

## THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

### MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2018

7:00 P.M. – HALE AUDITORIUM

*But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.*

*James 3:17-18*

**Quorum.** The September Vestry meeting was called to order on Tuesday, September 25, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. The following Vestry members were present, representing a quorum for the conduct of business: Millicent Bain, Matt Buck, Lucy Neale Duke, Lis Green, Beverly Griffith, Alison King, Jan Schroeder, Murray Taylor, Anna von Lunz, and Ted Winstead. The following clergy members, staff members, and officers were present: David Ware, Ellen Chatard, Keri Frisch, Steven Sutor, Tony Brandon, and Fern Riley. The following Vestry members were absent: Doug Riley and David Wallack.

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

**Reflection.** Ted Winstead offered a reflection on hope.

**Approval of Minutes.** Fern Riley presented the minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on June 19, 2018. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

**Rector's Report** [David Ware]. David said Bert Landman has begun his work with the Choir School of Baltimore with 18 new and returning choristers. They are engaged in a rigorous Anglican choral program with a formal music curriculum, rehearsals twice a week, Sunday service singing twice a month, and piano lessons for each student. The Choir has sung at two services so far, and we hope the choir will continue to grow.

The search has begun to find a new Associate for Youth Ministry. Several applications have been received, and David and the search committee will be convening soon. An interim director will lead the youth program in the meantime.

David said he plans to announce the first grant to be awarded from the Covenant Fund on Sunday, October 7 at the 10:00 a.m. service. He hopes our grants will make meaningful contributions to the recipient organizations and create opportunities for a deeper connection and commitment between the groups and the parish. We will be celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the new church building on October 7, blessing the church, giving thanks for the past, and pledging our efforts to move forward.

The Stewardship Committee, led by Noel and Tom Morelli and Carrie Goldrick, will be seeking to deepen parish understanding of pledging, especially for younger parishioners. They will be mailing a stewardship letter in mid-October and using electronic contacts to reach the parish.

Mark Lobb will be working as a Parish Intern at Redeemer for the next five months as he is in the process of discernment for ordained ministry. He will sing in the choir, participate as a LEM in worship services, and have some preaching opportunities. He will meet monthly with a discernment committee from the parish. David said they will listen deeply to intuit if Mark is a priest, if their conversations are transformative, helping with the ultimate questions and connecting with God.

David said the church will have an opportunity for a safe circle conversation for parishioners interested in exploring their responses to the current Supreme Court nomination process.

**Treasurer's Report** (Tony Brandon). Tony said we have had remarkable growth in church programming and activities over the past two years, and he noted attendance at the recent Doris Kearns Goodwin lecture was over 900 people. He said Steve Sutor has assessed the campus and identified the maintenance work we need to do to keep the buildings and grounds in good condition in the face of more use. Our funding sources for this work come from the Operating Fund and the annual off-take from the Heritage Trust Fund. Tony suggested we will need to look at the Operating Fund in our annual budget planning period to increase the money allocated for maintenance. He also reviewed our past implementation of a gradual reduction in the portion of off-take from the Endowment Fund and the Heritage Trust Fund to be used annually; we have been reducing our annual off-take from each fund by 0.1% per year with a goal of 4.5% per year, and we are now at 4.8% per year. While this is good and sound planning for the Endowment Fund, he suggested it would be prudent to return the annual off-take from the Heritage Trust Fund to its prior 5% level. Both funds have continued to grow with the market. Steve confirmed his recent survey identified over one hundred maintenance items to address inside and outside our buildings, and we have already used all of the Heritage Trust Fund allocation for 2018. A motion that the annual off-take from the Redeemer Heritage Trust Fund be set at 5% each year starting in January 2019 until further amended by the Vestry was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Tony also reported the church has received \$43,562.52 from two recent bequests. A motion that the proceeds of two recent bequests to Redeemer totaling \$43,562.52 be delivered to and made a part of the Redeemer Endowment Fund was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

**Building and Grounds Report** [Steve Sutor]. Steve Sutor said he recently met with our neighbors living next to the North Parking Lot, David Ware, Keri Frisch, and Nick Lindow from CityScape Engineering to discuss the plans to improve the lot

ecologically and functionally. He said the design and work plans will be presented to the Department of Public Works, and he invited our neighbors to attend the meeting. Lighting in the lot will be improved and green spaces will be added to allow for better storm water run-off management. The parking space angles will be changed from 45 degrees to 90 degrees to increase the total spaces from 123 to 140. Lot access will be changed from four to two entrances for better traffic flow, and a sidewalk will be added to allow people to stand and walk safely.

**Announcements.** Ted said BUILD will hold an accountability meeting with Mayor Catherine Pugh on October 10 at 7 pm at Zion Baptist Church, 1700 Caroline Street. They are also organizing to help with voter turnout for the November elections in neighborhoods with low voting rates, and they are advocating for implementation of the Kirwan Commission recommendations for full school funding. Ted and Keri noted we will talk about BUILD projects at an Adult Education Forum on Sunday, September 30 at 11:30 a.m.

Alison King said we will continue our celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the new church building with an Evensong service on Sunday, October 7 at 5:00 p.m. The Adult Choir and the Choir School of Baltimore will sing, and the music will include compositions by Redeemer Organists and Choir Masters Arthur Rhea, Henry Lowe, and Bert Landman.

**Upcoming Events**

September 26, 7:00 p.m.,	VOICES: Joy Moore
October 4, 7:00 p.m.	VOICES: Walter Mosley
October 7, 5:00 p.m.	Evensong
October 16, 7:00 p.m.	Vestry Meeting
October 17, 7:00 p.m.	VOICES: Aaron Henkin

**Adjournment.** Matt Buck offered a meditative prayer on the ministry of acolytes, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Fern Riley, Registrar