

The Church of the Ascension
Minutes of the Vestry
January 17 2023

Present: Rev. Stewart Tabb, Susan Meredith, Mitch Burton, Cindy Jones, Doug Thompson, Katherine Lawrence, Jane Hedgecock and Kristan Huddle.

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

II. Register: A motion was made to approve the minutes of 12/13/2022 with the following correction: Instead of **for those assisting with the Audit** training, change to **for those assisting with training on procedures for the Audit**. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

III. Check in: Is there something in your life that you would stop doing if you felt that was an option. Or something you would love to do if given the opportunity. Discussion followed.

IV. Committee reports:

Food Pantry: Jane Hedgecock present. Jane will be retiring from running the Food Pantry at the end of February. She discussed with us her ideas as to how to move forward. Option 1: Currently the Pantry is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays and we could continue as we are. Whoever takes over must get certified by the Food Bank and trained on how to use the computer program. Getting people to volunteer has been a problem. Option 2: The Food Pantry would be open one day/week on Saturday (2nd and 4th Saturdays or one Saturday/mo) which may help with volunteers. Option 3: We then discussed not being tied to the Food Bank which would mean we would not have to have certifications etc. but it would mean we would have to purchase food elsewhere. The Pamunkey Tribe is giving Ascension's Food Pantry \$750/mo and the Food Pantry currently has @ \$20,000 in the budget. [We also discussed the possibility of an online signup for Food Pantry like we do for Acolytes. Mitch also suggested we join with Royster and have Food Pantry after church on Sundays or sometime after 5 on a weekday.](#)

Finance: Mitch Burton present: Good news! Projected deficit for 2022 was \$46,000. Actual deficit is \$7000.

[Treas -December 2022 -- corr 1-17-23.xlsx](#)

[Treasurer's Report as of December 2022 for General Fund--corr 1-17.pdf](#)

[Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2022--corr 1-17.pdf](#)

[Consolidated Fund Activity Report for December 2022--corr 1-17.pdf](#)

Building and Grounds: Susan Meredith present. We have received a contract for cleaning for \$1550/mo. Mark's daughter has started a business called Graceful Touch. A motion was made to accept the contract, seconded and unanimously approved.

No reports for Pastoral Care, Outreach, Fellowship or Formation.

V. Vestry Items: The survey results regarding common cup vs. paper cups showed the respondents split 50-50. Therefore starting next Sunday both the common cup and the paper cups will be offered.

VI. Clergy Report: Stewart Tabb present. Genevieve Nelson has been assigned to Ascension as a Deacon. It is an unpaid position, however we need to budget for a professional and discretionary fund for her for such things as Continuing Education, Clergy Retreats, etc. An amount of \$7200 was proposed: \$600/mo and of the \$7200, \$1000 would be a discretionary audited amount. A motion was made to accept the above amounts, seconded, and unanimously approved. We briefly discussed the idea of a single service in the summer, but tabled any further discussion.

VII. Schedule/Devotions: Doug Thompson led the closing devotions. The next regular Vestry Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 7:15 PM. Rick Jones to lead the devotions at this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristan Huddle