: (Newman/Dieckmann)

Approve Stewardship Committee’s report as given.

APPROVED.

BUSINESS:

Treasurer’s report

Bud began his report by giving an overview of our financial status as of September 30, 2021. The written financial reports have been made a part of these minutes.

Bud projected that by the end of the year, he expects revenue will be short of the actual budget by approximately \$5,200, with expenses approximately \$42,000 under budget. He noted that approximately \$18,000 was received in capital campaign revenue in September. Bud stated that overall he feels relatively optimistic about our financial status considering we are still in the COVID pandemic.

MOTION: (Cannon/Timmons)

Approve Treasurer’s report as submitted and reviewed.

APPROVED.

Consider candidates for Jr. Warden and Vestry

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Jr. Warden, Fred Cannon submitted a list of potential Jr. Warden candidates for approval. He noted that all names on the list meet the qualifications to stand for election as set forth by our By-Laws. After the Vestry reviewed the list, the following motion was made:

MOTION: (Maharrey/Fleming)

Approve list of potential Jr. Warden candidates in the order submitted.

APPROVED.

Sr. Warden, Dinetia Newman then submitted a list of potential Vestry candidates for approval. She noted that all names on the list meet the qualifications to stand for election as set forth by our By-Laws. After the Vestry reviewed the list, the following motion was made:

MOTION: (Timmons/Dieckmann)

Approve list of potential Vestry candidates in the order submitted.

APPROVED.

Consider seminary support (1% of our net disposable budgeted income)

Phillip opened the discussion by advising each year parishes in our Diocese are asked to pledge 1% of their net disposable budgeted income to a seminary of their choice. This request is not required by Canon but is recommended by the Diocese. Phillip noted this request is separate and apart of the support being given to Rufus Van Horn during his time in seminary at The School of Theology, at University of the South, Sewanee. After a discussion, the following motion was made:

MOTION: (Furr/Cannon)

Refrain from making the commitment to pledge 1% of our net disposable budgeted income to a seminary at this time.

APPROVED.

Consider renewal for licensed lay leaders

Phillip submitted a list of licensed lay ministers for review by the Vestry, to be sent to Bishop Seage for license renewal.

MOTION: (Cannon/Timmons)

Approve list of lay ministers to be sent to Bishop Seage for the renewal of their license.

APPROVED.

Approve Mark Swanberg as chair of the Hospitality committee

Phillip submitted Mark Swanberg for consideration as the chair of the Hospitality Committee.

MOTION: (Furr/Dieckmann)

Approve Mark Swanberg as the chair of the Hospitality Committee.

APPROVED.

Discussion of contacting parishioners

Dinetia asked for volunteers from the Vestry to contact parishioners and encourage their attendance at upcoming events, such as Beer & Brats on October 27 and the Bishop's visit on November 7.

Update on curate candidate

Phillip reported that he, Dinetia Newman, Fred Cannon and Tommie Moore visited with the curate candidate via a zoom call earlier in the day. He stated the candidate would like to spend her curacy as part of a team; would like to teach adult formation; has a heart for pastoral care; and would be willing to officiate at Morning Prayer/Evening Prayer on a daily rotation. Those that were on the zoom call were impressed with her and think her skills and gifts would be a good match for All Saints' and CtK. The Vestry agreed to continue to pursue the possibility of having a curate in 2022, pending the outcome of the 2022 stewardship campaign.

Discussion of mask policy

With the decrease in COVID-19 infections over recent weeks, and with the recent change in mask policies by other community agencies, Phillip asked the Vestry to revisit our current mask policy, requiring masks to be worn on Sundays during classes and services. He stated the Diocese is leaving the decision to the local level as they know their circumstances better than anyone. A discussion followed. Considerations were voiced for requiring masks and considerations were voiced for easing the requirement. After the discussion, the following motion was made:

MOTION: (Timmons/Smith)

The Vestry of All Saints' Episcopal Church has decided to lift the requirement for masks to be worn in worship services. At this time, we strongly and highly encourage parishioners to wear masks during services. We do encourage the wearing of masks as a means to protect those around us. If anyone decides not to wear a mask, they are asked to please be considerate of those around them.

APPROVED.

CHECK-OUT

CLOSE: With no further business, Phillip closed the Vestry meeting with a prayer at 7:19 p.m.

ATTACHMENTS TO THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER MEETING:

September 2021 financial reports

September 20, 2021 Vestry minutes

Christian Growth Commission report

Christian Service Commission report

List of licensed lay leaders