

Vestry Meeting Minutes  
April 19, 2016  
Calvary Episcopal Church – Crook Auditorium

**Vestry Present:** Margaret Craddock, Jan Gwin, Claudia Haltom, Nicky Hitching, Palmer Jones, David Leigh, Fred Piper, Donovan Smith, Raymond Spence, Sarah Squire, Terre Sullivant

**Others Present:** Rev. Chris Girata, Rev. Eyleen Farmer, Rev. Paul McLain, Katie Owen

**Call to Order:** Rev. Chris Girata called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., and Rev. Paul McLain opened with a prayer.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the March vestry meeting were approved with corrections.

**Treasurer's Report:** Katie Owen presented the income statement and reported that we ended the quarter within expectations. Pledges are coming in as expected. The balance sheet shows we have a strong cash position. \$80,000 had been set aside for the replacement of a new boiler. A new steam boiler will be purchased for \$50,000 to \$60,000, and we will wait to purchase another boiler for under the nave. The Parochial Report has been sent to the Diocese.

**Working Group Reports:**

**Administration:** In Tony Graves' absence, Rev. Chris Girata and Donovan Smith reported. Chris reported that Tony is working on staff positions and compensation with Meg Crosby. A rector's forum will be held on May 1, and Chris will report on the capital campaign; the recruitment of chairmen and workers will begin soon. Donovan reported that he has spoken with the communications committee regarding marketing efforts and with Calvary staff regarding a new website and mobile app. Two companies have been recommended: 5D Branding and Rocket Fuel. A discussion of the website, mobile app and online advertising followed. Donovan also reviewed a proposal for valet parking on Sunday mornings. A discussion followed on assessing the need for such a service, as opposed to creating more handicapped parking in our lot.

**Formation:** Sarah Squire reported that her group has met with the Adult Christian Formation committee regarding next year's formation. A theme of "we offer ourselves, soul and bodies" is being considered. Large, small and affinity groups are being examined, including sub-groups for each. Dual cultures of Biblical and secular are also being explored. Next up for consideration is an alternative Sunday evening service.

**Ministry:** Nicky Hitchings reported that her group met with Christine Todd and toured all of Calvary's ministries. Margaret Craddock attended the LPS wrap-up meeting, which she described as a congenial group. A suggestion for a written manual for all Waffle Shop jobs was offered in that meeting. Margaret also presented an appreciation plaque to Calvary from the Hospitality Hub and updated the vestry about the blighted building across the street and options

to clean it up. Nicky introduced the subject of prohibiting guns inside the church. State law allows this, so it is necessary to post a sign prohibiting it. Margaret moved to post a small no-guns sign at all entrances to the church, so long as it does not limit our current ministry activities. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Fred Piper initiated a discussion of the future of our city-wide Palm Sunday service. A decision will be made in the future.

### **Clergy Reports:**

**Eyleen Farmer:** Eyleen reported on the Easter in Action activities, which will be evaluated at its conclusion this month. Lives Worth Saving has begun again with about 20 participants at the last gathering. Exit evaluations are now being conducted with the participants. More trained volunteers are needed for the program. Eyleen also encouraged everyone to visit the Thistle and Bee booth at the Overton Park Farmers Market on Thursdays from 3:00-7:00 p.m.

**Paul McLain:** Paul reported that over 20 young people participated in the youth lock-in and community breakfast. The acolyte banquet is coming up with a Harry Potter theme. Calvary continues to build relationships with Calvary Place; over 100 children attended Calvary's Easter egg hunt. May 1 is Calvary Place Sunday. Hilary Chipley is doing Godly Play training with Calvary Place. Youth Sunday is May 8. Paul will attend a Credo retreat this weekend.

**Chris Girata:** Chris reported on the following:

- 1) Low Country Boil and Evensong is Wednesday, May 11. Following the 10:00 a.m. Pentecost service on May 15, the Parish Picnic will be held in Court Square with Central BBQ catering.
- 2) Calvary continues to be in contact with the Episcopal Church Foundation. A planned-giving brochure is in the works. An end-of-life workshop will be held this Sunday, April 24.
- 3) Our curate, Neil Raman, will start in the office on June 1. He has been invited to attend the May 29 service to be welcomed and received. We will have a welcome basket for him.
- 4) The May vestry meeting will most likely be a mutual ministry review.
- 5) Chris reviewed Holy Week attendance, which was very good despite being spring break; we had our highest attendance in eight years. Easter attendance was the same as last year, which was not during spring break.
- 6) The choir's Calvary Cabaret was a great success and raised significant funds.

**New Business:** Donovan Smith made a motion that ushers and security personnel be in communication via walkie-talkies. It was seconded and passed. Chris indicated that this was already in the works.

**Adjournment:** Rev. Chris Girata adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Terre Sullivant (for Hank Word)