

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE VESTRY  
GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA (VIA ZOOM)  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2022 AT 7:00pm**

**VESTRY MEMBERS/OFFICERS PRESENT:**

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

**ABSENT:**

Nate Early

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham  
Rev. Dr. Cynthia Park  
Reba Page

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Callie Flack, Treasurer  
Susan Lahey, Clerk of the Vestry

Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham opened the meeting with a prayer and a reading from the Old Testament. Each of us is called to stand at our watch post. What are we looking for and who?

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

August financials and minutes were approved.  
Gille/McLendon. Unanimous.

Adoption of Children of Grace budget for 2022-23 (Fall-Spring) as recommended by the Finance Committee. It is a line item under Formation. Finance/Grizzle. Unanimous.

Approved an increase in cost of Columbarium niches. Wagner/Cummings. Unanimous.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

- Stuart announced that Amy Munn will begin shadowing Callie Flack to fill the position of Treasurer.

- Reba gave an update on Children of Grace budget. The preschool year ends in July 2023. There was an excess of \$21,000, which will be transferred to the COG Building & Reserve fund as was recommended by the Finance Committee. Children of Grace has always been a ministry of the entire Grace Episcopal Church community, and we have worked the past several years to adjust financial reports and planning so that the overall ministry of the community accounts for the way that the full church budget covers portions of the preschool expenses. To help us understand how all this “fits,” we can consider COG to be organized and reported under the Formation Cluster banner. In this way, we see how the ministry to the families in the preschool truly is a part of an integrated approach for the overall life of the community.
- Updates on the Columbarium: Originally, the cost to complete both of the remaining bays was to be \$80,800. There has been an 8% increase and the cost will now be \$86,900. The current charge for a niche with up to 4 plaques is \$1,000. There are a few remaining niches in the bottom level that can continue to be sold at the current price. After 3 months, the price will be raised to \$1500 for all to cover the increased cost of expanding the Columbarium. This was approved by the vestry tonight.
- Building & Grounds update: Doug McDuff, Mary Lynn Coyle and their team make recommendations to the vestry. Randall Frost will work closely with them, representing Finance. They are currently formalizing a plan to track and coordinate building updates to help us prioritize. The position of the incoming Junior Warden should be a liaison to meet with Building & Grounds, Finance, Staff and Vestry. Newsom offered to be the liaison until his vestry term expires in January 2023.

The meeting was closed at 8:10 with a prayer by Rev. Dr. Cynthia Park.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Lahey, Clerk of the Vestry.