



Trinity Church on the Green

Mission Statement

God's love calls us to proclaim with joy the Good News of Jesus Christ, to welcome all people into the community of faith, and to serve Christ through serving others.

Vestry Meeting
October 16, 2017

Agenda

1. Opening Prayer ((Patricia Thurston)
2. Bible and Covenant reading
3. Approval of minutes of September 18th meeting
4. Ministry Conversations (5:45-6:30 p.m.)
 - Christian Education
 - History and Properties
 - Liturgy and Spirituality
 - Music and the Arts
 - Outreach
 - Pastoral Care
5. Continuing and New Business (6:30-7:15 p.m.)
 - Report on Interviews for Director of Development and Database Manager (Charlotte Rea)
 - Holiday Bazaar Update (Mary Ann Stroup)
 - Vestry Basket for the Holiday Bazaar Raffle (Charlotte Rea)
 - Grants Committee proposals approval (Lisa Omark)
 - Christ Church Mission Development Fund endorsement (Luk)
 - Report on Interviews for Director of Development and Database Manager (Charlotte Rea)
6. Administrative Operations
 - Treasurer's Report (David Soper)
7. Closing Prayer (Patricia Thurston)

Tonight Prayer	Next Meeting Prayer	Vestry Dates Meeting
Patricia Thurston	Barbara Casey	November 20
Snacks	Snacks	December 18
Sheila Bonenberger	Barbara Casey	
Andrew Smyth	David Assis	
Barbara Lamb	Geri Mauhs	

David Assis

Draft subject to vestry approval

MINUTES
Trinity Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting
September 18, 2017

Present: The Reverend Dr. Luk De Volder, Rector; the Reverend Elise Ashley Hanley, Assistant Rector; Charlotte Rea, Junior Warden; Richard Mammana, Clerk; David Assis, Sheila Bonenberger, Fiona Leary Boucher, Dave Jenkins, Geri Mauhs, Kim Morris, Andrew Smyth, Patricia Thurston, Sarah Woodford. (Regrets received from Barbara Casey, Karen Isaacs, Lisa Omark, David Soper, Mary Ann Stroup.)

Luk opened the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Fiona offered the opening prayer.

Andrew Smyth read the Bible passage from Romans 14, and a brief conversation followed.

Patricia read the Vestry Covenant passage.

The minutes for August 21, 2017 were approved by unanimous voice vote.

The vestry ratified the earlier electronic vote for the approval of a development position.

Luk narrated portions of the financial review that will be presented at the parish meeting on October 15. For the past four years we have had a decreasing deficit, and this is likely to continue. Luk noted that pledging has experienced something of a shortfall. David Assis inquired about adjustments in light of stewardship. Charlotte also discussed some aspects of the budget. The upcoming concert should also be a positive cash-flow. Charlotte provided an update on unclaimed property from Wells Fargo, which has finally been returned to the church. She noted the endowment withdrawal of \$110,000 for cash needs related to the choir trip and the steps.

David Jenkins provided an update on the stewardship campaign. There is a goal of \$450,000 for this year, and pledge reminder letters have already gone out. The Reverend Suzanne Culhane of Christ Church, Greenwich will preach on Sunday about stewardship. Luk and Elise will also be focusing on stewardship as a theme in October. David Assis flagged the need to contact non-pledgers more carefully. Several vestry members discussed ideas about items that could be given to first-time pledgers: note-cards, tiles, mugs, magnets, t-shirts, etc.

Luk discussed some reorganization for the Holiday Bazaar. A number of primary volunteers have decided to retire from the Bazaar, and it is important to honor their contributions. Several options are being explored to create inventory, and we are evaluating the number of ongoing volunteers.

Luk discussed the possibility of having chaperones around the church during some seasons who would help parishioners whose arrival is being interfered with by panhandlers or others on the Green. Sheila Bonenberger encouraged a contact with Bill McMullin to advise on security matters on the Green. Claire from Claire's Cornucopia is

also offering to provide advice. Several members of the group discussed reorganization of traffic around the Green, and the encouragement of installing outdoor toilets. Choir parent Diana Morgan has also provided advice on human capital investments in Trinity's context.

Discussion of the parish picnic followed. It was the strong mind of the group that it would be beneficial to move the picnic back to Lighthouse Point. Charlotte noted the date of September 9, 2018 for next year, and Luk noted the importance of making a very early reservation.

Luk noted the openness of the agenda for other items members would like to propose.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m. following a closing prayer from Fiona Boucher read by Richard Mammana.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Mammana
Clerk

Bible Quote

Trinity Church on the Green VESTRY COVENANT

Celebrant: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: I will, with God's help.

Celebrant: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: I will, with God's help. (Baptismal Covenant, The Book of Common Prayer)

Recognizing our shared baptismal covenant, and the promises we have made in it to God and to one another, we commit as members of the Vestry to a culture of holy manners and conversation.

We promise to pray for each other, for our clergy and staff, and for the congregation.

We promise to listen actively and communicate directly with one another, nurturing and supporting one another to ensure mutual understanding.

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.

We promise to put aside our personal needs and agendas for the good and community of our Vestry, recognizing the need to balance accountability with personal responsibility.

We promise to create a safe place for all to speak during Vestry meetings.

We promise to create and sustain a parish committed to the highest standards of safety for children and the elderly in accordance with Diocesan Safe Church policies.

We promise to support Vestry decisions, even though we might personally disagree with them, especially when we engage with the congregation.

We promise to communicate openly with the congregation while understanding that there may be times when confidentiality is necessary.

We promise to demonstrate our leadership and commitment to our church by our example.

We promise to support our clergy and staff so that their efforts can be most effective.



We promise to be present at all Vestry meetings and functions as much as possible, silencing our mobile devices and (with the exception of emergencies) using electronics only in ways that pertain to the meeting itself—for notes, background information, presentations, etc.

We promise to evaluate our keeping of this covenant regularly in the pursuit of healthy culture for the Vestry itself and the wider congregation.