

THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING

TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2019

7:00 P.M. – HALE AUDITORIUM

*Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.
Hebrews 11:1*

Quorum. The June Vestry Meeting was called to order on Tuesday, June 25, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. The following Vestry members were present, representing a quorum for the conduct of business: Millicent Bain, Nancy Bowen, Sean Goldrick, Beverly Griffith, Doug Riley, Peter Shafer, Anna von Lunz, David Wallack, 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: Lis Green, Anita Richardson, and Jan Schroeder.

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

Reflection. Ted Winstead offered a spiritual reflection.

Approval of Minutes. Fern Riley presented the minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on May 21, 2019. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

Welcome to the Rev. Freda Marie Brown. David and the Vestry welcomed the Rev. Freda Marie Brown to Redeemer and to the Vestry Meeting. Freda Marie said she appreciates the support the Vestry has given to David as Rector of the church and to her on her arrival. She said she is excited about the community at the church and what is happening here. She thanked everyone for welcoming her.

Rector's Report [David Ware]. David thanked the Vestry for the opportunity to join the Journey to Adulthood pilgrimage to Costa Rica last week along with 11 youth, J2A teacher Erin Hagar, David Frisch, and a group leader from Wonder Voyage, the trip organizer. He said the week was full and challenging, and the group worked hard at several service projects including feeding people in need, cleaning a city park, replanting five fallen palm trees, smoothing a concrete floor with bricks in a church common area, and helping with a children's ministry teaching children to surf. They also did some hiking, zip-lining, and bungee jumping in a cloud forest.

David said the staff and Vestry will pilot an anti-racism training program in the fall sponsored by the Episcopal Church called Sacred Ground, a ten session, film-based course. If the program feels meaningful and helpful, we will then facilitate parish groups in training. The Diocese of Maryland at its May convention, led by the work

of Bishop Eugene Sutton, passed a resolution calling on parishes to address racial reconciliation and to examine their history and relationship to slavery.

David discussed the Covenant Fund and the opportunity for future grants and partnerships in the community.

David said in response to the overwhelming interest and need in the parish and the community to address issues of mental health for individuals and families, the church will be forming the Center for Faith and Wellness at Redeemer. Its mission will be to provide an interfaith and holistic approach to human wellness; a resource for connection, direction, and education for individuals and the community; and a spiritual framework for healing the body, mind, and soul. The Center's vision will be to provide hope that every person can be made whole and well, that communities and relationships can be reconciled, and that broken spirits, minds, and bodies can be mended. The Center will offer spiritual direction, pastoral support, and educational programs to address physical needs such as addiction, gender identity, memory issues, nutrition, and exercise; mental health issues such as depression, anxiety, and suicide prevention; and spiritual guidance through transitions in health, life stages and changes, and faith. The Center will have a list of resources in the community for other programs and treatment. Caroline Stewart will be returning to Redeemer in a new role to serve as the Executive Director of the Center.

Treasurer's Report [Tony Brandon]. Tony Brandon reviewed the church's financial savings accounts, trusts, and funds and said the church is performing and managing its funds with great results. Revenue for the year has increased, and expenses have decreased compared to last year. Tony commended the staff in their handling of a \$40,000 failed heating system problem this year by filing an insurance claim to recover \$35,000 of the cost with the additional \$5,000 covered from the Heritage Trust.

Announcements. Ellen Chatard reported the Friends of Music will be sponsoring Voces 8, a London based a capella singing group, in concert at the church on December 6 at 7:30 p.m.

Keri Frisch recommended Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's recent podcast series, *The Way of Love*.

Upcoming Events

September 8	Parish Picnic/First day of Sunday School
September 17, 7:00 p.m.	Vestry Meeting
October 18 & 19	Vestry Dinner & Retreat

Adjournment. Doug Riley gave a closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Fern Riley, Registrar