

Minutes from the Meeting of the Vestry  
Church of the Redeemer, Bryn Mawr, PA  
Tuesday, September 10, 2019  
7:00-9:00 PM

Vestry Members Present: Susan Adeniyi-Jones, Jim Buck, Andrea Cayley, Jan Clarke, Mackie MacLean, Carolyn Morris, Tracy Steele, Scott Stephan, Jacques Vauclain, Carter Williams.

Absent: Lisa Davis, Andrew Masterman

Redeemer Staff Present: Peter Vanderveen, Jo Ann Jones, Jay Einspanier, Michael Palmisano, Francesca Merritt

Recorder: Francesca Merritt

The meeting of the Vestry was called to order at 7:00 PM. Jo Ann Jones gave the opening prayer.

Minutes: The Minutes of the May meeting were approved.

### Accounting Warden Report

Mackie MacLean opened by saying the Finance committee met over the summer. Operations are on target and we have had the best August in pledge receipts than have had in many years. He turned it over to Jay Einspanier to discuss the operating report.

Jay reported the pledge receipts received are \$18,000 over budget. The YTD actual is right on target with last year. We have had a 2% increase in pledging this year. Capital repairs are \$9,000 over budget due to masonry work on the church. We will also be replacing the protective glazing on the glass in front of the church. We also close to \$33,000 over budget for organ repairs and to digitize the organ, \$27,000 came out of capital repairs, \$6,000 came out of the fund for organ and music expenses.

Jay reported on the cash flow for capital campaign projecting \$1.7 million in borrowing in the third quarter next year. Meridian will be the lender. We are on track to spend \$12.4 million and have \$2 million to put in the endowment.

Jay described the resolution regarding the Endowment Investment Resolution.

Funds have been donated to Church of the Redeemer over the past 18 months and have been placed in various Endowment Funds held by the Church Foundation for our use. In that an amount equal to these funds will be spent on the construction of the Parish House within the next 6 to 9 months, it is prudent to place them in a less risk based investment option and thereby preserve the capital. It is therefore proposed that Endowment Funds of approximately \$1.287 million, as of the end of July 2019, be withdrawn from the Unrestricted Endowment and placed in an interest bearing account at Meridian Bank, Vanguard, Bryn Mawr Trust or within the Church Foundation. The actual value of these accounts will be calculated using end of August, 2019 statements.

The motion was approved.

Mackie reported on our account with BNY Mellon in which we have a 2.6 million dollar account. We are spending too much in fees with poor return and zero service. Soo Hee convinced finance committee to go with Vanguard. The paperwork has been researched and it states that Vestry will maintain control of the finances.

### Administrative report

Jay reported the move to 211 occurred after last vestry meeting. There is \$600,000 of music in basement and a dehumidifier was installed. The new offices are working well. The parish house annex came in June. Demolition is on schedule or a bit ahead. There have been some surprises

such as additional windows in the old building and a few load bearing walls where not anticipated. The construction camera is live on the website. Jay mentioned that the air conditioner in the church and rectory will have to be replaced at some point in the future. One of the compressors in the church air conditioner was replaced for \$4500.

Peter reviewed the logistics for coffee hour which will be in the Parish House Annex Room 3. The 9 am service will start on time and be shortened in length. After Adult Forum one of the clergy will be assigned to host and bring the speaker to the Annex for question and answer.

### Liaison report

Jacques Vauclain reported the stewardship committee will target an all parish mailing on October 1<sup>st</sup>. He is working to put together a group to do follow-up phone calls in early to mid-November. He also discussed putting together a small group to target strategic annual giving messaging. Stewardship will discuss a topic at the October Vestry meeting.

Carolyn Morris discussed the developments on the Bazaar including returning to Merion, new auctioneers Lisa Davis and Cheryl Masterman, and ideas for items for auction. No jack auction will be held. Parishioners will have the option to pay the \$150 and make an additional donation, cover the \$150 cost, or pay another amount that they find comfortable.

Tracy Steele stated that MEG hasn't met all year. Peter said that it's part of rebuilding and will work with Tracy on getting started again.

Andrea Cayley reported that the Children's committee met in the summer. They discussed how the rooms will be used and how the parents will do the pick-up. The Masterman party is on Saturday.

Jim Buck will be coordinating the inaugural meeting of the Adult Education committee with Michael Palmisano.

Scott Stephan reported that the NEW committee sent out a beginning of the year email and the first meeting is tomorrow night. Caroline Manogue will host the fall event for newcomers on October 25<sup>th</sup>.

Jan Clarke discussed the Outreach Community Service subcommittee's first meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup>. There is a collection under way for care packages for church farm school to be sent out in late October. We will also be providing dinner at the Darby Mission. Grants for 2019 did go out and information was handed out to the vestry. IHN continues at St. Mary's Ardmore.

Carter Williams requested from the vestry names of people for the Nominating committee who would make potential new members.

### Associate Rectors' report

Jo Ann Jones reestablished the Eucharist at the health center at Beaumont which takes place the first and third Sundays of the month and is shared with St. David's and St. Christopher's. Pastoral care met and selected two books to read and will meet next late October. New Eucharistic Visitors have been recruited, Glenn Beamer and Barbara Billings.

Michael Palmisano was welcomed to his first vestry meeting. Michael's main role will be the Arc of Formation. He has recruited 4 or 5 new teachers. There will be confirmation with the bishop attending in February. There was an RYG picnic on Sunday with 60 people in attendance. Tubing is planned for this Sunday. RYG will begin regular meetings next Sunday.

A work trip is planned for a DC Episcopal church. Adult forum is planned through December 1<sup>st</sup>. The lock-in for middle schoolers will occur in October.

### Rector's report

Peter described creating a program where lectors, healing ministers, intercessors, and chalice bearers, working with clergy, would participate in classes that would provide training and education about the liturgy and their role, so that lay involvement in services could be more effective and satisfying.

Michael Diorio is programming Annelies written by James Whitbourn, an oratorio written on the diary of Anne Frank. Redeemer will collaborate with the Main Line Synagogue. The concerts commemorating the 75th anniversary of capture of Anne Frank will happen in March.

Peter discussed the Diocesan budget proposal in packet. There was an original budget proposed and four weeks later another budget with increases. In late June, we received an email from Doug Horner, the Bishop's Canon for Finance and Business, who provided a draft outline for changes in the collection of revenue from churches that, over time, would provide adequate funds for the Diocese to pay the TEC assessment in full. This plan, if implemented, might mean an increase for us of about \$100,000 per year.

### New Business

Mackie relayed that Andrew Masterman would like to discuss in October or November strategic plan for growth.

Michael Palmisano gave the closing prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 pm.

Peter briefly called the vestry back for a resolution.

Whereas, section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code specifies that the amount of ministers compensation that is designated in advance by their employer as a housing allowance is not taxable in computing federal income taxes to the extent that it is used to pay for actual expenses; and whereas, the Rev. Michael Palmisano is compensated by the Church of the Redeemer exclusively for services as a minister; and whereas, the Church of the Redeemer does not provide the Rev. Palmisano with a parsonage. Therefore, it is resolved, that, of the total compensation paid to the Rev. Michael Palmisano for calendar year 2019, \$30,000 is hereby designated as a housing allowance pursuant to section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code.

The resolution was approved.

The meeting was adjourned a second time at 9:13 pm.