

**The Church of the Ascension
Vestry Meeting Summary
February 16, 2021**

Check in question for Vestry Members: What feeds your soul? Discussion followed.

Committee Reports

Finance: Chuck Beers provided a written report. PPP funding enabled the church to end the year with a \$26,000 budget surplus. Chuck also presented and led discussion on three budget proposals. The Vestry unanimously adopted the budget recommended by the Finance Committee which includes funding for the music program.

Buildings and Grounds: Susan Meredith provided a written report. A work weekend is planned on Friday and Saturday 3 or 4 weeks before Easter. The new cleaning service is performing adequately. Repainting and carpeting the church office areas is on the to-do list.

Day School: Mark Hattler provided a written report. October-December budget reports will be presented at the School Board's February meeting. The 2021 budget has been drafted but is not complete. Virtual elementary school will likely continue through mid-March, if not longer. Staff has had COVID exposures from home. No students, parents or staff are currently positive. A personnel matter was reported involving a staff member who works infrequently. Mark is handling the matter and has communicated appropriately with parents. The school will have a virtual inspection by the Department of Social Services pertaining to emergency standards related to COVID. Current average hourly wage is \$11.33; the Day School must plan for the \$15/hour minimum wage requirement.

Vestry Items

Vestry Members: Chester Long resigned from the Vestry. The Vestry will appoint a member to fill that seat for remainder of his term.

Virtual Coffee Hour: The first Virtual Coffee Hour went wonderfully with several in attendance and robust conversation. Next Virtual Coffee Hours will be 2/28/2021 and 3/14/2021.

Fundraising Forms: The Vestry unanimously approved proposed changes to the Fundraising Policy and Fundraising Request Form.

Clergy Report

Sabbatical Planning: Stewarts' sabbatical has been postponed to 2022.

Congregational Meeting: Ascension's Congregational Meeting will occur as regularly scheduled in May. The Bishop has approved using Zoom for the Congregational Meeting.

Vestry Spiritual Nurturing: The Vestry will meet once a month, separate from Vestry business meetings for spiritual development and nurturing.

Complete Vestry meeting minutes can be found here <https://ascension-norfolk.org/vestry>