

ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
VESTRY MEETING  
MINUTES  
January 23, 2025

**Present:** Senior Warden-Richard Updegrove, Junior Warden-John Corbishley, Treasurer-David Brierley, Clerk-Mattie Gustafson, Rita Verespy, Lauren Lema, Anne Wood, Jerry Culver, Cory Thurston, Jason DeFalco, David Burke, Sarah Barker, Rector Jennifer Pedrick, and Associate Rector Meaghan Brower.

**Absent:** Alex Simmons and Sarah Barker

Jennifer opened the meeting at 5:58 by reciting a prayer that concluded....

*“May God give you the grace to remember the world is now  
too dangerous for anything but the truth and  
too small for anything but love.”*

We held a small celebration in honor of Rita B. and Anne W. whose terms are up as vestry members. We thanked them specifically for their special talents and skills. The vestry will miss them.

**Rector's Report** – Jennifer

- **Vestry Orientation** – Will be held on Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. in the Adult Education room. This orientation will last approximately 1 hour and is for new members from both last year and this year. The Executive Committee is also asked to attend.
- **Communications clarification** – The official vestry contact for all issues of payroll will be David Burke (henceforth to be known as DWB!).
- **2025 Goals** – There is a lot that is going well here at St. Mary's, and rather than creating brand new initiatives, Jennifer proposed that we look at what is happening now and work on tending and deepening them. This is a garden metaphor that seems quite apt. “Pay attention to what shimmers,” was the phrase used. Jennifer handed out some thoughts Mattie had put together on goals for 2025. We will discuss this issue further once the new members of the vestry are elected.
- **Bishop visit and Episcopal Church workshops** – Our Bishop is making his formal visit to us on May 4<sup>th</sup>. If there is anyone who wants to be confirmed or received, now is the time to speak to Jennifer. She will be holding a series of 6 workshops based on the former presiding Bishop's *Walk in Love* initiative, that focuses on the nature of the Episcopal Church. Vestry members might also consider attending, even if you have been around for a while!

**Tuck Fund Committee requests** – Murry Edwards

Murry presented the vestry with a list of requested actions and changes the committee would like to see regarding the Tuck Fund guidelines. The vestry decided that members needed more time

to review and consider these changes, so no action was taken. A formal discussion and vote will be held over until April. In the meantime, vestry members are urged to look over these suggested actions and to read the history of the Tuck Fund that appears on the website.

Mattie will get together with Lynn Carlson Leblanc to craft language for these actions in the form of formal motions to be presented in April.

#### **Treasurer's Report** – David Brierley

- David presented his end of year financial report. There were some funds carried forward from 2023 that were not reflected in the spreadsheet. These funds need to be visible somehow. David and DWB will work on how to best accomplish this. David will present the 2025 budget at the Annual Meeting in February.
- The Finance Committee is working on a new and better format for budget reporting.
- The year-end stewardship pledge numbers do not match the numbers in the Treasurer's Report. Rita, Dave, and Chris Winslow will work on this issue.
- Rectory renovation funding -We need to raise another \$11,000 to completely fund the renovation.

Rick made a motion, seconded by Rita that we approve the Treasurer's report. Motion passed.

#### **Junior Warden Report** – John C.

- We have determined that visual security on the rectory and other strategic places on our campus is important. John is getting a quote from Messenger Security to do this work. He will also get a quote from our present security company.
- The small crack in the ascension window in the historic church is so small, that nothing needs to be done about it right now. There are some additional problems with smaller windows, which may need attention in the next 5-6 years.
- Rectory renovation – The cabinets are all in, and things are proceeding at a good pace. John is hoping things will be functional by the end of February.

#### **Miscellaneous** -

Preparations for the Annual Meeting are going well. The Stewardship Team are hosting a brunch (with cake!) after the service and before the meeting begins.

#### **Consent Agenda**

David B. made a motion, seconded by Rick U., that we pass the Consent Agenda, consisting of the December Minutes, and the Stewardship Report. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24, with everyone reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Mattie E. Gustafson, Clerk