



St. Alban's Episcopal Church

Davidson, NC

MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2022

ATTENDANCE

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

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRAYER/REFLECTION

Rev. Germino began the in-person meeting with Evening Prayer. Leslie Urban read from scripture.



Rev. Germino reflected that, at times, we all belong in the lost and found. However, if she must be in the lost and found, she would appreciate being their with St. Alban's. She encourages the vestry to think of others who may have been away from the parish and to welcome them back.

Leslie Urban 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

- + October 2, 2022 : Blessing of the Animals
- + October 15, 2022: Oktoberfest
- + October 16, 2022: Stewardship In-Gathering Sunday
- + October 23, 2022: Bishop's Visit



DISCUSSION

MINUTES

The minutes of the August 8, 2022 meeting of the vestry were submitted for review and were approved, by unanimous consent.

TREASURER'S REPORT

+ Leslie Urban communicated that St. Alban's continues to be in good stead, as expenses are down and pledges are consistent.

ALTERNATE LAY DELEGATE FOR THE DIOCESAN CONVENTION

+ Currently, we have four lay delegates based on the size of the parish, including Alex Slawson, Jerry Landry, Dave Pylipow, and Alf Badgett. Ashley Romero is able to serve and has previous experience as the alternate for Dave Pylipow for a Special Convention held in March 2022.

Motion #1
by Mike Sass

The vestry elects Ashley Romero as the alternate lay delegate for the Diocesan Convention.

Seconded
by Bob Beckham

Motion #1: Unanimously passed.

MEMORIAL GARDEN FEE POLICY

+ Alex Slawson distributed the Memorial Garden Policy. St. Alban's charges a nominal fee for interment of ashes for ongoing upkeep of the garden. The fee for members is \$250 and higher for family members. No changes have occurred in four years. Erin Garrett and other staff analyzed expenses and Jean Bonnyman notes that the costs of upkeep have risen. Therefore, it may be appropriate to examine raising the fees by \$100 to help with ongoing rising costs.

+ Responding to a question by Allison Kratt, Rev. Germino noted that some members choose to prepay and there are no designated spots. She also notes that addition of names to the plaque are a separate cost and based on the price at the time. Rev. Lloyd noted that his former parish charged a more expensive fee. Mike Sass also supports the increase in order to keep the memorial garden in excellent condition.

Motion #2
by Tom Fischer



The vestry approves revision of the Memorial Garden Policy to raise the fee for members and families by \$100 each.

Seconded
by Mike Sass

Motion #2: Unanimously passed.

SAFE CHURCH TRAINING

+ Safe Church training is available online and required for vestrypersons and consists of an excellent course that helps improve our ability to discern and address concerns in our church, families, and communities.

COVID PROTOCOLS

+ In the Spring, the vestry passed the COVID policy that the Diocese asked St. Alban's to develop using their guidelines. The Diocese is poised to move from Stage 3B to Stage 4, which would loosen restrictions and leave decisions to churches.

Motion #3
by Alex Slawson

The vestry approves revision of St. Alban's COVID policy to reflect the diocese guidelines.

Seconded
by Mike Sass

Motion #3: Unanimously passed.

CLERGY UPDATES

Updates from Rev. Germino

+ The Ministry Fair display in the narthex was successful because many people signed-up for various ministries. Outreach Ministry is featured this Sunday and Worship Ministries are featured next Sunday. Melissa McClure made posters for the display. Allison Kratt suggested leaving the posters in the hallway for ongoing awareness. The Ministry of Fun provided treats for the Ministry Fair.

+ Rev. Germino may pursue a grant that would help fund her sabbatical in 2024, which would be delayed.

+ A Pride event is being planned at the Davidson town Green, October 1, 2022 from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. St. Alban's has previously participated and looks forward to participating again.

+ Fifteen adults are attending confirmation class.

Updates from Rev. Lloyd



- + Youth confirmation class has begun. It consists of two sessions and a great group of twelve individuals. Last week included an overview of scripture and led to great conversation.
- + The first Episcopal Student Fellowship (ESF) dinner and meeting was held, following enhanced recruitment of students, and resulted in a great group for Holy Eucharist and dinner as well as a retreat at Lake Logan Conference Center. Mostly women attended, as the men were involved in other activities conflicting with the event, but the men are still committed to ESF.
- + Morning prayer is held on campus Tuesday and Thursdays. The Davidson College Chaplain joins as well.
- + An Ecumenical Bible Study at Davidson College focuses on the Gospel for the coming Sunday and is interdenominational. A monastic style workshop is led on campus once a month for all denominations. The Bishop will also visit Davidson College following his upcoming visit to St. Alban's.
- + Rev. Lloyd obtained the necessary permits for Oktoberfest. Alan Buckner is coordinating Oktoberfest this year.
- + Sign-up spaces are available for dinner to Davidson College students.

WARDEN UPDATES

Alex Slawson, Senior Warden

- + Alex Slawson reminds everyone to close the doors for fire safety.
- + Four vestry members who are rolling-off this year will be on the nominating committee.

Jean Bonnyman, Junior Warden

- + The grounds have been prepared for the preschool and minor repairs were completed.

LIAISON UPDATES

- + Jenny Myers, Preschool Liaison: Danny delivered the report on behalf of Jenny Myers. Danny met with Mike Sass to understand the Preschool's finances and will meet with Mike Sass and Patti Rossini, Preschool Director. The Preschool classes are not full yet, but they are recruiting. The first week was a big success. New security measures have been implemented. Also, Coffee with Carmen time will be used to greet the parents.
- + Cheryl Nealy, Outreach Liaison: The Habitat for Humanity House was secured. Originally, it was scheduled for September but was delayed due to an erosion study at the property. Ten people will participate and sign-up will be submitted individually to Habitat by volunteers. The budget posed challenges this year. There will be no Costa Rica trip, because students are going to France and interest may be limited. However, the budget will be exactly the same as last year. Rev. Germino noted to Jennifer Loher that the Costa Rica trip has historically occurred in alternate years, but has not



happened in five years, so it remains to be considered next year with the 2024 budget and interest level.

- + Jennifer Loher, Children's Ministry Liaison: A great kick-off was held with the Children's Ministry, which includes new faces and families. The Children's Choir was a hit and children had a great time. Ten children signed-up with the intention to sing once per month during mass.
- + Mike Sass, Youth Ministry Liaison: Mike met with Mary Helms, Courtney Fossett - Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry, and Rev. Germino routinely at the end-of-month, working on scheduling and programming. Julia, the Youth Sunday School teacher, reported thirteen youth in Sunday School.
- + Greg Knudson, Ministry of Fun Liaison: October 15, 2022 is Oktoberfest. Also, the Ministry is preparing a reception after the 10:30 a.m. service on October 23, 2022 for Confirmation. Refreshments will be provided the next two Sundays.
- + Bob Beckham, St. Alban's Anti-Racism Team Liaison (StAART): The StAART team met on August 28, 2022. Yesterday, at the Ministry Fair, you may have seen Chair Laurie Harrison's work on the library. Her ability to manage websites and make it easy to checkout books has been appreciated. There is a good group of regular participants every Sunday. Although there are no new sign-ups, the group is doing well. At the end of September, a book discussion is planned.
- + Allison Kratt, Stewardship Liaison: Annual giving letters will be sent next week. The next four Sundays people will be encouraged to give. The Jacobs are chairing and coordinating between the capital campaign and the annual fund. It is helpful to return the pledge card right away. Five ribbons in the pledge card represent a different genre of prayer. We will write a prayer on the ribbon and hang them so we can immediately decorate. Additional help will be requested and reminder phone calls will be made at the end of October.
- + Tom Fischer, Welcome Ministry Liaison: The greeters seem to be working well. Also, the adult confirmation class consists of mostly new participants. The resounding theme is that people have felt welcomed. Greeters have another newcomer event planned for November. Also Greg and Jean have been ushering and recently, reported 140 attendees and 52 between the Nursery and Sunday School.
- + Danny Wiles, Finance Committee Liaison: A Creation Care priority is the Duke Energy audit as part of its Small Business Energy Saver program. Danny walked the auditor through the church, which examined for refrigeration, HVAC, lighting, etc. In sum, the cost of replacing lighting fixtures and ballasts is approximately \$10,000. Duke Energy covers sixty (60) percent of that, leaving about a \$4000 expenditure. The estimated annual savings is \$2000 per year. It makes sense to replace the fixtures under the plan. The electricity budget was \$13,000. This is a win from Danny on behalf of the Creation Care team.

CLOSING

Rev. Lloyd and Rev. Germino closed the meeting with Evening Prayer.



The next regularly scheduled meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, October 17, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Torok
Clerk of the Vestry