

**Regular Meeting of the Vestry**  
THE NEVIL MEMORIAL CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE, ARDMORE, PA  
**Tuesday, July 11, 2017**

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**ATTENDANCE**

**Present:** Chris Butto, Joan Cesare, Andrew Coonradt, Paul Joslin, Stephen Krouse, Susan LaBrake, Rob McGarvey, Janet Reddin, Catherine Stuart, The Very Rev. Ryan Whitley

**Absent:** none

**Guest:** Ray Beckey

Supplemental Documents:

- a) May 2017 Financial Report
- b) Diocese of Pennsylvania Protocol for a Search Process in Missions and Parishes

The meeting convened at 7:03 PM.

**OPENING BUSINESS**

- Opening Prayer
- Spiritual Exercise: Fr. Ryan read "The Power of Belief" from *Friedman's Fables* by Rabbi Edwin Friedman
- Approval of the June 2017 Minutes
  - A **MOTION** was made by Paul Joslin to approve the minutes for the June 2017 meeting as amended.
  - The motion was seconded by Rob McGarvey.
  - It passed unanimously.
- A comprehensive review of Action Items from previous meetings was conducted.

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

- Paul presented a quote from [AMDG](#) to do a full inspection of the roof, and to clean all gutters, downspouts and flat roofs. They've also proposed establishing a regular maintenance schedule every six months. Fr. Ryan suggested that cleaning out the gutters and downspouts be deferred until Fall because they were cleared out this Spring. However, he suggested getting the slate work done now.
- Paul reported that the scupper and downspout from the bell tower was bent so that rainwater was not moving away from the building. It is hoped that this is the explanation for the water leak in the back of the St. George chapel.
- Paul will speak to Luke Dorey about the issue of The Ark's playground platform not extending all the way to the wall.
- The sexton, Mark Alston, has requested that the church purchase a tow-behind attachment for the lawnmower that will allow him to ride while mowing instead of walking. It was agreed to do so if the cost is reasonable.
- Replacement of the three toilets on the main floor is still pending.

**FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION and WORSHIP**

**Accounting Warden's Report**

- Rob presented the May financial report. Pledges are a tiny bit down but otherwise all is well.

A **MOTION** was made by Andy Coonradt to receive the financial reports.  
The motion was seconded by Catherine Stuart.  
It passed unanimously.

### **Rector's Report**

- At a special meeting held on Thursday, June 22 Fr. Ryan informed the Vestry that he has accepted the call to serve as the next Rector of St. Thomas Episcopal Church in St. Petersburg, FL. The rest of the congregation was informed on Sunday, June 25, and heard a letter from Bishop Gutiérrez read assuring them that God already has called the next Rector of St. George's. Our task is to discern him or her. Fr. Ryan's last Sunday with us will be August 13.
- AT&T has promised to deliver the \$6,000 payment due from signing the cell antenna agreement in 10 to 12 business days.
- The final version of the new lease agreement between St. George's and the Children's Ark was reviewed.  
A **MOTION** was made by Steve Krouse to sign the agreement.  
The motion was seconded by Andy Coonradt.  
It passed unanimously.  
Two copies of the agreement will be signed by Fr. Ryan and Catherine Stuart and then sent to The Ark for their signatures. The Ark will retain one signed copy and return the other to us.

### **Rector's Warden's Report**

- Jack Tinkler requested that the congregation be updated on the Capital Campaign. The six-month letters to parishioners showing the status of their pledges also will include the status of their Capital Campaign contributions, along with a separate letter reiterating what the Capital Campaign has accomplished so far.
- The majority of items remaining on the Capital Campaign list are not easily seen. Therefore, it was suggested that they should be showcased in the E-Tale. These items include repaying the endowment, servicing the boiler loan, Outreach gifts, and driveway repair. Outreach gifts will be discussed at the September 12 Outreach meeting.
- On July 6<sup>th</sup> Catherine met with Jill Mathis, the Diocesan Canon for Transition Ministry, accompanied by Chris and Janet. Earlier today Chris e-mailed the Vestry his notes from that meeting. Jill has arranged for Jay Collins, most recently the Interim Rector at St. Paul's, Doylestown, to serve as our supply priest for the first three Sundays after Fr. Ryan's departure. She also gave us the names of three candidates for Interim Rector, two of whom are available full-time. It was agreed that Steve Krouse will join Catherine and Rob in interviewing these candidates.
- Previously Catherine sent the Vestry the Diocesan "Protocol for a Search Process in Missions and Parishes" document that she'd received from Jill Mathis. It was agreed that the Vestry is interested in hearing more about the Mission and Ministry Envisioning Retreat for the congregation that it describes. Catherine will try to arrange a meeting between the Vestry and Canons Shawn Wamsley, who is familiar with these retreats from his time in the Diocese of the Rio Grande, and Jill Mathis. It was suggested that such a congregational retreat might be more fruitful if it was preceded by an online survey of the congregation, similar to the survey conducted during the last search process. Janet will work on locating a copy of the previous survey questions.
- Fr. Ryan spoke to the Vestry about his recent experience with the search process. He distributed copies of the 2009 St. George Parish Profile, described his reactions when he first read it, and made suggestions for improvements. Specific advice included:

- 1) Use representative photos. For example, resist the temptation to choose a photo of an Easter Sunday service and use instead a photo of a regular service.
  - 2) Carefully fill out the Office of Transition Ministry profile (now entitled the [Community Ministry Portfolio](#)). Don't just say "refer to profile".
  - 3) Be clear in the compensation section of that form. Need to figure out how to explain how the compensation number is broken down and whether it is negotiable.
  - 4) On the cover of the profile don't show the inside of the empty church but of a full one.
- Fr. Ryan also advised the Vestry on formation of the Search Committee and emphasized the importance of clearly communicating the Vestry's expectations to that Committee from the start. He agreed that we don't need to retain a search consultant because we already have a reservoir of people familiar with the process.

### **SOCIAL, OUTREACH, CALENDAR AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- Upcoming events:
  - Matinee Movie ("The Zookeeper's Wife") – Saturday, July 29 at 3:00 PM in Jerusalem Hall (Organizers: Roland Noreika and Steve Drabkowski)
  - Monthly Career Wardrobe Drop-off – Tuesday, August 8, 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM in Bride's Entrance
  - American Red Cross Blood Drive – Wednesday, August 9, 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM
  - Last Adore before the Shore service – Wednesday, August 9, 7:00 PM in Jerusalem Hall
  - BYOM and Whitley farewell party – Sunday, August 13 (Organizer: Pete Ricci)
  - Outreach Committee meeting – Tuesday, September 12, 7 PM in Choir Room
  - Fall Feast - Men Cook – Saturday, September 23 (Organizers: Gary Bullock and Pete Ricci)
  - Good Works Work Day – Saturday, October 14, 7:45 AM to 3 PM (Organizer: Eileen Kammerer)
  - Hoagie fundraiser – Saturday, October 14 (Organizer: Pete Ricci)
  - Trunk or Treat – Saturday, October 28, 4 to 6 PM in St. George parking lot
- Joan is planning to invite Chris Swallow, the Administrator of [Torrey House](#), to speak at both services about this ministry. She will soon put up a display describing the clothing needs of its residents and soliciting specific donations (including clothing sizes).
- Andy distributed a comparison of three potential web hosting services: [SiteBuilder](#), [Wix](#) and [Squarespace](#). Steve will introduce Andy to Rich Kirk, who would be a good resource for assistance in building a new St. George web site. Steve also suggested ensuring that before initiating a domain transfer we'll have the ability to set up and test the new site first. Rob suggested investigating the ability to tie in the existing functionality provided by our Google [G Suite for Nonprofits](#) to any new web site.

### **STEWARDSHIP**

- Mary Hobart has agreed to serve as chair of the Stewardship Committee for the next two years.
- The Stewardship Campaign will run from approximately September 17 to October 15.

### **SHEEP CONCERNS**

Class of 2018  
Chris Butto  
Susan LaBrake  
Catherine Stuart, *Rector's Warden*

Class of 2019  
Joan Cesare  
Stephen Krouse  
Janet Reddin, *Secretary*

Class of 2020  
Andrew Coonradt  
Paul Joslin  
Robert McGarvey, *Accounting Warden*

**AFFIRMATIONS**

To Ken Harrison and the Boy Scouts for repainting the lines in the parking lot.

To Doug Stuart for his work on the new Ark lease agreement.

To Katherine Coonradt for her architectural drawing of the Ark and measurements of the space that it occupies.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A **MOTION** was made by Catherine Stuart to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was seconded by Susan LaBrake.

It passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Reddin, Secretary