

**MINUTES  
TRINITY VESTRY MEETING  
November 22, 2016**

A meeting of the 2017 Vestry was held in the Trinity Undercroft on November 22, 2016.

Present: The Rev. Dr. Luk De Volder; Lisa Omark, Senior Warden; Charlotte Rea, Junior Warden; David Soper, Treasurer; Carolyn Gould, Clerk; David Assis; Barbara Casey; Marge Eichler; Karen Isaacs; David Jenkins; Richard Mammana; David Rivera; Mary Ellen Savage; Sarah Woodford

Guests: Holly Clark (Yale Divinity School Liturgy Intern)

**QUICK VIEW**

**Decisions made;**

- **Approved Minutes of October 17, 2016, Vestry Meeting**

**Tasks identified:**

- **Develop list of nominees for Vestry positions**

The Rector opened the meeting at 5:35 PM.

Barbara Casey offered an opening prayer taken from “Women’s Uncommon Prayer”.

**Bible Moment:** Lisa Omark read Colossians 1:11-14 for consideration by the Vestry:

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

**Vestry Covenant:** Charlotte Rea focused attention on the following provision of the Vestry Covenant:

We promise to treat each other with respect, acknowledging that disagreement and conflict are part of the decision-making process but that each of us is united in our love for God and our church. When conflicts do arise, we commit to draw on the wisdom of our Christian tradition -- scripture, prayers, hymns, art – to understand the conflict with a broader and deeper context.

**Approval of Minutes of October 17, 2016, Vestry Meeting (see attached):** It was MOVED and SECONDED that the minutes of the Vestry meeting held on October 17, 2016, be approved. The motion PASSED unanimously.

**Visitation of Bishop Laura Ahrens:** The Rector welcomed Bishop Laura Ahrens to the meeting. The Bishop requested introductions of each Vestry member. She then asked each member to offer thoughts about the questions outlined in the Episcopal Visitation Vestry Discussion Guide 2015-2016:

What are the blessings and challenges of being a follower of Jesus now?

What stories in the Bible come to mind when you consider the blessings and challenges of being a Christian in today's world?

What does it mean to be a Christian leader in a post-Christendom world? How are we called to be both disciples and apostles?

Finally, the Bishop asked the Vestry to express appreciations, regrets and shared learnings from the evening's discussion.

### **Administrative Operations:**

**Treasurer's Report:** David Soper, Treasurer, reported that revenues and expenses through October were on budget and the cash position is good. Stone for the front steps will be laid in the Spring. The auditor will attend the January Finance Committee meeting. The Holiday Bazaar netted at least \$32,000, with more expected. There will be a 5% increase in health insurance expense in 2017, less than expected. There will be a vote on the 2017 budget and the clergy housing allowance resolution at the December Vestry meeting.

**Stewardship Committee:** The Stewardship campaign is progressing well, with second letters going out earlier than last year.

**Nomination Team:** Lisa Omark reported that currently 4 members have agreed to stand for the 2018 Vestry, with 2 more required to fill one-year terms.

### **Rector's Report:**

- A team is in place for next year's Holiday Bazaar; it is anticipated that volunteers will be trained, and the Bazaar will be a huge New Haven community event.
- The Rev. Ann Broomell will be Interim Associate Rector at Trinity in December and January.
- On December 6, there will be a joint Liturgy and Music Committee meeting in the Undercroft to discuss reaching more people at services, to which Vestry members are invited.

Barbara Casey led a closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Gould, Parish Clerk

**Upcoming Dates:**

**December 19, 2016: Vestry Meeting at Tiffany and Luk's home in North Haven**

**Prayers, Richard Mammana**

**Snacks, Sheila Owen, Carolyn Gould, Karen Isaacs, Richard Mammana**

**December 11, 2016: Coffee Hour, Sheila Owen, Richard Mammana (9 AM); Carolyn Gould, Karen Isaacs (11 AM)**

**January 16, 2017: Vestry Meeting**

**January 29, 2017: Annual Parish Meeting**

**February 10 and 11: Vestry Retreat at Incarnation Camp**

**Attachments:**

Vestry Agenda, October 17, 2016

Minutes of September 19, 2016, Vestry Meeting

Proposal for Vestry Resolution re: Urgent Repairs Procedure

Trinity Grants Committee Budget Report

Trinity Church on the Green Financial Review through September 2016