

Christ Church Cathedral Vestry Minutes

June 28, 2021

Richland Branch of Nashville Public Library

5:30 p.m.

Vestry Members Present

Denise Bentley, John Bridges, Christina Callaway, Brad Daugherty, Ben Fuqua, Jill Meese, Karmine Quiggle, Brooks Smith, Eran Stanley, Pete Stringer (Sr. Warden), Varina Willse (Jr. Warden), Amy Woodson, Ellen Wright

Vestry Members Absent

Erica Chappell, Kelsey Urness

Clergy Members Present

The Very Rev. Timothy Kimbrough, the Rev. Anna Russell Friedman, the Rev. Canon Matthew Lewis, the Rev. Canon Lissa Smith

Others Present

Mark McQueen, Caroline Rossini (Clerk), Becca Walton

Opening Prayer and Meditation

Dean Kimbrough opened the meeting in prayer. Pete Stringer offered a meditation from *Building Up the Church*.

Approval of Agenda & May Vestry Meeting Minutes

The minutes from May's Vestry meeting were approved with one correction: the time of today's meeting (Bridges, Stringer).

Finance Committee Report

Mark McQueen presented the financial statements. The Income & Expense statement was accepted (Stringer, Daugherty), as was the Balance Sheet (Stringer, Wright). Of note, the money from the Payroll Protection Program loan is still set aside, and we are compiling the documentation required for the loan forgiveness process.

Cash reserves as a percent of budget is in part due to a decreased budget for this year. The Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Churches recommends holding 25% of budgeted expenses in cash reserves, and this is our goal.

Ken King, former senior warden, is still listed as one of three people who can take action on our CDs (for Capital Campaign). Pete Stringer and Dale Maxfield are the other two individuals. The Finance Committee recommends removing Ken and adding Varina Willse, current junior

warden as a "signer" on the CDs. The motion was seconded (Smith) and unanimously approved.

The completion of Christ Church Cathedral's 2019 audit has been delayed by COVID protocol and personnel changes at the auditing firm. We have received the draft version of the audit for review, which recommends no action. The final version will be presented to the committee in July and then to the vestry for approval. The vestry moved to approve the audit report as presented (Wright, Bridges).

Reading of Historical Minutes

Karmine Quiggle shared her research and observations from reading Vestry minutes for the years 1869-1878. She reflected on the importance of the work of the Vestry and the legacy we leave. Her notes will be forwarded to the Isaac Project committee.

Vacation Bible School

Anna Russell Kelly shared about last week's Vacation Bible School. The theme was "Wandering Toward the Promised Land." About 20 children and 10 volunteers, including our seminarian, Becca Walton, and our curate, the Rev. Madeleine Rebouché, participated in stories, singing and crafts from 6-8pm each evening.

Third Party Partnership Working Group Report

Ellen Wright provided an update on recent conversations with HRI. Recently, HRI expressed concern about its ability to secure financing and permitting by the ground lease's deadline. However, the TPPWG understands the terms of the ground lease are in place and encouraged HRI to abide by its terms. The committee will be checking in with HRI periodically. Pete Stringer and Hal Johnson will be on the committee moving forward.

Cathedral Life Commission Report

David Paine, Cathedral Life Commission co-chair, joined the meeting to share about their current work. The past 18 months have been quiet for this commission, but the committees are gearing up for a return to normal in the late-fall/winter. Tour Guides are planning to resume. Organ concerts are in the works. A new leader is needed for Bacchanalia and Friends of the Cathedral. The Gordon UMC partnership continues. Christina Callaway asked if there is a video presentation of our church history that could be shared on our website or in other digital format. David said there is not yet, but that is something they could discuss. Varina Willse asked if this year's Nashville Unlimited Concert would proceed. The Commission hopes to return to the normal format this year but will wait and see how things unfold with the virus.

St. Anselm's Partnership Report

Christina Callaway and Jill Meese shared an update. A weekly book study continues with about 16-20 individuals participating. Participants report the discussions are meaningful. A new book study will launch in the Fall. The George Floyd Vigil generated overwhelmingly positive feedback. Someone commented they hoped St. Anselm's could become as close to CCC as Gordon Memorial United Methodist Church has, and the Rev. Rick Britton suggested all three churches plan a joint liturgy in the future. The recent virtual meet-and-greet was more informational than meet-and-greet, and everyone is looking forward to real social event. Several Christ Church parishioners volunteered to help with campus ministry efforts after the meet-and-greet.

The Steering Committee from CCC was invited to join St. Anselm's Zoom worship, followed by social time. Yesterday, the steering committee from St. Anselm's joined us at our 10am liturgy. This marked the first time the two groups had met face to face, after working together for almost a year.

The Vicar search is ongoing; there have not been any responses yet. Dean Kimbrough encouraged us all to pray for the search process: not only that they will receive some candidates, but the right ones, too. Karmine Quiggle suggested this be added to our Prayers of the People.

Dean's Report

Heather and Brad Daugherty's applications for postulancy are complete and on the Bishop's desk.

Isaac Project: Win Bassett is stepping down as chair of this committee. Melinda Balser and Janice Malcolm will continue the work, and Dean Kimbrough is looking for a new chairperson. For Phase 1, the objectives are to re-narrate the history of CCC to include aspects of our antebellum history that we might be less than proud of today and to be transparent to those, for the purpose of facing a new Nashville in a new century; to harvest all of the names on hardware, communion ware, pulpits, lectern, stained glass windows, the memorial book, folks who served on vestry, developing a database about these names and a sentence or two about who they were; to read through the vestry minutes and naming and addressing moments. The culmination of this phase of work would be a one- or two-page historical narrative that takes all these things into account. Phase 2 of the work will be a public reading of phase 1. Phase 3 will be looking at what needs to be done in our ministry, building, etc., that shows us to be welcoming to a multi-ethnic public. A one-page summary of the work-to-date was forwarded to the Vestry following the meeting and is attached as an appendix below.

Parking: Since Easter, a few parking attendants (Ed Cole & Andrew Farrer) have helped direct Sunday morning traffic. We hope that group will grow. It is our intention to enter into a contract with a third party parking company for lot management after hours during the week and on weekends.

Sunday Morning Worship: Plans are underway to transition to three worship times and Sunday school, beginning the second Sunday in September. BreakingBread@6 will resume on August

1. The fall worship schedule will include an early morning Rite 1 liturgy and a more compact middle liturgy to allow for more time in Sunday school.

Curate: In 2018, this body committed to the use of the Opportunity Fund for a curate program. The Rev. Madeleine Rebouché is very part-time now but would be interested in staying full-time. Dean Kimbrough will talk to her about staying with us as curate for a couple years, starting in January. The Vestry expressed general support of this.

Becca Walton, our seminarian for the year, is leading a class on "Everyday Monasticism" Thursdays at noon.

Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next meeting of the Vestry will be Tuesday, August 31 at 5:30 p.m. on Zoom. The Christian Formation Commission will report. Dean Kimbrough offered a closing blessing. There being no further business to consider, the meeting was adjourned.

APPENDIX: Report from the Phase One Committee, Isaac Project

Win Bassett

June 28, 2021

I. Goals/scope/limits better defined

Win Bassett had a phone call with Timothy (05/03/21) to address questions raised from the larger research group after their first all-hands-on-deck Zoom call. Win sent a version of the following to the group:

1. In our research, reading, and reporting, we should stick to corroborated events, headlines, texts, names, dates, etc. At this point, we should not attempt to read between the lines, try to discover coded or hidden meanings, and the like.
 - * Examples: How uniform in service were early vestry members? Were any slaveholders? Timothy imagines a 2–3-paragraph summary biography of each early vestry member and how Christ Church benefitted from each person's patronage.
2. We want to focus on important historical moments in our country, state, and city that reveal blind spots, abuses, etc., with respect to Christ Church's reactions (if any). We will search local headlines and see where these might dovetail with vestry events and minutes.
 - * Examples: What was Christ Church doing pre-Civil War, during the Civil War, during Reconstruction, during the Civil Rights Era, during BLM protests, etc.?
3. The purpose of Phase One is for Christ Church to become more familiar with the facts on the ground.
 - * Example: A person new to the area goes to our website. There is no timeline of our evolution from a church serving white gentry to a multi-ethnic congregation. We don't have one yet because we don't know the dots/bullet points yet. Phase One's purpose to figure out these dots.
4. While we are concerned with only Phase One right now, it remains important to keep in mind the goal of the entire Isaac Project: How does Christ Church go from an institution founded, in large part, to serve white gentry and their spiritual needs in the South to a community that serves a multi-ethnic population without regard to social status, economic status, ethnicity, etc.? Phase One's purpose is to begin to trace this transition.

II. Research assignments

With these helpful scope-defining guidelines, Melinda, Janice, and Win met via Zoom to discuss the next steps. They believe the initial research should focus on these five areas:

1. Vestry member histories (John)
2. Physical building histories (Fletch)
3. National/state/city events (John, David, Rachel)
4. Missions from Christ Church (Brad, Meghan) * St. Luke's, St. Anselm's, Holy Trinity, etc.
5. Parish member demographic history (Becca, Lawrence)
 - * Christ Church Parish Registers (on archives website)

III. Next steps

The larger research group and Phase One Committee will meet via Zoom in the next week

or two to discuss initial findings. Researchers were asked to place any documents, notes, images, screenshots, etc., that they find pertinent inside a shared Google Drive.