

# THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN IN THE WILDERNESS

## MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING JUNE 16, 2022

The June Vestry meeting was called to order at 5: 00 p. m. by Fr. Josh Stephens, our Rector. Members attending were: Senior Warden, Jennifer Shelton, Junior Warden, Gibson Sims, Clint Adams, John Barker, Elizabeth Christenbury, E. R. Haire, Will Rodriguez, and Lynn Wiescholak. Those absent were Marissa Pharr, Kim Sanders, and Dick Zecher.

**Devotional:** The opening devotional was led by Gibson Sims. He spoke about his work in advertising and communication and how he found comfort in reading from the following book, *Ten Prayers God Always Says Yes To*, by Anthony DeStefano. Gibson read a short passage and then followed it with a prayer.

**Acceptance of Consent Agenda for June:** Vestry members moved to accept all committee reports for the month of June. Will made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 19 Vestry meeting; it was seconded by Jennifer. There was no discussion.

**Treasurer's Report:** Tom reported that a snapshot of operating income and expenses looks great overall, but there are concerns. Pledge income for the months of February through April has been down. May was typical of past years. He reported that Fr. Josh will include a letter when pledge statements are mailed out in July. Tom also noted the following:

- The balance sheet schedule of capital projects includes the AV system, seven new security doors, and archive storage.
- Two major projects, painting and repairs for the church and parish hall were not in the budget. He is forecasting a deficit of \$8,000.00.
- Slater and Solomon will be doing a mid-level review (\$4,820.00) Jennifer motioned to approve the audit, and Gibson moved to second. This mid-level review will be scheduled for this summer.
- Jennifer made a motion for a discretionary fund (\$1,000.00 from general operations) for Fr. Ian Williams, our new curate. Gibson moved to second the motion and it was passed.

Fr. Josh made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. it was seconded by Will and was passed.

**Rector's Report:** Fr. Josh discussed the following:

- A dialogue to debate (Rob McSwain) a resolution opening communion to all (including those not baptized)

- Ian's ordination will be held on June 25th at 11:00 at All Souls in Asheville with a reception following. Our own reception is scheduled for Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. An Alb has been purchased for him as a gift.
- The Lambeth conference will be taking place in London in July with Bishop Jose attending.
- There are two upcoming funerals, Mike Covell and Ludwik Bochynek. Mike's funeral will be quite large and have a reception following and the other funeral is private.

**Senior Warden's Report:** Jennifer stated that there is no report per se but that she is seeing new faces at church which is great. She also mentioned that the music at the Pentecost services was outstanding.

**Junior Warden's Report:** Gibson reported that work will be taking place on the parish hall and church from the end of July- early August. Outside doors have been ordered with a bronze trim to match the dark trim paint. The kitchen door and two patio deck doors are to be replaced and new top rails for the deck will be added.

## Old Business

Summer Fellowship Dinner Update: Lynn and Elizabeth reported that there have been some changes with the fellowship dinners, but all have gone well. Parishioners have enjoyed meeting one another. Vestry members are encouraged to invite people to fill out their dinners if desired.

Instead of an August breakfast, we will have a potluck following the 11:00 service on August 28th. We will only have one service and it will take place in the parish hall.

## New Business

Stewardship Update:

Clint Adams reported that the first meeting took place last week. Past themes were *Preparing the Way* and *Where Tradition Meets Tomorrow*, which was last year's theme. This year the theme will be *Together for Joy (Psalm 98)*. A discussion followed about our fall gathering and it was decided that we will have a Fall gathering at Kanuga rather than at Falling Creek. It is close and more convenient for parishioners and will be an opportunity for some of our parishioners to visit the conference center for the first time. A cookout is planned.

## **Committee Reports**

Lynn stated that the Sustainability committee is planning on contacting other churches to see what they are doing. Fr. Josh recommended contacting Canon Augusta as the diocese has resources that may be helpful.

John stated that he looked for used archival storage as some vestry members had suggested from the May meeting, but he had no luck finding anything suitable. The storage that is up to archival code will be purchased at Office Depot for \$4990.00 and was previously approved in last month's meeting.

Following the Lord's Prayer, the June meeting of the Vestry was adjourned at 6:37 p.m. There will be no Vestry meeting in July

Respectively submitted,

Elizabeth Christenbury  
Substituting for Clerk of the Vestry