

Vestry Minutes
Tuesday, December 20, 2022
Calvary Episcopal Church
Great Hall – 5:30 pm

Attendees: Steve Smith, Ben Boeving, Jerry Scruggs, Will Haley, David Cocke, Greta Cooper Young, Anna Kathryn Ward, John Owen, Laura Trott, Zach Ferguson, Shannon Tucker, Katherine, Scott Walters, Brennan Seltzer, Chloe Madden, Madge Deacon, Eric Ball, Elizabeth Crosby, Paul McLain, and new members Frank Barton, Kate Connell, and Clay Woemmel, Jessica Flynn . . .

Opening Prayer – Ben Boeving

Lord God, in this special season, I come to You on behalf of those whose holidays are mournful reminders of loss or lack in their lives.

I pray for those who, perhaps like Mary and Joseph upon their arrival in Bethlehem, feel forgotten or excluded over the holidays.

I pray for those who, perhaps like the shepherds, are required to work while others sleep or celebrate.

I pray for those who, perhaps like Simeon and Anna, have outlived many friends and loved ones.

I pray for those who, like the magi, are traveling or far from home over the holidays.

I pray for those who, like the holy family who escaped to Egypt, are refugees in foreign lands.

I pray also for prisoners, patients, or invalids, along with those who are stranded or sidelined during this blessed season.

I cry out to You who “is close to the brokenhearted” (Psalm 34:18 NIV). I ask You to be close to and shower Your favor on all of the above, in the name of Jesus, Your beloved and only begotten Son, amen.

Approval of November Meeting Minutes

Unanimous approval . . .

Scott / Anna Kathryn

Budget Review and Financial Report

Erik / Steve

- Annual Report –
 - P&L Report – Budget looking really good . . . expenses in line with planned numbers
- Balance Sheet –
 - \$320k operating cash
 - \$800k+ capital campaign . . . separate bank account
 - Balance sheet done manually each month . . . working to reconcile Balance Sheet and P&L report more quickly in months ahead

- Discussion of whether or not capital campaign funds must remain in cash, or could the funds be invested . . . must stay in cash . . . Could consider a treasury bond investment with 4% interest growth
- Steve will ensure new Vestry members are added to Basecamp distribution list
- Financial Report approved unanimously

Welcome Inn Update

Scott

- Welcome Inn has now been approved for occupancy
- In touch with Hospitality Hub and Room in the Inn to let them know we're available for this weekend's bitterly cold weather conditions

Rector's Report

Scott

Wardens for 2023

- a. Zach – Sr. Warden
- b. Ben – Jr. Warden
- c. Shannon – Warden-at-Large
 - i. Scott explained the roles of each Warden position, and the purpose of the monthly Wardens' meetings

Formation Updates – Katherine

Beginning January 8th –

- Adult Formation Classes begin for the new year in both Great Hall and in Emison Room
- Wednesday evening offerings include Sacred Ground, Yoga, and Making Loss Matter

Capital Campaign – Renovation Overview - Scott

- Scott distributed copies of the **plans for the exterior of the building and parking lot**
- **We now own the alley . . . planned slave market park/memorial** shown at north end of what was the alley. This process could take several years . . . initiative led by Margaret Haltom in her studies at MIT
- **Parking lot reflects need for parking, Grizzlies Prep carpool drop off pickup flow, green space**
- **Discussion and verification of a covered spot for dropping folks off at / near the main entrance**
- Discussion of **future parking availability on Second Street**
- **Parking Lot will still be a commercial lot** - - - will be renegotiated with Parking Lot company
 - Anticipated loss of approximately 20 -27 parking spaces will be built into the budget
- The **plaza between our new main entrance and the 5th grade building of Grizzlies Prep** will be shared with the school. There will be fencing / gates to protect that area.

Updates provided on Choir Room, Flower Room, and Acolytes Space, and the addition of a Back Door being added to Elevator for access to floor 2.5!

Reflections on Calvary and Vestry – 2022, and Dreams / Visions for Calvary and Vestry in 2023

Anna Katherine – Sacred Ground overview

Scott – Some say the Mary and Martha story and the Good Samaritan story are one story . . . they flow from one to the other . . . Both are about being together. . . *When is church a place where I sit and receive, and when is it a place where I am called to give (to help others)*

All assembled named important events of 2022 – for both Calvary, and for the Vestry. Events were listed on the whiteboard under the headings of either “Good Samaritan” or “Mary and Martha” . . . Discussion showed how the two stories are, indeed, connected and blend together.

Good Samaritan

- Emmanuel Meal
- Basement Church
- Room in the Inn
- Capital Campaign
- Messiah
- Jocelyn Busby’s work with Children & Families
- Calvary Place

Mary & Martha

- First choir procession and recession in a post-covid environment
- Emmanuel Meal
- Room in the Inn
- Knowing Calvary is here as a respite / safe space in the midst of all of the darkness in the community / world
- LPS / Waffle Shop . . . So many from the community (not just from Calvary) saying, “It’s so good to be back!”
- So many babies in the congregation!
- Sacred Ground – reconciliation curriculum has been phenomenal
- Capital Campaign - not just for the Calvary family, but for the entire community - - - an opportunity to expand the scope of “making God’s love visible”
- New Youth Leader
- Youth Summer Trip
- Choir Residency in England
- Messiah -100th anniversary! – An amazing gift to the city
- Online prayer offerings (Morning Prayer)
- Jocelyn – wonderful addition to the staff – and terrific newsletters to parents
- For 2023 – Suggestion to have a “Vestry” night . . . numerous volunteer opportunities including meals, staying overnight, etc. - - - Elizabeth will take the lead - - - Will coordinate with Ebet
- Lessons and Carols – an amazing gift
- Work on the Calvary Place move / closure . . . We can move through life without some harm and / or pain
- Tremendous loyalty to Calvary, and that loyalty has continued to grow
- “It’s not only up to me ...”

Scott's Closing Comments . . . A Mattered Prayer In thanks for the Under-Genius of Christmas . . . From "A Book of Uncommon Prayer" by Brian Doyle

Putting up ye old fir tree last night, and pondering why again we slay a perfectly healthy tree ten years of age, not even a teenager yet, and prop up the body, and drape it with frippery, and then finally feed the brittle former vibrancy into a chipper, paying a grim Boy Scout five bucks for the privilege, I watched mine bride and children quietly for a while, from behind the tree where I was struggling with that haunted cursed string of lights, and I saw the under-genius of it all; I saw beneath the tinsel and nog, the snarl of commerce and the ocean of misspent money; I saw the quiet pleasure of ritual, the actual no-kidding no-fooling urge to pause and think about other people and their joy, the anticipation of days spent laughing and shouldering in the kitchen, with no agenda and no press of duty. I saw the flash of peace and love under all the shrill selling and tinny theater; and I was thrilled and moved. And then I remembered too that the ostensible reason for it all was the Love being bold and brave enough to assume a form that would bleed and break and despair and die; and I was again moved, and abashed; and I finished untangling the epic knot of lights, shivering yet again with happiness that we were given such a sweet terrible knot of a world to untangle, as we best can, with bumbling love. And so: amen.

Reminder: 2023 Vestry Meetings will be held the third Tuesday of each month . . . in the Great Hall . . . 5:30 – 7pm, with a couple of exceptions noted in the following schedule:

2023 Vestry Schedule

Saturday, January 21	Vestry Retreat @ Steve Smith's Home - Tiara - 370 Fourth Street, LaGrange, TN 38046 Meeting begins 9AM
Tuesday, February 28	Vestry Meeting – moved for Shrove Tuesday
Tuesday, March 21	Vestry Meeting
Tuesday, April 18	Vestry Meeting
Tuesday, May 16	Vestry Meeting
Tuesday, June 20	Vestry Meeting
July	Vestry Retreat (time and location to be announced)
Tuesday, August 15	Vestry Meeting
Tuesday, September 19	Vestry Meeting
Tuesday, October 17	Vestry Meeting
Tuesday, November 21	Vestry Meeting
November determined)	Diocesan Convention (time and location to be determined)
<i>*First year vestry members are encouraged to serve as delegates.</i>	
Tuesday, December 19	Vestry Meeting

All dates are subject to change

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Madge Logan Deacon
Vestry Clerk
Calvary Episcopal Church
madge6993@yahoo.com
901.871.7380

Vestry Shared Values

Caring for All

Vibrancy

Courage

Heritage