

**St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
Minutes of the Vestry Meeting  
26 September 2023**

Present:

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rev. Teresa Morgan            | <input type="checkbox"/> Danisha Collins            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Darryl Huckaby |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Valarie Stanley – Sr. Warden  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elnora Carroll  | <input type="checkbox"/> George DeYounge           |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bryant Grimes – Jr. Warden    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eileen Esdaile  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donna Johnson  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Everson Smith – Treasurer     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jocelyn Freeman |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa W. Yarbor – Parish Clerk |   |  |

Excused: D. Collins

Absent: G. DeYounge

Guests:

***Meeting set up using Fr. Jackson's Zoom account so screen sharing isn't an option.***

**Opening Prayer and Devotional**

Meeting called to order at 6:10 p.m. with prayer and Dwelling in the Word read by L. Yarbor and E. Smith

**Approval of Agenda**

Accepted as amended on a motion by B. Grimes, 2<sup>nd</sup> T. Morgan

- New Business - Parish hall rentals (V. Stanley)
- Closed Session (V. Stanley)

**Acceptance of July 25, 2023 Minutes**

Accepted as presented on a motion by E. Carroll, 2<sup>nd</sup> B. Grimes. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report**

- Fund Balances as of August 2023 (reconciled): General Fund-\$8,702.13, Escrow-\$20,639.06, Citizens Money Market (MM)-\$40,030.80
- Fund Balances as of September 25, 2023 (unreconciled): General Fund-\$942.78, Escrow-\$19,139.06, Citizens Money Market (MM)-\$ 40,030.80
- Investments: per July 2023 statement \$801,527.93
- Current bills: \$6,932.65 (includes \$3,045.62 Diocesan Common Mission Support, formerly called Diocesan Pledge, \$2,489.10 Church Insurance).
- \$765.15 credit for Church Pension Fund (CPF) represents a reduction based on former Letter of Agreement with Fr. Jackson, based on change in his age.

**Warden's Report**

V. Stanley reported the following activities:

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| July 27, 2023     | Shopped for items for Annual Picnic with Yvette Barnard  |
| July 30, 2023     | Officiated Morning Prayer and Attended Church Picnic   |
| August 2, 2023    | Attended Zoom Meeting with Rev. Teresa Morgan<br>Attended St. Luke's/Trinity Steering Committee Meeting                            |
| August 9, 2023    | Attended Episcopal Church (ECY) at Yale Governance Committee Meeting   |
| August 19, 2023   | Attended Community Day   |
| August 20, 2023   | Fulfilled my role as Lecturer by reading at 10:00 a.m. Service   |
| August 29, 2023   | Attended Zoom Meeting with Rev. Teresa Morgan  |
| August 31, 2023   | Attended Zoom Absalom Jones Trainers Meeting<br>Attended ECCT Reparations Task Force Meeting at Holy Trinity Church,<br>Middletown |
| September 5, 2023 | Attended ECCT Racial Healing, Justice & Reconciliation Core Team Meeting   |
| September 6, 2023 | Attended ECY Governance Committee Meeting  |

September 7, 2023	Attended St Luke's/Trinity Steering Committee Meeting
September 9, 2023	Attended Absalom Jones Trainers meeting with Dr. Catherine Meeks Attended ECCT RHJ&R Quarterly Gathering on Critical Race Theory, co-lead Worship Service
September 14, 2023	Attended Program at Yale University Honoring the Rev. James W. C. Pennington and the Rev. Alexander Crummell (Represented St. Luke's)
September 17, 2023	Attended ECY Board of Governors Fall Retreat
September 19, 2023	Attended Dismantling Racism Meeting at St. Monica's Church in Hartford
September 21, 2023	Attended Audition and Interview of Candidate for open Organist/Director of Music position.

L. Yarbor ask the Sr. Warden if she can get reimbursement for mileage to ECCT events? V. Stanley will ask.

B. Grimes had nothing to report.

**Unfinished Business**

- Update - Community Day: V. Stanley stated she thought it went well and was successful. There were more people than last year and the vendors had people at their tables. She thanked D. Johnson and the other volunteers. D. Johnson as that the 2024 Fish Fry money go to Community Day (was said under a previous Roundtable).

**New Business**

Parish Hall Rental: V. Stanley informed the vestry that Gus Haywood has stepped down as Rental Agent and Sharon Andoh has volunteered to step up. Fees for Active members, Inactive Members and Non-Members were discussed. Refund of security deposits was also discussed; D. Huckaby stated they should be refunded within a week after each event however not before 48 hours. E. Carroll stated in-state checks take 3 days to clear.

**Roundtable**

- Jocelyn – Dilice Robertson hasn't been getting church emails. She should let Georgia know.
- Eileen – Thanked the vestry for the Sisters Journey.
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**Public Comments**

- None

Into Executive Session at 7:29 pm.

Meeting adjourned with closing prayer E. Smith. at 7:48 p.m. on a motion by B. Grimes, 2<sup>nd</sup> E. Carroll.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa W. Yarbor, Parish Clerk

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## Opening Prayer

Teach me Thy will. Teach me to dig deep enough within me to strike the mainspring of Thy life that flows through me that I may discover Thy Will for my daily living even as for my life. I see Thy Will in order that I may be whole in my inward parts and that there may be no conflict between the good I see and the good I am... Thus no conflict between my inner and my outer. Teach me Thy Will, O God! Amen

## Dwelling In the Word

### **Matthew 22:1-14**

#### *The parable of the unwelcome guest*

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

1. What word or phrase jumps out at you?
2. Does anything in this reading speak to you?

## Closing Prayer

- O gracious light,  
pure brightness of the ever living Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!
- Now as we come to the setting of the sun,  
and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of Life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Amen