

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE VESTRY
GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA (VIA ZOOM and IN PERSON)
JULY 27, 2022 AT 7:00pm

VESTRY MEMBERS/OFFICERS PRESENT:

Sonja McLendon, Senior Warden
Chaudron Gille, Junior Warden
Barbara Batog
Newsom Cummings
Nate Early
Julia Greene
Daniel Grizzle
Vance Holifield
Beth Neidenbach
Sally Pittman
Tom Rossi

ABSENT:

Christy Wagner
Callie Flack, Treasurer

STAFF PRESENT:

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

OTHERS PRESENT:

Susan Lahey, Clerk of the Vestry

Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham opened the meeting with two poems written by himself and Mary Oliver.

CONSENT AGENDA:

May and June financials were approved as amended.
Pittman/McLendon. Unanimous.

Centerpoint has revamped their bylaws. Founding churches will have one seat on the member board. Founding churches will be released from their % commitment to the Centerpoint funding; the Outreach Committee will assess the budget allocation to Centerpoint. The change was approved.
McLendon/Grizzle. Unanimous.

Approval to accept the 2019-20 audit findings. Notes: 1) The Community Foundation's assets are separate and are now listed as Grace's assets. 2) The 2021 audit should be ready in September 2022.
Approval for the 2019-20 audit: Rossi/Holifield. Unanimous.

The Building & Grounds Committee has recommended that we use Tipton Construction for the contractor. This will involve a \$3325 signage company fee, as well as \$9400 for the design fee. Hank Houser, our architecture consultant, can assist for \$175/hour. In summary, Building & Grounds recommends an initial amount of \$20,000 to move forward, after which they will make a formal recommendation for the funding for the entire project.

Approved. McLendon/Gille. Unanimous.

With the departure of Cheryl Kelley, there is a proposal to divide Cheryl's full-time position into two part-time positions: one for youth and one for children. Jessica Voyles will assume additional roles and be compensated accordingly. When Brenda Morgan retires, Jennifer Williams can step in and take Brenda's role.

Approved. McLendon/Pittman. Unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Growth of parish: Stuart reported that we have 68 new members since January 1, 2021 and 44 current prospects. The Newcomers Class will culminate in confirmations and receptions on All Saints Sunday (November 6) when the Bishop will visit Grace.
- On August 14, there will be a Ministry Fair during the Sunday Forum hour. Tables will be available for all ministries and committees.
- The Stewardship Campaign will kick off on September 18 and end on November 6.
- Tied is to the Stewardship Campaign roll out, there will be a parish breakfast between the services on September 18 since it is the parish feast day.
- The Annual Council meeting in Atlanta will be November 11 & 12. Our delegates are Sonja McLendon, Jason Voyles, Chaudron Gille and Frank Rinker.
- There will be revisions to the Christmas services since Christmas falls on a Sunday this year:
 1. December 4: Lessons & Carols at the 10:45 service
 2. December 18: Messiah Sing-Along at 3:00 PM
 3. December 24: 4:00PM Family Service/Children's pageant and 10:00PM Midnight Mass. The 7:00PM service will be dropped.
 4. December 25: one service at 10:00AM. No music, Rite I.
- The Women's Retreat will be at Montreat during MLK Weekend.
- The weekly GWAG event will be shifted to monthly parish events.
- Stuart and Reba Page are working on an on-line directory and hope to introduce it on the parish feast day.
- Stuart welcomes ideas about our ongoing work with the parish Participation Cluster.

The meeting was closed with a prayer by Rev. Dr. Cynthia Park.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Lahey, Clerk of the Vestry.

