



St. Alban's Episcopal Church

Davidson, NC

MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING ON JULY 10, 2023

ATTENDANCE

<i>Vestry Members in Attendance</i>	<i>Also in Attendance</i>
Jean Bonnyman, Senior Warden	<i>Clergy</i>
Mike Sass, Junior Warden	Rev. Carmen Germino <i>Rector</i>
Matthew Goodson	Rev. Kevin Lloyd <i>Assoc. Rector & Davidson College Episcopal Campus Minister</i>
Annamarie Klemm	Leslie Urban, Treasurer
James Kennedy	<i>Unable to Attend</i>
Allison Kratt	Allison Kratt
Cheryl Nealy	Connor Fulton
Jennifer Nelson Loher	
Joseph Torok	
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 II. Jennifer Nelson Loher read from scripture.

Annamarie Klemm 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

- + July 9, 2023: Holy Happy Hour
- + July 31, 2023: Parish Hall Committee Meeting
- + August 12, 2023: Back to School Breakout at Gethsemane Baptist Church
- + August 21, 2023: Next vestry meeting

DISCUSSION

MINUTES

The minutes of the June 5, 2023 meeting of the vestry were submitted for review and were approved by unanimous consent.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- + Leslie Urban noted no significant updates or new financial concerns.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS GIFT



✦ A gift of the Stations of the Cross from the group pilgrims to the Holy Land requires approval from the vestry. Fourteen colorful, Armenian ceramic style stations were created especially for St. Alban's to display in the nave.

Motion #1
by Cheryl Nealy

The vestry approves the acceptance of the Stations of the Cross gift from Holy Land travelers for display in the nave.

Seconded
by Jennifer Nelson Loher

Motion #1: Unanimously passed.

PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS UPDATE

✦ Scholarships for St. Alban's Preschool programs are available. St. Alban's is in need of a teacher Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Anne Todd is the interim Board Chair, and a former senior and junior warden. Danny Wiles, Anne Todd, and Mike Sass discussed fiscal year targeted projections and it appears the preschool is on budget. The 2023-2024 school year extends into the 2024 calendar year for the vestry. Danny, Anne, and Mike will continue to monitor revenues and expenditures but anticipate up to \$15,000. However, a clearer assessment of needs will occur by October.

Motion #1
by Mike Sass

The vestry resolves to affirm its support of the preschool and acknowledges the preschool's budgetary needs of up to \$15,000. The vestry further resolves that it will seek to make appropriations reflecting future budgetary conditions.

Seconded
by Leslie Urban

Motion #1: Unanimously passed.

CLERGY UPDATES

Updates from Rev. Germino

✦ Anonymous communications addressed to parish staff are not read. A statement from Rev. Germino regarding anonymous correspondence recently sent to the Church office is attached hereto and incorporated herein as "Attachment."

✦ Rev. Germino discussed having the pilgrimage participants share their experience with the parish community.



Updates from Rev. Lloyd

- + Julia Watkins, a Davidson College graduate who participated in Chaplain's office programming will step into the role of College Chaplain on August 1, 2023. Rev. Watkins is a Princeton seminary graduate who served as an associate of a church in Greenville, South Carolina.
- + The Episcopal Student Fellowship alumni book group gathers tomorrow night via Zoom to discuss "Life Worth Living", a team-taught class from Yale approaching various faith perspectives.

WARDEN UPDATES

Jean Bonnyman, Senior Warden

- + For the next two weeks, vestryperson of the day signups are needed at the 10:30 a.m. service. The 10:30 a.m. service appreciates Annamarie Klemm's treats, and parishioners have been coming early and staying late for refreshments. Fewer people attend the 8:00 a.m. service, but the vestry may consider similar offerings.

Mike Sass, Junior Warden

- + Clergy and staff are planning the second half of the calendar year with outdoor church and preschool activities. A pressure washer was purchased for the sidewalk and trained volunteers are welcome to assist in pressure washing to prepare for such outdoor activities.

LIAISON UPDATES

- + Connor Fulton, Outreach Liaison: Cheryl Nealy noted on behalf of Connor that the outreach general budgeted fund is \$4,000 of which YTD funds have been disbursed for the Echo Foundation, the Ukraine Refugee Fund and the Absolam Jones Fund. \$2,075 remains to be disbursed, with a portion earmarked for preschool scholarships.. There is also a possibility for community outreach on September 30, 2023 for World Hunger Day. An online sign-up will be provided for First Baptist Church of Huntersville's large event held over 40 years. Also, the Back to School Blast will be noted in the church newsletter.
- + Matthew Goodson, Children and Youth Ministry Liaison: Vacation Bible School (VBS) is held Mondays through Thursdays.
- + Annamarie Klemm, Fellowship Liaison: The Parish Picnic is scheduled for September 10, 2023.
- + Jennifer Nelson Loher, Adult Formation Liaison: Jennifer noted the celebratory nature of mass on July 9, 2023.



CLOSING

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

The next regularly scheduled meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 21, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Torok
Clerk of the Vestry



ATTACHMENT

From Rev. Carmen:

“Recently, a piece of mail was sent to me here at church, postmarked from somewhere in the Charlotte area. The envelope contained no name, no note, and no return address. It only contained a printed article that appeared to be anti-transgender propaganda. I can’t say for sure if that’s what the article was, because I did not read it.

I am telling you about this because it raised an opportunity to share with the vestry something that is a personal boundary for me: I don’t read anonymous communications. I believe anonymous communications are cowardly and unfair.

If whoever sent it had identified themselves, I would have read the article in full. Even if I disagreed with it or personally found it offensive, I would have thanked the person who sent it, because I would know that, deep down, it comes from a place of concern and caring and I would consider it an opportunity for dialogue. I love and value dialogue. I never expect everyone in a faith community to agree on everything, and I believe dialogue across different perspectives is healthy. Anonymous communications are not healthy and cannot be true dialogue, because they are inherently one-sided.

I doubt that the article came from within the St. Alban’s community, but I don’t know, because whoever sent it did not give me the courtesy of identifying themselves. I love this parish, and if the sender is part of our community, I love them too, and I want them to understand why I did not read their anonymous communication. I would like this reflected in the minutes, because the minutes are public record and I do not have any other way of reaching the person who sent the article.”