

Vestry Agenda and Minutes
Tuesday, February 15, 2022
Calvary Great Hall – 5:30pm

Attendees: Anna Kathryn Word (Sr. Warden); Madge Deacon (Clerk); Erik Ball (Treasurer); Greta Cooper Young (Warden at Large); Cathy Awsumb; Ben Boeving; David Cocke; Elizabeth Crosby; Len Grice; Will Hayley; Kathryn Jasper; John Owen; Jerry Scruggs; Shannon Tucker; Brie Wallace; Scott Walters (Rector); Paul McLain (Associate Rector); Katherine Bush (Associate Rector); Steve Smith (Director of Finance & Operations)

Absent: Zach Ferguson (Jr. Warden) and Laura Trott

Call to Order 5:30pm

Opening Prayer / Meditation

- **Madge Deacon** . . . *As we move into a busy Vestry year filled with action items from the Retreat and associated with the Capital Campaign, it's important to find ways to reduce stress if we are to move forward effectively.*
 - "Breathe!" from Quiet Mind, One Minute Mindfulness – David Kundtz

It is impossible to overemphasize the importance of deep, conscious breathing. Its benefits are numerous and profound, far beyond what one might expect from an activity so common and automatic.

The tendency in our speeded-up world is to breathe shallow, quick breaths that contribute to our general feeling of tightness and hurry.

As you breathe in, close your eyes, and allow the breath to gently push your stomach out, pause there for a brief moment, then breathe out as your stomach returns to normal. As you breathe out, allow your jaws and shoulders to drop in an easy manner. Relax and feel the relaxation flow from the top of your head down to your fingertips. Stay still for a moment and then repeat the breathing.

Remember to breathe this way as often as you can. Every breath can bring us to a moment of peace and tranquility.

Remember especially when you are nervous, upset, angry, stressed, on stage, concentrating, rushed, or in so many other tense moments that seem so frequent these days.

As the Vietnamese monk and teacher Thich Nhat Hanh reminds us, when we breathe, there is an automatic connection between soul and body; we are brought to an awareness of our spiritual natures by the physical act of breathing.

- Sign up for monthly opening prayer offerings – Vestry members offer the Opening Prayer / Meditation at monthly Vestry meetings. . . The following volunteered as a sign-up sheet was passed around the room:
 - **March – OPEN**
 - **April – Cathy Awsumb**
 - **May – Shannon Tucker**
 - **June – OPEN**
 - **July – Brie Wallace**
 - **August – Greta Cooper Young**
 - **September – Elizabeth Crosby**
 - **October – Len Grice**
 - **November – Jerry Scruggs**
 - **December – Ben Boeving**
- **Note:** *Prayer / Meditation leader are asked to send the Vestry Clerk their reading for incorporation in the Vestry Minutes*

Approval of Vestry Retreat Minutes

With the correction to the title of the book Shannon shared during the opening “favorite things” portion of the retreat, the Retreat Minutes were unanimously approved. Note: The title should read: “Help Thanks Wow”

Financial Report & 2022 Draft Budget

Erik Ball / Steve Smith

- Erik introduced himself; Steve covered the highlights of this meeting’s report
- Balance Sheet /Overview Financial Report for December and January
 - Very few debts . . . One is the remaining balance for Grizzlies Academy mortgage
 - Pledges look terrific! Explanation of trimming approximately 2% of pledge amount for budget planning purposes
 - Operating Budget – moving funds such as endowment and designated funds to other categories within the overall budget
 - Will commented this is a great report for starting the Capital Campaign
 - Ended January with almost \$900k surplus, with some going to designated accounts
 - Some pledges are paid a year in advance, some monthly, some quarterly
 - Question about where we keep the \$900k surplus – is it in an account drawing interest? Explanation that surplus figure fluctuates . . . Could we put these funds in three- or six-month investment funds? Discussion of various options.
 - Explanation of monthly contributions from the Endowment Fund
- Financial Report unanimously approved.
- Note: Steve and Erik left the meeting after the Financial Report discussion

Rector’s Report

Scott

- **Hub construction continues . . .** Have been awaiting certain permits to be able to move forward . . . Suggestion that we keep congregation in the loop via brief, periodic updates

- **LPS and Waffle Shop Updates . . .** All preachers signed up – live / online; Waffle Shop logistics still being finalized . . . Covid Task Force met earlier this week via Zoom . . . Aware that LPS / Waffle Shop will bring in non-Calvary guests . . . Ushers will not be required to enforce mask wearing, and ropes will be removed from the pews . . . All servers, ushers, volunteers will be required to wear masks and we will offer K95s . . . If asked, ushers will say masks are recommended . . .
- **Plans are underway for 100th LPS in 2023 . . .** Additional funds being raised to bring speakers we would not otherwise be able to afford, and we already have commitments from several outstanding speakers
- **Capital Campaign Update:** Feasibility surveys will go to anyone who has ever given to Calvary; Vandersoll is helping us with which information should be shared with congregation as we move along . . . We will not share full architectural renderings with the congregation until after the feasibility studies are complete and we have a better understanding of what is desired and what is feasible
- **Gabbie Munn heads to seminary in Fall – Overview of candidate search / interview process. . .** Katherine shared updates on casting a wide net to find candidates to be interviewed . . . Timeline: Gabbie with us through winter and would like to be supportive over the summer during a transition period . . . Hoping to have the new person in place by summer.
- **Discussion of adding a Youth Member to the Vestry . . .** Overview of the concept of a youth representative (high school junior) to serve during school year . . . Katharine Jasper shared some of her experiences from serving in this capacity while in high school. . . Elizabeth highlighted the importance of formative growth experiences for the youth by interacting with adults . . . Discussion of options for how we would select the youth representative . . . Consider the possibility of having two youth representatives so they can feed off one another and to help with continuity from one representative to the next. . . Very favorable reception to this idea . . . Discussion to continue in the Spring
- **Discussion of potential alliances between larger / smaller congregations within Diocese . . .** still in formative stages . . . to be continued . . .

Review of Retreat Reflections & Focus on Vestry Priorities for 2022
6:15pm

Anna Kathryn

White Board Listing – Dividing Retreat Reflections in two groups: Present & Future, with communication a part of each topic rather than as a stand-alone topic. The following are the resulting focus items and those interested in working on each:

- **Present**
 - **Emergency / Safety Planning** – steps to take in case of various health and safety scenarios (heart attack / serious illness during services; fire; shooter incident, etc.) . . . *Madge, Zach, Anna Kathryn, Brie, Kathryn, Steve Smith, and Monica Marshall*
 - **Diversity** -Hope & First Congo offered as examples of racially diverse congregations . . . Diversity covers many topics: age, race, LGBTQ, unchurched /

different faith backgrounds . . . how do we attract new tenants of the 100 North Main Building? . . . *Anna Kathryn, Will, Elizabeth*

- **Re-energizing Parishioners & Supporting Parish Ministries** – as we come to the current phase of the COVID situation, there can be a need for various classes (loneliness; fears; etc.); phone calls; letter writing . . . *Shannon, Cathy, Kathryn, Brie*
- **Future**
 - **Vestry Roles in Capital Campaign**- discussion of the importance of the feasibility study and what we as vestry can say and when we can say it

Adjourn – 653pm

Vestry Shared Values

Caring for All

Vibrancy

Courage

Heritage