

**The Church of the Ascension**  
**Minutes of the Vestry**  
**February 15, 2022**

**Present:** Rev. Stewart Tabb, Anji Harris, Doug Thompson, Susan Meredith, Mitch Burton, Olga Gonzalez Nichols, Cindy Jones, Debra Griggs, Mark Hatler and Kristan Huddle.

**I. Welcome:** Stewart Tabb called the meeting to order at 7pm. Olga Gonzalez-Nichols led the opening devotion.

**II. Register:** A motion was made to approve the minutes of the last meeting (January 18th), seconded and unanimously approved.

**III. Check in:** Describe a time when you felt well loved, not in immediate family or circle of friends. Discussion followed.

**IV. Committee reports:**

**A. Day School:** Mark Hatler present. The Day School is a mission of the Church and started as a Baby school with a high quality education and teachers fairly compensated. Early education has always been under funded in the USA. The mission is in jeopardy of not having a school in the next 5-10 years. Solutions include: space availability with space for kids to move around and space for materials. We need to provide a quality experience, thus we need to consider 1. Renovations 2. Reevaluating current space usage. 3. New build construction. In order to do those things we need to start talking about a Capital campaign. Vestry requested a walk through of current space which will be arranged following an 11 o'clock service. Olga, who works for a non-profit, will provide information on grants such as Sentara Cares to help fund a Capital campaign for the Day School. Mark left the meeting following his presentation.

**B. Finance and Audit:** Mitch Burton present.

1. Proposed budget for 2022: There is a \$45,000 deficit from the previous year. Discussion on cleaning of Day School. Day school staff are currently cleaning vs. a Janitorial service. We need to grow the Church and increase the congregation . We need to have more money in Christian Education. Fund balances are available if needed. Motion made to accept the proposed budget with the addition of \$1000 to Christian Education, seconded and unanimously approved.
2. Motion to accept the 2020 Audit which had been seconded and approved via email February 8th with approval by all Vestry members with one abstention by Doug Thompson who prepared the Audit.
3. [Treasurer's Report as of January 2022 for General Fund.pdf](#)
4. [Balance Sheet as of January 31, 2022.pdf](#)
5. [Consolidated Fund Activity Report for January 2022.pdf](#)

**C. Building and Grounds:** Susan Meredith present. Nothing to report

**D. Pastoral Care:** No report submitted. Peggy Hackett died. As yet no plans for her funeral.

**E. Liturgy:** Assuming continued improvement in the COVID Numbers, we will resume congregational singing in Lent.

Single Ash Wednesday service at 5:30 p.m.

Contemplative services on Wednesday in Lent at 5:30

Sung Great Litany on the first Sunday in Lent

Easter: bring your own lilies

#### **Next Liturgy meeting is March 21**

**F. Outreach:** We created 24 bowls/bags of candy for the nursing units of Norfolk General – delivered with cards on February 14. Still working on meals for the homeless.

**G. Fellowship:** no report submitted.

**H. Formation:** no report submitted.

#### **V. Vestry Items:**

**A. Upcoming vacancy on the Vestry:** Olga Gonzalez-Nichols will be returning to Costa Rica mid June to take care of her elderly mother and aunt.

**B.** Thank you notes to pledgers, calls to those who haven't pledged, AED replacement, and space allocation (Scouts?) all continued to the next Vestry Meeting.

#### **VI. Clergy Report:** Stewart Tabb present.

**A.** New seminarian - Anne Zobel

**B.** New organist/choir director Dr. Karen Parthun

**C.** Website updates recommendations attached

[Website Update Recommendations.pdf](#)

**VII. Schedule/Devotions:** Olga Gonzalez-Nichols led the closing devotions. The next regular Vestry Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at 7:00 PM in person. Doug Thompson to lead the devotions at this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristan Huddle

