

**The Church of the Ascension
Minutes of the Vestry
November 16, 2021**

Present: Rev. Stewart Tabb, Doug Thompson, Susan Meredith, Mitch Burton, Olga Gonzalez Nichols and Kristan Huddle.

I. Welcome: Stewart Tabb called the meeting to order at 7pm. Kristan Huddle led the opening devotion.

II. Register: A motion was made to approve the minutes of the last meeting (October 19th), seconded and unanimously approved.

III. Check in: In what ways have you been surprised by God's grace recently? Discussion followed.

IV. Committee reports:

A. Finance: Mitch Burton present:

[Treasurer's Report as of October 2021 for General Fund.pdf](#)

[Consolidated Fund Activity Report for October 2021.pdf](#)

[Balance Sheet as of October 31, 2021.pdf](#)

Stewardship: Three letters went out the final one with pledge cards. Pledges are being returned.

B. Building and Grounds: Susan Meredith present.

Merrill oversaw the Professional H&C inspection. It is recommended that we get the Sanctuary blower cleaned and maybe the motor and blower shaft bearings replaced. Merrill is getting a quote.

He noticed a drip at the relief valve on the hot water tank in the boiler room. We will be watching this.

The lock on the "key " closet was lubricated. Works better.

Merrill has replaced many floor tiles in Day School wing and Administrative wing.

We are in the process of replacing chair feet where needed in Rose Hall.

We secured the Arbor in Cox Garden, along with weeding and trimming in there.

Mowing crew continues to do a fabulous job on the grounds.

Mark H and I met with a new cleaner to price up stripping and waxing VCT floors and cleaning carpets.

C. Pastoral Care: Kristan Huddle present. George Maihafer submitting

No major news for Pastoral Care over the past month. We continue to call and to check in on our homebound parishioners as well as those in convalescent centers, when visits are permitted. I along with a number of the committee members, have sent out get well cards and notes of condolences to our members who have experienced loss and/or illnesses and surgeries. In the coming days we will be sending out gift bags celebrating Thanksgiving to our homebound/convalescent center resident parishioners. Peggy update. Peggy continues to be at Bayside Health and Rehabilitation in Virginia Beach. She has met with a lawyer recommended by Sam Webster who has suggested a way forward that includes someone from the congregation being power of attorney to get Peggy's house in order, qualifying her for Medicaid and moving her to a facility in Norfolk. Tim Westfall has agreed to be the power of attorney and to work on getting the house cleaned out and repaired. We are still trying to capture and rehome Regina her cat. If anyone knows of a good quiet cat home please let Stewart know.

D. Outreach: Ann McMellin will be heading up Salvation Army stockings and Angel Tree.

E. Day School: No report. Mark will be present to report at next Vestry meeting.

F. Liturgy: Nov 21 joint service at Royster 11 AM

Advent: Beginning November 28. Stan Sawyer will stand in for Stewart on December 5 and 12.

Beginning December 1st for the 4 Wednesdays during Advent there will be a quiet, short (@30 minutes) service of Hope and Healing at @5:30pm in the Sanctuary.

Greening of the Church will be December 19 with a single service at 10 followed by a soup and lunch.

Christmas EVE: -- FESTIVAL Hangings

Service 4:30 p.m. Paper Bag Pageant with Holy Eucharist.

Creche – major pieces in place children encouraged to carry pieces in and place them.

Service 9:00 p.m. traditional service with choir. Stewart has contacted the choir. Emily Dale is coordinating practice and will work with the choir to choose the anthem.

Christmas Day 10 a.m. Eucharist. Acapella singing

December 26th Single 10 a.m. Service acapella singing.

January 2 return to 8 and 11 a.m. services with music.

Will browning of the church be done after the 11 on Jan 2

G. Formation: Susan Meredith present.

Adult Ed finished up the in person(Sunday 9am) and online Difference Classes (Wednesday 7pm).

They are now studying Prayer in person (Sunday 9:30am).

The Children's Sunday school continues Sundays 9:30am with Godly Play. We have a consistent number of kids ranging from 3YOs to 11YOs.

Youth Group had successful Pumpkin Carving with St Andrew and Christ & St Lukes kids and leaders(Oct). And they made dry soup bags for the Food Pantry and wrote cards for Pastoral Care (Nov).

H. Fellowship: Tailgate. Many thanks to Mitch and Doug for working out the technical issues with bringing the game to Rose Hall and to Mitch for the wonderful lunch of subs, chips and cookies! The event brought together almost 15 people for conversation and fun – (very few actually watched to game but people were talking with each other) Good job vestry!

V. Vestry Items:

- A. Filling Vestry Vacancy:** Stewart contacted two people, however they declined.
- B. AED Replacement?** Doug Thompson present. Continued to the next meeting.
- C. Fellowship, what and when?** The greening of the Church on 12/19. Notice to go out to the congregation to bring poinsettias with them to the 10am service and participate in the greening after the service. Also discussed feeding the homeless in January as an alternative to the Christmas dinner in Rose Hall.

VI. Clergy Report: Stewart Tabb present.

A. 2022 Housing Resolution: Motion made to accept Stewart's Housing Resolution, seconded and unanimously approved.

B. Family leave in December: Stewart's Mom's knee surgery has been rescheduled to 12/2/21 and she would be caring for her for 2 weeks. She will return on 12/19/21.

C. Staff Update: Jordie will be staying with us! Royster will be picking up the rest of her hours.

D. Boy Scouts: Discussed continuing to allow Boy Scouts at Ascension. Issues regarding bankruptcy, space and liability due to lack of supervision. Stewart to discuss with parishioners involved with the Scouts.

VII. Schedule/Devotions: Kristan Huddle led the closing devotions. The next regular Vestry Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at 7:00 PM. No Vestry meeting on 12/21. Susan Meredith to lead the devotions at this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristan Huddle