



St. Alban's Episcopal Church

Davidson, NC

MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING ON JUNE 13, 2022

ATTENDANCE

<i>Vestry Members in Attendance</i>	<i>Also in Attendance</i>
Alex Slawson, Senior Warden	<i>Clergy</i>
Greg Knudson	Rev. Carmen Germino <i>Rector</i>
Allison Kratt	Rev. Kevin Lloyd <i>Assoc. Rector & Davidson College Episcopal Campus Minister</i>
Jenny Myers	<i>Unable to Attend</i>
Cheryl Nealy	Jean Bonnyman, Junior Warden
Jennifer Nelson Loher	Bob Beckham
Mike Sass	Tom Fischer
Alex Slawson	Leslie Urban, Treasurer
Joseph Torok	
Danny Wiles	

CALL TO ORDER

Rev. Germino called the meeting to order. A quorum was present.

PRAYER/REFLECTION

Rev. Lloyd began the in-person meeting with Evening Prayer II and Psalm 70.

Mike Sass read from the Gospel of Matthew.



Rev. Germino discussed the Gospel reminds us that it's human nature to try to explain things we don't understand, don't know, and can't control, such as medical conditions. Such attempts help us feel agency. As we are invited to read deeper into the Gospel, we may examine whether the demons cast out were people's fantasies, accompanied with a lack of willingness to acknowledge that they are not in control and God may be in control. She notes that we may acquire more energy for faith, love, hope, and compassion when we cast away the need to explain and desire to control.

Joseph Torok read the goals of the Vestry:

As the vestry of St. Alban's, we...

- ...pray for each other and our church
- ...participate fully
- ...commit to being a learning community
- ...welcome a variety of opinions
- ...notice and share the joy of this community
- ...are open to change and the work of the Holy Spirit
- ...do business to further our purpose (mission and ministry)
- ...are in an ongoing state of discernment
- ...take faithful risks when appropriate
- ...collaborate to avoid ministry silos and empower the various ministries we support
- ...communicate thoroughly
- ...support our church staff and clergy
- ...gather informally to strengthen our relationships

As we do these, we will serve as role models of faith and service.

INFORMATION

- + Wednesday, June 22, 2022: Deadline for Parish Hall pledges to be incorporated into the conclusion of the fundraising effort.
- + Sunday, June 26, 2022: Feast of St. Alban's Celebration and Parish Picnic. After the 10:30 service, ministry of fun is planning for a picnic and we'd love vestry participation
- + Monday, August 1, 2022 through Thursday, August 4, 2022: Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be held for registered students from 9:00 a.m. through 11:00 a.m. daily, for children in 4th through 5th grade.
- + Saturday, August 13, 2022: The 15th Annual Back2School Blast is scheduled at Gethsemane Baptist Church in Davidson. This community outreach event helps by providing shoes, book bags, and school supplies for area students.
- + Sundays, June 5, July 3, August 14, September 4, and November 6 are the tentative dates for Holy Baptism for the remainder of 2022.



DISCUSSION

MINUTES

The minutes of the May 9, 2022 meeting of the vestry were submitted for review and were approved, by unanimous consent.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- + Danny Wiles noted that St. Alban's continues to be in a good financial position and Alex Slawson has also examined the most recent financials. If anyone has questions regarding finances, please contact Danny Wiles, Leslie Urban, or Erin Garrett.
- + Danny Wiles noted that some spending occurred for building and grounds maintenance but the money is budgeted and the spending is appropriately timed.

PARISH HALL UPDATE

- + As of Tuesday, June 7, 2022, ninety-one pledges have been received. As a board, we seek to have as broad a representation of the parish as possible. Therefore, please refer anyone who has not already pledged to please do so online or in person.
- + Greg Knudson noted that if anyone would like to contribute by stock, it would be appreciated as a practical and meaningful method to contribute. They are encouraged to contact Erin Garrett to make a stock dedication.
- + Danny Wiles noted that we are equipped to handle the upcoming culmination of the Grow, Gather, Serve campaign. The mortgage rate is about four percent, and although rates are higher we have safe, liquid investments. Mr. Wiles is grateful for our financial position and inquired to the Vestry whether we have heard any criticism or concerns regarding the timing of the Parish Hall efforts.
- + Alex Slawson and Rev. Germino only heard sparse, general concerns about the overall economy but generally received positive feedback regarding St. Alban's planning efforts and their execution and no substantive opposition.
- + By the August meeting, Alex noted, we should have an update from the Parish Hall Committee and a recommendation. Once we receive the written scope of the project, and details from the engineers and designers in August, we may be able to have an informed vote whether to enter into an agreement with any of the engineering or designing firms.

GROUNDS AND MEMORIAL GARDEN UPDATE

- + The grounds and memorial garden improvement efforts are in progress, according to Jean Bonnyman. Jean is working with the Stenhouse family to get traction on landscape and erosion control measures.



✦ Jenny Myers and Mike Sass provided an update regarding the playground. At the last preschool board meeting, concerns were revealed regarding the quality of the playground from a recent assessment. It appears that a seesaw needs to be removed. In addition, there are minor cracks in equipment, erosion of mulch, and ants in some equipment.

✦ Rev. Germino prioritized a response to the playground concerns: ant control, removal of any potentially unsafe equipment, and mulching can be done immediately. However, the ideal time to remove the playground is next summer, in consideration of Parish Hall related activities. Although we aim and plan to maintain outstanding playground facilities, we should seek separate immediate needs from long-term movement of equipment. Patti and Jean have some support for the immediate needs and no vote is currently needed.

VESTRY CHECK-IN

✦ Alex Slawson invited all vestrypersons to think about why they decided to join the vestry and share an assessment about their experience.

✦ Greg Knudson explained that we are leaps ahead of the last two years, in terms of activities, because of COVID.

✦ Danny Wiles noted no concerns and that the big focus is making sure that the Parish Hall is a success, as it is a major financial undertaking for the parish, and he is proactively coordinating with all stakeholders.

✦ Alex Slawson noted that the vestryperson of the day (VPOD) checklist has grown, and sought suggestions on how to reduce the rush at 10:10 a.m., following the service, to clean, provide coffee, adjust the lights, clean dishes, etc. Greg Knudson would explore whether Ministry of Fun could collaborate on some of these tasks.

✦ Greg Knudson asked whether to explore whether there is a role for vestry in the service, such as providing liaison updates or discussing opportunities to participate in activities.

CLERGY UPDATES

Updates from Rev. Germino

✦ Rev. Germino noted that Valerie Colbert is our new Deacon and they are working with the Diocese on a letter of agreement to define the scope of her service. Her best use of time is being out and active. It is wonderful to have the ministry of the deacon at St. Alban's especially since we have such a rich history of the diaconate here in this parish.

✦ Per our COVID policy, we are currently in the "yellow" category, so expect to see more voluntary masks in crowded conditions.

✦ A holy land pilgrimage is scheduled for next June. Rev. Germino plans to use the occasion to include some continuing education and traditional sabbatical activities after completion of the design phase and prior to the busy groundbreaking. During that time, Rev. Lloyd will provide additional coverage as well as the vestry body and other ministries, so the timing is ideal.



Updates from Rev. Lloyd

+ Rev. Lloyd has returned from 3 weeks absence, and is busy connecting with student leaders at the college, discussing the academic year kick-off and contacting any students who identify as Episcopalian via admissions.

WARDEN UPDATES

Alex Slawson, Senior Warden

+ Alex provided thanks for those serving as VPOD. The sign-up is filled through July 24.

Jean Bonnyman, Junior Warden

+ No additional updates.

LIAISON UPDATES

+ Jenny Myers, Preschool Liaison: A thank you card was circulated for Wes and Patti. An end of year celebration and the Preschool Board Meeting was held Sunday. The playground was discussed. Summer camp is at capacity for two weeks. The pastor's discretionary fund allows six La Escuelita Bilingual Preschool students to attend summer camp at St. Alban's. Enrollment is about the same. Financials are slightly over-budget on supplies but under-budget overall. Regarding staffing, there are two new hires and the preschool is completely staffed. Julia Lloyd serves as the administrative assistant, approximately three days per week, beginning in mid-August. Mike Sass takes over as Board chair next month.

+ Cheryl Nealy, Outreach Liaison: Outreach is taking a hiatus for Feed NC this summer. There is a question regarding involvement for Habitat for Humanity. We discovered that \$5,000 in 2021 went into a Habitat general fund. Additionally, there is a question for Erin of whether money in a refugee fund can be transferred to another cause. The answer is that it requires a formal vestry vote to reallocate money that was originally budgeted for one outreach ministry to be reappropriated to a different ministry. Doing so could involve an electronic vote if it falls between regularly-scheduled vestry meetings. The Habitat build may be at the end of August or September and the vestry may need to reallocate the money to that activity.

+ Jennifer Loher, Children's Ministry Liaison:

+ Mike Sass, Youth Ministry Liaison: On June 1, 2022, the Youth Ministry planned one activity for June, July, and August and a holiday activities calendar was made by Courtney.

+ Greg Knudson, Ministry of Fun Liaison: A Greeting Committee social was held at Greg Knudson's house from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. recently, with thirty-three people in attendance. This included twenty-seven newcomers, including six on the newcomer committee. Ginger Knudson also led efforts and gave thanks to all who came. Everyone shared their contact information at the event and were comfortable doing such. At least three new families came to Sunday's service. The Diocese video meeting from Winston-Salem provided some good ideas as well. Further, the Concert on the Green was last night (June 12, 2022). Although it was hot and the tent was torn down and relocated, the event – including the band and attendance – was great. The St. Alban's Parish Picnic is scheduled for



June 26, 2022. Jenny Armor is taking a leadership role in that, including setup, cleanup committees, and barbecue from Lancaster's. An electronic invite was sent to allow sign-up for sides, and a table will be setup just inside the door for drop-off during mass. Finally, on the evening of June 26, there is a fundraiser for La Escuelita Bilingual preschool, for the school and partial scholarship for a young Davison student who taught at Woodlawn and is deceased. The fundraiser is at Los Itos on Main Street between downtown Davidson and downtown Cornelius with tacos, food, and music.

- + Bob Beckham, St. Alban's Anti-Racism Team Liaison (StAART): No updates.
- + Allison Kratt, Stewardship Liaison: No updates.
- + Tom Fischer, Welcome Ministry Liaison: Updates provided by Greg Knudson (above).
- + Danny Wiles, Finance Committee Liaison: Updates provided via Treasurer's report on behalf of Leslie Urban (above).

CLOSING

Rev. Lloyd closed the meeting with Evening Prayer.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, July 11, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Torok
Clerk of the Vestry