

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE VESTRY
GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
GAINESVILLE, GA
10/29/24

VESTRY MEMBERS/OFFICERS PRESENT:

Stuart Deaderick, Senior Warden
Julia Greene, Junior Warden
Sue Bowron
Kimberley Boyd
Steve Carlson
Cheryl Kelley
Beth Neidenbach
Frank Rinker
Helen Scovill
Anita Smith

ABSENT

Jim Brim
Sally Pittman
Susan Lahey, Clerk of the Vestry

STAFF PRESENT:

Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham
Rev. Dr. Brandon Nonnemaker

OTHERS PRESENT:

Amy Munn, Treasurer

Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham opened the meeting with a prayer at 6:30PM.

AGENDA ITEMS/APPROVALS:

Approval of Consent Agenda: August minutes (No meeting in September due to hurricane) and approval of September Treasurer's Report. Neidenbach/Carlson. Unanimous.
Discussion on Treasurer's report: Normally \$100k - \$150k in plate offerings annually. Currently \$180k YTD. May be due to new parishioners donating but not yet pledged.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Junior warden Julia Greene gave an update of building projects.
 - \$39,820.74 for electronic doors and hardware for grace center front and side, foyer, etc. Paid from campaign budget
 - HVAC – Jeremy has met to discuss quote for campus-wide HVAC controls. Key insights from buildings and grounds folks. Also reviewing Lawson proposal for

reference checks. Would have an additional annual expense but may be offset by purchasing equipment for lower cost.

- Leaks during hurricane – roofing repairs TBD, monitoring for additional water. Quote TBD.
- Trees in front of nave inadvertently removed. Landscaping company to replace at no cost to Grace. May have to replace trees every 5-7 years. B&G will look into this for other options that don't require replacement.
- Final landscaping being performed. A \$1200 gift was made to balance budget for this work. Funds for remaining landscaping work (to connect areas) came out of capital campaign, balancing out those funds.
- Signage currently being made. Installation TBD but hopefully before Christmas
- Vestry voted electronically to approve \$2500 in additional funds to complete the work for the bridal suite
- Rev. Dr. Brandon Nonnemaker provided update on Children, Youth and Families
 - Successful trip to NYC. 5 youth made trip. Worshipped at St. James, also participated in service project
 - Family clusters are meeting
 - Happening – No youth attended but River Demmler was on team
 - New Beginnings – Josh Landers, River, and Fr. Brandon on team
 - Fr. Brandon making pastoral calls and visits
 - New round of acolyte training
 - EYC – Weekly Sunday School education, monthly get togethers
 - Limbo group – older than youth, but not yet “family-aged” or without children
 - Looking at ways to engage
- Looking ahead to Junior Warden role
 - Participation/Formation focus
 - Use the Center for Prayer and Spiritual Practice as a means to foster formation
 - 150 new parishioners in 18 months... Where can they land?
 - why are new people here? Retirees, young professionals w/wo kids, folks with Gainesville roots who have left and come back
- Fr. Stuart commended the work that Darlene and Frank have done around outreach
 - There are now 35 people involved in outreach at Grace

11/17 – luncheon with all teams for check in. Work with teams to determine what the 2025 budget will be used for

- Charis foundation – use this groups framework to shape monthly dialogue around interfaith work and community work, prayer practices, etc.
 - Fr. Stuart will contact Rory McEntee to get training, framework, etc
 - likely 12 in 1 group
- vestry nomination process
 - this incoming group will plan the celebration, etc
 - a few names so far...

- November 10th meeting at 0930 open house
 - talk with dan grizzle to see about list of names from people
- stewardship
 - will tally up pledges then look at who we need to call for followups
- Fr. Stuart commented on intense past 2 weeks in parish life
 - funerals, receptions, services, etc
 - funeral guild rockstars - amanda willis new chair
 - flower guild co chair - dana rideinger

Fr. Brandon closed the meeting with a prayer at 7:30PM