

THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2017

7:00 P.M. – HALE AUDITORIUM

*Do you not know that you are God's temple
and that God's Spirit dwells in you?
If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person.
For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.
1 Corinthians 3:16-17*

Quorum. The February Vestry meeting was called to order on Tuesday, February 21, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. The following Vestry members were present, representing a quorum for the conduct of business: Matt Buck, Kathy Dickinson, Lucy Neale Duke, Michelle Harner, Alison King, Chris Kurz, David Pantle, Robin Pierson, David Pitard, Derek Savage, Betsy Scott, and Murray Taylor. The following clergy members, staff members, and officers were present: David Ware, Ellen Chatard, Mary DeKuyper, Tony Brandon, and Fern Riley. The following officer was absent: Tom Spies.

Opening Prayer. David Ware opened the meeting with a prayer.

Reflection. Matt Buck offered a prayerful reflection from "The Weight of Glory", a sermon by C. S. Lewis.

Approval of Minutes. Fern Riley presented the minutes of the Vestry meeting held on January 17, 2017. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Staff Report [Bert Landman]. Bert Landman discussed his goals for music at Redeemer. He said the role of music is to serve, to make connections to the Divine in ways we do not understand, to allow us to glimpse even now that which is beyond our understanding. Bert said he is so glad to be part of this wonderful, creative staff and congregation. He is planning for ways we can connect to the community, and he is using this first year of his ministry to lay the foundation for choral singing here at Redeemer and to make connections in the community with Govans Elementary School and others. The St. Cecelia and St. Nicholas Choir is using the Royal Society of Christian Music's "Voice for Life" curriculum to help the choristers learn the mechanics of making music and singing. He also wants them to learn to become successful adults by developing leadership skills and mentoring younger singers. We will need the support of the choristers, parents and the whole congregation to deepen our community connection to build the choir. He is also enjoying his work with the young children in the St. Gabriel's Choir, helping them to discover the joys of making music. A group of 25 adults and 4 children from Redeemer and 2 adults and 12 children from the Choir School of Hartford will travel to England this summer to sing in residence at Ely Cathedral. He hopes this will inspire other

opportunities and ways to reach beyond our walls. Several Vestry members offered their thanks and appreciation to Bert for his work with the children, his patience, skill, creativity, and vision.

Rector's Report [David Ware]. David presented the Lenten programming schedule of worship services, lectures, retreats, concerts, and service opportunities, centering on the theme of Hearts in, Hands On, and Reaching Out.

Sunday, February 26	Jazz Mass with Rite 13 service. Mite boxes distributed in Sunday School, to benefit the International Rescue Committee (IRC); children will read Book of Ruth for scriptural basis for how strangers are incorporated.
Tuesday February 28	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, RYG
Wednesday, March 1	Ash Wednesday services: 7:30 am, 12 noon, 7:30 pm
March 3, 4, & 5	RYG musical: "Seussical, Jr."
Wednesday, March 8	Lenten Series: Laura Wexler, Stoop Stories creator
Friday, March 10	Stand Up for Racial Justice (SURJ), Chris Crass speaker
Saturday, March 11	IRC benefit, author Mohsin Hamid ("Exit West") speaker
Wednesday, March 15	Lenten Series: Leana Wen, Baltimore Health Commissioner
Thursday, March 16	Candle Lights: Hearts Undone, sponsored by New Day, bringing artistic response to deal with the stigma of mental illness; music and art from Peabody String Sinafonia, Sheppard Pratt Health System and others
Sunday, March 19	Songs of Self, Katie Pollock concert
Wednesday, March 22	Lenten Series: Rebecca Hoffberger, American Visionary Art Museum Founder & Director
Saturday, March 25	RYG retreat; Parish Lenten morning retreat
Sunday, March 26	Columbarium presentation after church; Bridge Ensemble concert, 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, March 29	Lenten series: Phyllis Taylor, hospice and palliative care nurse
Wednesday, April 5	Lenten series: April Ryan, White House correspondent
Sunday, April 9	Palm Sunday; Evensong, St. John's Passion
Thursday, April 13	Maundy Thursday
Friday, April 14	Good Friday
Saturday, April 15	Vigil
Sunday, April 16	Easter

Other Hands On opportunities include Paul's Place on Tuesdays, the Habitat for Humanity McCabe Avenue project, and Holy Casserole cooking, and other Hearts In opportunities include Centering Prayer on Tuesdays and Saturdays, Wednesday morning Eucharist, and Compline after the Lenten speakers. We will be using E-Redeemer and other media to invite the public, and David encouraged the Vestry to share word of the series with family, friends, co-workers, and others.

David said the Rev. Allen Robinson and he will be attending a meeting of faith leaders interested in community health improvement at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

The Faith@Five Saturday service will be held in the Parish Hall for the Lenten season to facilitate and explore new creative worship formats.

David met with the leaders of the Baltimore Collegiate School for Boys, a charter school dedicated to educating boys in grades 4 through 8 with plans to expand through grade 12 with a college preparatory curriculum focusing on academic mastery and character development. They discussed the school and possible ways Redeemer could support their mission, including involvement in our choir program.

Senior Warden's Report [Mary DeKuyper]. Mary DeKuyper reported a small group is evaluating the By-Laws and will be presenting a revised edition to the Vestry prior to the Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee will begin their work on selecting a slate for the new Vestry class, and she encouraged everyone to consider potential candidates. We will also be selecting delegates for the Diocesan Convention, and Mary asked anyone interested to speak to her. The Vestry Retreat will be held at the Claggett Center on June 16–17. Mary thanked everyone for signing up for Sunday morning Vestry Greeters and noted the Greeter schedule for the coming Sunday can be found in E-Redeemer.

Columbarium [Tony Brandon]. Tony Brandon reviewed the motion passed at the January Vestry meeting, authorizing the construction, financing, and contractor selection of the new Columbarium. Shade Construction has been selected to build Phase 1 of the project with a proposal of \$720,000. With funding from the Columbarium Dedicated Account and gifts, we now have \$310,000, and Ellen Chatard reported seven niches have been purchased so far. The Budget and Finance Committee is still working out the figures for additional funding from the Endowment, but it will be less than the \$350,000 authorized by the Vestry, and current funding will allow us to begin and complete a substantial amount of the work before any Endowment funds are needed.

Tony reminded the Vestry about our new contract with Unemployment Services Trust (UST) to handle any future unemployment needs. Using the funds from our \$42,000 dedicated unemployment account, we paid \$20,000 to UST, leaving \$22,000 in the account. A motion to transfer the remaining \$22,000 from the dedicated unemployment account to the Columbarium Fund to be used for the construction of the new Columbarium was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Announcements. David Ware reported 11 people including 2 parishioners from St. James participated in the “Seeing the Face of God in Each Other” anti-racism workshop at Redeemer on February 17-18.

Kathy Dickinson said we will have guests from Paul’s Place at the Jazz Mass on Sunday.

Adjournment. Matt Buck continued his prayer from the writing of C. S. Lewis on our longing for connection with God, wanting something bigger than we know. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Fern Riley, Registrar