

Calvary Episcopal Church  
Vestry Meeting Minutes  
April 15, 2014  
Crook Auditorium

**Vestry Present:** Charles Shipp, Leslie Smith, Rose Johnston, Alison Boeving, Hall Gardner, Clay Woemmel, Raymond Spence, Bob O'Connor, Nicky Hitching, Allison Parker, Tom Chambers, David Leigh, Mike Nelson, James Dowd, Terre Sullivant

**Others Present:** Rev. Chris Girata, Rev. Ben Robertson, Rev. Eyleen Farmer, Katie Owen, Susanne Darnell, Matt Seltzer

**Call to Order:** Rev. Chris Girata called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Opening Prayer:** Rev. Chris Girata opened the meeting with prayer.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the March 18 vestry meeting were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Katie Owen presented the income statement through March, which shows that finances are where they should be at this time. Expenses for the LPS were \$56,000; the budget was \$50,000, but a gift will offset the overage. A part-time accountant is now in place. Flood repairs are underway. The treasurer's report was approved.

**Working Group Reports:**

**Formation:** Susanne Darnell and Matt Seltzer, co-chairmen of the Adult Christian Formation committee, presented an overview of the committee's work this year and its shift toward a more holistic, purposeful and intentional approach to classes. Classes offered this summer will focus on a wellness series in partnership with the Church Health Center. Next year's classes will be designed on two tracks: a fundamental track and an application-based track. The committee is in the process of determining a succession plan for the committee to ensure continuity. Susanne and Matt asked the vestry to participate in classes and offer feed-back. Formation team leader Allison Parker and the vestry expressed their gratitude to ACF committee for its hard work.

**Administration:** Team Leader Hall Gardner began by thanking the clergy, staff and volunteers who were responsible for a successful Lenten Preaching Series and Waffle Shop this year. A post-review of this year's LPS will take place. He reported that Calvary Place is working to restructure its expenses and review its tuition fees; the church has asked CP to assume an allocation of the monthly utility bill based on hours of operation. The projection is a \$2,500 increase in Calvary's Place's rent. The Church is willing to work with CP as any required tuition increase is implemented. This increase is a step towards reaching a break-even situation for the church. The Vestry wants Calvary Place to remain in our building and to be more integrated with the Church. Integrating ideas expressed include Christian education, reduced tuition and waiting list priority for Calvary members in good standing. Hall also reported on our columbarium's required maintenance and the work with the endowment committee and the buildings and grounds committee to address the necessary maintenance.

**Ministry:** Team leader Leslie Smith reported that her team visited Thistle Farms in Nashville and collected information on the Magdalene project as part of the team's research into this as a possible ministry for Calvary. They are in the process of identifying leaders and interested persons for the project.

### **Clergy Reports:**

**Rev. Ben Robertson:** Ben reviewed the Holy Week schedule and announced that Senior Sunday is May 11. On Wednesday, April 23, Koinonia will offer a study on human trafficking with the book, "Half the Sky."

**Rev. Eyleen Farmer:** Eyleen reported that she met with the Church of the Annunciation in Cordova to work on the enterprise part of Thistle Farms project. They will start with several beehives and some herbs. Two cottage meetings have been held with interested persons in the project.

**Rev. Chris Girata:** Chris reported the following:

- LPS and Waffle Shop went remarkably smooth this year. Attendance was approximately 5000. Waffle Shop was profitable. He expressed gratitude to all the volunteers.
- There will be summer programming for all ages
- He is working with the Development Committee to make development more annual
- Work is underway with the city and county government to acquire Columbus Park
- Attendance on Sundays in Lent is up
- The experiment of a Sunday evening service continues and attendance increased this month

**Old Business:** Katie Owen reported that the Hospitality Hub has signed a three-year lease agreement with Calvary.

### **New Business:**

**Outreach Grant Proposal:** Chris presented the proposal from the Outreach Grant Committee, which has proposed a \$1000 grant to Bridges, Church Health Center, Emmanuel Episcopal Center, and MIFA. A recommendation of \$1000 to the Samaritan Counseling Center will be made after a further review of the organization's financial stability. The remaining budgeted \$20,000 will remain in a pool to support a targeted ministry which will be identified by parishioners, clergy and staff. The proposal was approved by the vestry.

**Mutual Ministry Review:** Hall explained the concept of mutual ministry review to the vestry. It is a review conducted by the vestry and the rector to determine where we are as a parish and to identify areas for improvement. A questionnaire developed by the vestry's administration group and based on previous strategic plans will be completed by the vestry and the rector. The results of the questionnaire will be presented at the May 13 vestry meeting and the mutual review will take place at that time.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Terre Sullivant (on behalf of Celeste Herburger)