

## THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

### MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2019

7:00 P.M. – HALE AUDITORIUM

*When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.*

*Luke 2:17-19*

**Quorum.** The December Vestry Meeting was called to order on Tuesday, December 17, 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, Anita Richardson, Doug Riley, Jan Schroeder, 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, Tony Brandon, Steven Sutor, and Fern Riley. The following Vestry member was absent: Lis Green.

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

**Reflection.** Peter Shafer offered a spiritual reflection.

**Approval of Minutes.** Fern Riley presented the minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on November 19, 2019. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

**2020 Budget** [Tony Brandon]. Tony Brandon presented the 2020 Proposed Operating Budget, and he said the church is functioning in a positive financial environment with solid growth in the Endowment Fund and the Heritage Trust Fund. The 2019 Operating Budget has met the needs of the church this year and is projected to finish with a surplus as in the previous three years. Stewardship pledges for 2020 are currently totaling \$1,172,949 and running \$86,000 ahead of pledges at this time last year. We are seeking \$300,000 in additional pledges to reach our budgetary goal; in past years, final pledge goals have frequently been met in January. A motion to approve the 2020 Proposed Operating Budget was made, seconded, and unanimously approved. Tony thanked Ellen Chatard for all her diligent work in preparing the budget.

**Elevator Update** [Steve Sutor]. Steve Sutor said the new Parish Hall elevator is scheduled for an inspection this week and should be ready to use soon.

**Future Agenda Items.** Nancy Bowen suggested we learn about the outreach grants that the church has given to inform the parish about the community partners we are supporting.

**Announcements.** David said Freda Marie led the Advent Retreat on Saturday, December 14 and welcomed long-time parishioners and several who were new to Redeemer. Many parishioners and others from the community came to the sold-out VOCES8 concert on Friday, December 6. David said the ICJS lecture, “The End of White Christian America” on Monday, December 9 was well attended by many friends and neighbors and led to an exciting discussion of current demographics in religion. David noted we had 565 people at the Lessons and Carols Service on Sunday, December 15, and we will be having a second 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service in the chapel in addition to the Christmas Eve pageant service in the church on Tuesday, December 24.

Anna von Lunz reported the Govans Elementary School coat drive was a success, and 85 coats were delivered to children at the school. She also reported 87 Christmas Boxed Suppers were prepared on December 15 and given to families at Govans and to the Baltimore Northern Police Precinct to give to community members in need.

**Sacred Ground.** The group discussed the materials from session three of the Sacred Ground anti-racism training course.

**Upcoming Events**

December 24, 11 a.m., 4 p.m., 9 p.m. (8:30 p.m. choral prelude)	Christmas Eve Services
December 25, 10 a.m.	Christmas Day Service

**Adjournment.** Doug Riley gave a closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Fern Riley, Registrar