

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE VESTRY

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

GAINESVILLE, GEORGIA

AUGUST 28, 2025

VESTRY MEMBERS/OFFICERS PRESENT:

Stuart Deaderick, Senior Warden

Kimberley Boyd, Junior Warden

Sue Bowron

Jim Bradley

Jo Brewer

Jim Brim

Steve Carlson

Darlene Hauserman

Helen Scovill

Anita Smith

Jason Voyles

ABSENT:

Cheryl Kelley

STAFF PRESENT:

Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham

OTHERS PRESENT:

Susan Lahey, Clerk of the Vestry

Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham opened the meeting with a prayer at 6:30PM.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Treasurer's Report and Minutes from June approved unanimously. Carlson/Voyles.
- Move funds from Truist Bank to Citizens. Voyles/Carlson.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Building & Grounds: Benches have been installed in window niches so that the choir can gather there rather than the narthex. Vergers would like feedback from the choir on this transition. It is hoped that the choir can be brought down to the lower level as part of the construction on the nave in late 2028.

Father Stuart has asked Mike for itemized duties and an updated contract in January because of some confusion over cleaning costs, which may increase to \$200/month for the rest of the year. COG teachers have gotten Swiffer mops. Mike goes to COG once a week for cleaning but does bathrooms every day. He typically works evenings from 4:00 - 9:00.

Preschool interior painting has been completed. Kitchen cleaning has been postponed. We are meeting with GIPL (Georgia Interfaith Power & Lights) to see if we can apply for grants and any conversation with the proposed next phase of the campaign.

Jeremy has been asked to be mindful of scheduling contractors during office hours. If we need to, we can shift Jeremy's hours to Monday to Friday instead of him being on site on Sundays.

- Family Ministries & Discipleship: Vestry member and Leader of Dementia Support Group Darlene Hauserman will be moving to Cleveland and was celebrated with a gift basket at the meeting. She recommended that the Dementia group be divided in two ways: those in the early stages of memory loss and those who are in the later stages. Darlene will be replaced on the vestry by Jeff Whalen, who will begin his term in October.

Vestry vote: Jeff Whalen to serve out the remainder of Darlene Hauserman's term.

- Participation Update: Junior Warden Boyd reports that the PALS program is going well and stressed the importance of wearing nametags.

She discussed the Bicentennial Celebration and would like individuals to brainstorm ideas such as having a keynote speaker or themes for seasons. The event will last from Feast Day 2027 to Easter 2028. Any construction on the nave will begin Summer 2028 and the campaign for that will be included in the Celebration.

Other Business:

Outreach: NE Georgia Speech Center, Family Promise, Sacred Roots, Ryan Joiner Foundation (mental health) and Randy's Place will be sending applications for the 2026 cycle.

Stewardship kick-off will be Sunday, September 14 with the in-gathering on All Saint's Sunday. September 14 will also be the parish Feast Day with one combined service at 10:00AM.

There will be an audit review with vestry and finance committee on September 9 at 6:00PM via ZOOM.

Senior Warden Stuart Deaderick closed the meeting with a prayer at 7:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Lahey, Clerk of the Vestry