

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

**MINUTES OF
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2023
VESTRY MEETING**

PRESENT:

The Rev. Phillip Parker, Rector		Joellen Murphree
The Rev. Becca Walton, Curate	Carol Alvis	
Cathy Fitzpatrick, Sr. Warden	Sue Ann Averett	
Stephen King, Jr. Warden	Caleb Bedillion	
	Karen Dieckmann	Grant Smith
Tommie Moore, Clerk		Donna Timmons

ABSENT: Mike Fitzpatrick, Alice Alexander, Leila Keel, Richard Pate, Margaret Anne Robbins, Ann Springfield

The Rev. Phillip Parker opened the meeting with a prayer at 6:02 p.m.

CHECK IN

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

PROGRESS REPORTS FROM VESTRY: No report

Vestry goals/objectives:

- Be intentional about engagement with parishioners or newcomers (personal connection, lunch, coffee, etc.); Share social media posts
- Help to communicate liturgy explanations to the Parish.
- Increase Vestry attendance at services, events, programs, classes.
- Start each Vestry meeting by reviewing goals and reporting on specific progress.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- October 2023 financial reports
- October 23, 2023 Vestry minutes
- Christian Growth Commission report - written
- Christian Service Commission report - written
- Christian Stewardship Commission report - written
- Curate's report

MOTION: (Timmons/Murphree)

Approve Consent Agenda as submitted.

APPROVED.

Treasurer's report

On behalf of the Treasurer, Cathy Fitzpatrick gave an oral report of our financial status as of October 2023. She reported that our year-to-date revenue is approximately \$490,000 vs. a budget of \$456,000. Revenue has been running either above or at budget and expenses have been running in line with the budget.

The balance on our building loan is \$594,793.

MOTION: (Dieckmann/King)

Approve Treasurer's report as given.

APPROVED.

Consider Voluntary Proportionate Giving % to the Diocese (10% in 2023)

Cathy opened the discussion by advising All Saints' voluntary proportionate giving % to the Diocese of Mississippi is based on the "Total Operating Revenue" as reported on the previous year's Parochial report. Our 2023 VPG percentage is 10%. Our 2024 VPG percentage will be based on the "Total Operating Revenue" of \$539,715 as reported on the 2022 Parochial report. A discussion followed. Cathy reported the Treasurer recommended maintaining our VPG percentage at 10% in order to reduce the projected 2024 operating deficit.

MOTION: (King/Timmons)

Approve All Saints' voluntary proportionate giving percentage to the Diocese of Mississippi at 10% of the "Total Operating Revenue" of \$539,715 as reported on the 2022 Parochial report.

APPROVED.

Consider playground project

Cathy opened the discussion by thanking Leila Keel for her work in researching options for playground equipment and submitting a proposal and projected cost for the construction of the project. It was noted that approximately \$28,000 would be needed for the project. A discussion followed. The Vestry agreed to table further discussions concerning the playground project until after the Stewardship Operating Campaign has concluded and we would have a better idea of what our operating budget will be in 2024.

Update from the Nominating Committee

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Cathy updated the Vestry on the slate of candidates for Jr. Warden and Vestry. She reported they are not finished talking to candidates and hope to have a complete slate soon.

MOTION: (Dieckmann/Timmons)

Accept report from Nominating Committee as given.

APPROVED.

Consider appointment of Officers for 2024

Phillip advised that each year, Officers of the church must be appointed. He recommended reappointing Mike Fitzpatrick, Treasurer, Dinetia Newman, Assistant Treasurer, Reed Hillen, Chancellor and Tommie Moore, Clerk of the Vestry.

MOTION: (Timmons/Bedillion)

Approve reappointing as officers of All Saints': Mike Fitzpatrick, Treasurer, Dinetia Newman, Assistant Treasurer, Reed Hillen, Chancellor and Tommie Moore, Clerk of the Vestry.

APPROVED.

Consider Accountable Reimbursement Policy

Phillip advised that each year the Vestry must approve the “Accountable Reimbursement Policy” which outlines the terms and conditions of how reimbursements are made, tax reporting of reimbursements, record retention and the accountable expenses for the Rector and Curate.

MOTION: (Fitzpatrick/Averett)

1. Authorization and funding of 2024 accountable expenses for Rector, The Rev. Phillip Parker. For calendar year 2024, up to \$4,400.00 is hereby set aside to pay for business expenses incurred by the Rector that are “accounted for” within the meaning of the aforementioned policy.
2. Authorization and funding of 2024 accountable expenses for Curate, The Rev. Becca Walton. For calendar year 2024, up to \$3,900 is hereby set aside to pay for business expenses incurred by the Curate that are “accounted for” within the meaning of the aforementioned policy.

APPROVED.

Approve Housing allowance for 2024

The following motion was offered concerning the 2024 Housing Resolutions for The Rev. Phillip Parker, Rector and The Rev. Becca Walton, Curate.

MOTION: (Murphree/Fitzpatrick)

**HOUSING RESOLUTION
For The Rev. Phillip Parker, Rector**

Whereas, the Reverend Phillip Parker is compensated by All Saints’ Episcopal Church exclusively for the services as a minister of the gospel; and

Whereas, All Saints' does not provide Fr. Parker with a rectory,
Therefore, it is hereby

Resolved, that of the total compensation paid to Fr. Parker for calendar year 2024 \$25,000.00 is hereby designated to be a housing allowance; and it is further

Resolved, that the designation of \$25,000.00 as a housing allowance shall apply to calendar year 2024 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

This housing allowance is so designated in the official minutes of the Vestry of All Saints’ Episcopal Church.

**HOUSING RESOLUTION
For The Rev. Becca Walton, Curate**

Whereas, the Reverend Becca Walton is compensated by All Saints’ Episcopal Church exclusively for the services as a minister of the gospel; and

Whereas, All Saints' does not provide Rev. Walton with a rectory,

Therefore, it is hereby

Resolved, that of the total compensation paid to Rev. Walton for calendar year 2024 \$22,000.00 is

hereby designated to be a housing allowance; and it is further

Resolved, that the designation of \$22,000.00 as a housing allowance shall apply to calendar year 2024 and all future years unless otherwise provided.

This housing allowance is so designated in the official minutes of the Vestry of All Saints' Episcopal Church.

APPROVED.

Consider request to Bishop Seage to appoint The Rev. Dr. Billy Walton as Deacon to All Saints' Phillip advised each year the Vestry must request the Bishop to reassign the Rev. Dr. Billy Walton to All Saints' to serve as our Deacon. Phillip asked the Vestry to consider the assignment for 2024, pending the Bishop's approval.

MOTION: (Timmons/Dieckmann)

Request Bishop Seage to assign the Rev. Dr. Billy Walton to serve All Saints' Episcopal Church as Deacon.

APPROVED.

Set Annual Meeting date (suggested date February 7, 2024)

Phillip suggested that All Saints' Annual Parish Meeting be scheduled for Wednesday, February 7, 2024. We will begin with dinner at 5:30 p.m. with the Annual Meeting following at 6:00 p.m.

MOTION: (Timmons/Alvis)

Schedule All Saints' Annual Parish Meeting for Wednesday, February 7, 2024, dinner at 5:30 p.m. / Annual Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVED.

CHECK-OUT:

Phillip reminded everyone of the Thanksgiving Brunch on Sunday, November 19 which will wrap up our 2024 Stewardship Campaign.

CLOSE: With no further business, The Rev. Phillip Parker dismissed the Vestry meeting at 6:33 p.m.

Submitted by Tommie Moore, Clerk of the Vestry.

ATTACHMENTS TO THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING:

October 2023 financial reports

October 23, 2023 Vestry minutes

Christian Growth Commission report - written

Christian Service Commission report - written

Christian Stewardship Commission report - written

Playground proposal

Accountable Reimbursement Policy

Housing Resolutions for Rector and Curate