

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE VESTRY VIA ZOOM
GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA
August 25, 2021, AT 7:00pm**

VESTRY MEMBERS/OFFICERS PRESENT:

Dan Scott, Senior Warden
Chaudron Gille, Junior Warden
Barbara Batog
Newsom Cummings
Daniel Grizzle
Vance Holifield
JoAnn Manring
Sonja McLendon
Tom Rossi
Gail Sargent
Christy Wagner
Mike Whitmire

STAFF PRESENT:

Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham
Rev. Dr. Cynthia Park
Rev. Mary Demmler

OTHERS PRESENT:

Susan Lahey, Clerk of the Vestry

ABSENT:

Callie Flack, Treasurer

ACTION ITEMS

Approved July Minutes and Treasurer's Report
Motion to Approve: Whitmire/ Gille. Unanimous.

Finance Committee recommended approval of the COG budget for 2021-2022.
Approval seconded by Whitmire. Unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS

Stewardship cards will be placed in the pews beginning Sunday, August 29. They will also be included in the third quarter statement that will be mailed to parishioners at the end of September. The deadline for returning pledges is Sunday, October 15.

Stuart Higginbotham will be sending reminder notes about the Annual Council meeting at the Cathedral of St. Philip on November 12 and 13. Registration deadline is September 15.

Stuart also announced that the Bishop has approved resuming wine with Holy Communion beginning September 12. There will be six trays of individual disposable cups. This will be our Feast Day, and will also be Lynn Swanson's first day as organist.

There will be an examination of parity salary increases for some staff members. As part of this process, job descriptions will be revisited.

A discussion of Jeremy Landers' update on the lightning damage to the church took place. Insurance claims can be left open for the next month. The good news is that the systems in place protected the church from extensive damage although there was indeed some damage, including elements of the pipe organ and communications systems.

Discussion of resuming the Wednesday night dinners on September 15. Vestry member Sonja McLendon, an administrator at NGMC, recommended holding off because of the current COVID situation in our area. Stuart will send an email to the parish detailing plans for:

- "Meet & Greet" outside in tents for choristers on September 22 and 29.
- Utilizing \$3000 in VBS money that was budgeted but not used this year to rent tents and provide meals-to-go for families.
- We will delay the start of GWAG and kick off later with a Fall Festival that includes a food truck.
- Brenau will be contacted about providing take-out meals for Grace members on Wednesday nights.

There was discussion about having acolytes return to the services

The meeting was closed at 8:10PM with prayer from Cynthia Park, who is celebrating a return from successful surgery. The next meeting will be September 22, 2021, at 7:00PM.

Minutes recorded by Susan Lahey, Clerk of the Vestry