

THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING

TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2017

7:00 P.M. – HALE AUDITORIUM

*The same stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.*

*This is the Lord's doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes.*

Psalm 118: 22-23

Quorum. The April Vestry meeting was called to order on Tuesday, April 18, 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, and Betsy Scott. The following clergy members, staff members, and officers were present: David Ware, Ellen Chatard, Mary DeKuyper, Tom Spies, and Fern Riley. The following Vestry members were absent: Murray Taylor. The following officer was absent: Tony Brandon.

Opening Prayer. David Ware opened the meeting with a reading from John Chrysostom's Easter Sermon.

Reflection. Michelle Harner offered a reflection on her spiritual journey.

Approval of Minutes. Fern Riley presented the minutes of the Vestry meeting held on March 21, 2017. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Staff Report [Cristina Paglinauan}. Cristina Paglinauan reported on her ministry in Community Engagement. She said it is a joy and a privilege to uphold what God is doing in the community. She quoted Matthew: "You are the light of the world." She said we are the keepers of the light, and this is the work she is supporting. Over the last few months, she notes we have shifted from thinking of this work as outreach to understanding the ministry as being in relationship with others. The Outreach Committee has become the Community Engagement Roundtable, composed of leaders of community ministries who meet quarterly to discuss their work and share ideas. Cristina notes several ministries have deepened their involvement and commitment. The Habitat for Humanity work continues on the McCabe Avenue project led by Barbara Fegley and Pete Partridge. The Tuesday Group and Holy Casserole are working with Paul's Place, led by Kathy Dickinson and Patty McLean. Anna von Lunz is now coordinating and deepening the work of 15 tutors and other activities at Govans Elementary School, and she has helped to organize field trips to the Hampton National Historic Site and Fort McHenry for 4th and 5th graders.

Cristina said we are exploring new partnerships with BUILD, the New Day Campaign and Stand Up for Racial Justice, and we will be hosting a Welcoming the Stranger series of speakers with the Interfaith Council of Roland Park in May. Our partnership with the Ivy Bookstore brought authors Mohsid Hamid, Roxanne Gay, and April Ryan to speak at Redeemer, opening our doors to be a community center in new ways.

Cristina said she plans to host thank you breakfasts for all who have been engaged in these ministries, and she is seeking ways to nurture parishioners working in the community in other groups to lift up their ministries. She sees education as a continuing focus in our work at Govans, the choir school, and the Ark Preschool. She wants to honor and support the work of our current leaders theologically and spiritually and to empower future leaders,

Rector's Report [David Ware]. David said the Columbarium Committee members Betsy Scott, Brandon Berkeley, Courtney Iglehart, Julia Randolph, Doug Riley, Ellen Chatard and he are meeting periodically to address and clarify policy questions as we embark on building the West Columbarium. They are planning to host a gathering of younger parishioners for conversations about end of life planning.

David gave a reflection on the season of Lent at Redeemer. The Wednesday evening Transforming Narratives program with speakers Laura Wexler, Dr. Leana Wen, Rebecca Hoffberger, Phyllis Taylor, and April Ryan brought together 760 participants over the series. Volunteer workers included the Kitchen Crew: Anna and Bob von Lutz, Betsy Willet, Allene Pierson, Joanne and David Calvert, Lauren Andersen, Debbie Coates, Nancy Spies, Laila Roth, Joanne Chamberlain, Steve Sutor, Susan Millard, Valerie Wethered, David Cole, Barbara Bachur, Claire and Tom McLaurin, Townsend Kent, Betty Webster, Lee Pierce, Leigh Lowe, Barbara Fegley, Debby Jenks, Carol Whitman, Diego Merida, Jack Reilly, Margaret Thompson, Sara Engram, and Bob Kent; the Welcome Table: Chris and Debby Kurz, Ashby and John Thompson, Brandon Berkeley, Pierce and Karen Linaweaver, Anne Carroll, Nancy and Tom Waxter, Libby Olson, Ruthie Cromwell, MJ and Derek Savage; and the Program Committee: Deborah Callard, Karen McGee, Millicent Bain, and Sarah Hoover. Community Engagement events included Chris Crass speaking with Stand Up for Racial Justice, authors Mohsid Hamid and Roxanne Gay with the Ivy Bookstore, the PDS auction, Govans Elementary School Run and the musical, Habitat for Humanity construction, Paul's Place and Holy Casserole ministries, and the Baltimore Native Plant Sale. Music and Arts programming included the RYG "Seussical" performances, the Songs of Self concert, the Bridge Ensemble, the New Day Campaign event, and the Evensong of St. John's Passion. Pastoral ministry work continued with the Ministry of St. Luke training, Sacred Space for Grace series, the new Columbarium presentation, and the parish retreat. New liturgy adaptations included staff written Prayers of the People, using the *Enriching Our Worship* Eucharistic Prayer, moving Faith@Five to the Parish Hall, the Maundy Thursday "Last Supper" and foot washing in the Parish Hall, Good Friday with Stations of the Cross highlighting Redeemer ministries, the Holy Saturday Vigil with readings from

James Weldon Johnson's *God's Trombones* poetry, sacred fire and baptism at the outside font. Easter attendance at the four services totaled 1,351.

Our next Sunday Speaker will be Imam Earl el-Amin from the Muslim Community Cultural Center of Baltimore to discuss the essentials of the Muslim faith and explore Islam in America today on April 30 and May 7.

Senior Warden's Report [Mary DeKuyper]. Mary DeKuyper said we will have a Mutual Ministry Review later this spring to reflect on how we are working together. She reminded the Vestry about the Parish Day School Breakfast on April 27 at 8:15 a.m. She thanked Tom Spies and the Building and Grounds Committee for the new worship service hours on the church sign. She also thanked the Budget and Finance Committee for its careful stewardship and close attention to our church finances. Mary looks forward to welcoming our new Vestry members to the next meeting.

Environmental Stewardship Statement [David Ware]. David read the following draft parish environmental stewardship statement from the Caring for Creation Committee:

We are called to speak and act on behalf of God's creation.

We are called to pay heed to the health and well-being of the earth and all living things.

We are called to recognize that humanity's fate is inextricably linked to our planet's fate. Our individual and collective choices make a difference.

We are called to inspire and equip the faithful to heal this fragile earth, our island home.

We are called to choose sustainable practices in all facets of our daily home and work lives.

Caring for Creation mission: To foster parish and personal environmental stewardship. To further this mission, the Church of the Redeemer's Caring for Creation ministry will encourage environmental awareness through education, activities, and programs to help our church community live our faith in our daily lives.

The Vestry endorsed their statement and mission.

Outgoing Vestry Members Reflections. Outgoing Vestry members David Pantle, Robin Pierson, Betsy Scott, and Derek Savage each gave a reflection on their Vestry service. David and Mary gave gifts to all and thanked them for their Vestry service.

Announcements. The Annual Meeting will be held during the 10:00 a.m. service on Sunday, April 30, and the Vestry will host the Coffee Hour.

Ellen Chatard said the Vestry/Staff Retreat will be held at the Claggett Center on June 16-17 at a cost of \$120 per person.

David indicated additional donor gifts are under consideration for the new Columbarium.

Upcoming Events

April 30, 10:00 a.m.	Annual Meeting
April 30, May 7, 11:30 a.m.	Adult Forum, Imam Earl el-Amin
May 16, 7:00 p.m.	Vestry Meeting
May 21	Confirmation and Bishop's Visit
June 16-17	Vestry/Staff Retreat at Claggett Center
June 20, 7:00 p.m.	Vestry Meeting

Adjournment. Matt Buck offered a closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Fern Riley, Registrar