

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE VESTRY  
GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA  
MAY 31, 2023**

**VESTRY MEMBERS/OFFICERS PRESENT:**

Sonja McLendon, Senior Warden  
Barb Batog (ZOOM)  
Jim Brim  
Stuart Deaderick  
Daniel Grizzle (ZOOM)  
Vance Holifield  
Beth Neidenbach  
Sally Pittman (ZOOM)  
Frank Rinker  
Helen Scovill  
Anita Smith

**ABSENT:**

Julia Greene, Junior Warden  
Amy Munn, Treasurer

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham  
Rev. Dr. Cynthia Park

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Susan Lahey, Clerk of the Vestry

Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham opened the meeting with prayers for Brandon Nonnemaker's ordination and for all clergy and people.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- Approval of Treasurer's Report and April 26, 2023 and May 18, 2023 minutes. Neidenbach/Holifield. Unanimous
- Approval of Endowment Committee's recommendation of proposed disbursements:
  1. Habitat for Humanity: \$15,000 from Van Giesen Fund
  2. Good News Clinic: \$15,000 from Wilheit Fund
  3. Good News at Noon: \$5,000 from Wilheit Fund
  4. Hispanic Alliance: \$5,000 from Grace Ministries FundEndowment/Rinker. Unanimous

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

- There will be a ZOOM meeting soon to vote on the **IntraFi** program once Chancellor Jason Voyles and Mike Whitmire have reviewed the program. This will protect all our accounts in excess of \$250,000 at both Ameris Bank and Peach State Bank. Ameris charges a small fee, but recommended a money market fund that will pay this fee. There is no charge at Peach State.
- Tuesday, June 6, is the date for the final numbers for the construction project. Tipton has given Grace a date of July 1 to begin. A ZOOM meeting will be scheduled next week when the Finance

Committee makes its recommendation. Although we have not yet reached the point for regular income and expenditures, there will be a monthly update to track the details. There is currently \$1,054,000 pledged.

- Sunday, July 9, there will be an official groundbreaking after the 10:45 service.
- Reverend Mary Demmler has sent a survey to all parents in the parish to help establish a cohesive plan when Brandon Nonnemaker arrives.
- On August 6, a potluck lunch will follow the second service. We will be celebrating Brandon's arrival as well as the soft opening of the new school year. Vestry members involved in the participation cluster will be needed to help set up for the event.
- August 20 and 27 have been set aside for a Vestry retreat, which will include the use of enneagrams this year.
- On September 10, the choir and Christian education will return.
- The church will be looking for a focus point once the construction is completed. To facilitate that, Beth Neidenbach has been working on a series of Sunday forums for August. They will feature various speakers from our community partners on the topics of homelessness (e.g., Family Promise), services for children (SISU, YMCA), Dancing for a Cause, and Sacred Roots & Gateway (combined). Reverend Dr. Cynthia Park reminded the group that regular audits are conducted to examine compliance with our charter. Each year the agencies reapply for reconsideration.
- Reverend Dr. Cynthia Park presented Beth Neidenbach with a prayer shawl from the therapy group and prayers were offered for a successful surgery on June 1, as well as for Barb Batog's recovery from recent surgery.

Reverend Dr. Cynthia Park closed the meeting with a prayer at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Lahey  
Clerk of the Vestry