

Christ Church Cathedral Vestry Minutes

May 22, 2022 at 12:30 p.m.
900 Broadway, Nashville, TN

Vestry Members Present: Christina Callaway, Brad Daugherty, Hal Johnson, Eran Stanley, Kelsey Urness, Jay Wellons, John Whitaker, Amy Woodson, Tyler Yarbrow
Present via Zoom: Erica Chappell, Susie Ries

Vestry Members Absent: Denise Bentley, Ben Fuqua, Karmine Quiggle, Brooks Smith

Clergy Present: The Very Rev. Timothy Kimbrough, the Rev. Canon Anna Russell Friedman, the Rev. Canon Matthew Lewis, the Rev. Madeleine Rebouché, the Rev. Canon Lissa Smith, the Rev. Richard Wineland

Others Present: Dale Maxfield (Treasurer), Caroline Rossini (Clerk)

Opening Prayer

Dean Kimbrough offered an opening prayer and blessing over the food.

Meditation

Erica Chappell offered a meditation on Rogation Days.

Approval of April Meeting Minutes

The minutes from April's Vestry meeting were approved as presented (Whitaker, Callaway).

Report from the Finance Committee

Dale Maxfield presented the financial statements. The Income & Expense Statement was accepted (Johnson, Wellons) as was the Balance Sheet (Johnson, Callaway).

Dale also provided an update on the work of addressing the roof leak over the organ.

Report on the Isaac Project

Brad Daugherty provided an update on the Isaac Project work, including a proposed resolution. Some discussion and questions of clarification followed. Ultimately, a motion to adopt the resolution (Callaway, Whitaker) was unanimously approved:

Resolved, that the Christ Church Cathedral Vestry, meeting on Sunday afternoon, May 22, commend the Isaac Project Phase One committee for its report and its conclusions that there is more work to do. Additionally, the Vestry acknowledges the hard work and leadership of Win Bassett and Lawrence Blank-Cook offered in the shepherding of this work; and be it further

Resolved, that a Steering Committee is appointed to carry forward the work of the Isaac Project and its mission to quicken institutional awareness and reform "around practices, actions, ministries, and systems, that have, either intentionally or implicitly fostered racism and inhibited the comprehensive pursuit of holiness, righteousness, and the justice of God, by the people Vestry, and clergy of Christ Church (Cathedral), Nashville, TN; and be it further

Resolved, that the Vestry officers, working in conjunction with Brad Daugherty, Vestry liaison to the Isaac Project, appoint the following individuals to the Isaac Project Steering Committee, pending acceptance of their appointment: Mary Beth Stamps (chair), Dan Schaefer, Edwin Josey, the Reverend Rick Britton, Christina Callaway, and Rose Ballard. Additional persons may be appointed to the work by the Dean upon recommendation of the Steering Committee; and be it further

Resolved, that this Steering Committee will pursue work in the following areas over the coming 18 months: History, Partnership Development, and Parish Engagement and Public Prayer.

History — Compile, Complete, Interpret, and Compose a review of primary and secondary witnesses to the ministry of Christ Church that highlight ways in which Christ Church benefitted and grew under the prevailing anti-Black racist sentiment of the society and people they were serving. Format a standing presentation.

Partnership Development — draw the following partners (and any others who may be identified by the Steering Committee) directly into the work of the Isaac Project, including roles such as co-readers and editors of the work: St. Anselm's Episcopal Church, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, NOAH, 1st Baptist Capitol Hill, Gordon Memorial UMC, and the Beloved Community.

Parish Engagement & Public Prayer — set a date for the spring of 2023, or at a time when the Presiding Bishop is available, for a Public Service of Repentance and Penance; seek the widest possible engagement of the congregation at large in the work of the Isaac Project throughout the Committee's term of service; and be it further

Resolved, that the Steering Committee develop a draft budget for the Isaac Project Phase 2 (and corresponding 2023 Operating Budget request) by August 15 and submit it to the Vestry following the review of the Vestry officers and the Finance Committee; and be it further

Resolved, that pending the development of a budget for the Isaac Project Phase 2, an initial investment of \$25,000 be appropriated from cash reserves for the purpose of funding new Staff support, story-telling tools, public relations, advertising, and incidentals as may be required by the committee.

Report from the Christian Formation Commission

Eran Stanley shared a report from the Christian Formation Commission. See Appendix.

Dean's Report

Dean Kimbrough shared that over the summer we will be working hard to recruit additional Sunday school teachers for K-6. We need at least a dozen. The summer worship schedule begins next week, with worship at 8:30, 10:30, and 6:00pm, with breakfast offered between the two morning liturgies.

The December meeting of the Vestry was moved to Sunday 12/18 at 12:30pm.

Dean Kimbrough then gave an update about the status of the Capital Campaign and next steps.

Finally, Dean Kimbrough shared that Kelsey Urness & Eran Stanley have been in conversation with St. Luke's Daycare about St. Luke's need for additional space. Kelsey and Eran indicated they plan to bring a report back to the Vestry next month.

Adjournment

The next meeting of the Vestry will take place on Monday, June 27 at 6:30, following Evening Prayer at 5:15 and a meal at 5:45. There being no further business to consider, the meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Caroline Rossini, Clerk

APPENDIX

Christian Formation Commission Report May 22, 2022

Commission Chair: Susan Barge

Vestry liaison: Eran Stanley

Clergy liaison: Reverend Canon Matthew Lewis

Members: Anna Russell Friedman, Alison Bocking, Madeleine Rebouche, Monica Coakley

Committees: Children, Youth, Adult Offerings

Charge: The Commission for Christian Formation is charged with fostering the love of God in Christ through the spiritual, educational, and moral formation of all parishioners from their baptism through their burial. Christian formation through worship, prayer, service, and guided and continuous learning invites “young and old alike (to) grow into the full stature of Christ.” This commission works to provide opportunities for instruction on the belief and practice of the Episcopal Church, nurture a thirst for the Holy Scriptures and a facility with the Book of Common Prayer, encourage spiritual practices, and cultivate a sustained theological imagination for all parishioners.

CHILDREN:

Fall 2021-Spring 2022



We finished up another different, crazy, but good year in our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd “CGS” program (3 years- 6th grade) this past Fall 2021-Spring 2022.

Due to another rise in Covid cases, we postponed the opening of our atria twice through the fall and into the winter. As our plans changed, we pivoted to offer a children's liturgy during the 8:45 services on Sunday mornings in October and November, called ***Time with the Good Shepherd***. Led by our catechists in the Wheeler-Room, it became a well-attended alternative for the time being.

-Anna Russell went on maternity leave at the beginning of November, but our catechists and assistants pulled off two beautiful seasonal celebrations—our **Advent Wreath Pick-up Event** and our **Children's Christmas Pageant**. Both were adapted to work with our families during Covid. Our **Christmas Pageant** was a collection of photos taken over two dates by dedicated parishioner and photographer, Peter Vagt. The slideshow was played as a part of a Christmas Eve service at 2:00pm specifically designated as a family service. It was well-attended and a wonderful alternative to our traditional pageant.

-We opened two Level I atria (3 – 6 years), one Level II (1st-3rd grade) atrium, one Level III 4th + 5th grade atrium, and one Level III 6th grade atrium in February 2022. We had 5 catechists and 7 assistants, with a total of 62 children registered for the 2021-2022 school year. An average of 25 participated each week.

-Our *CGS Family Portal* page, remained active through this year so that families could login and watch videos, access videos, and receive updates if they did not feel comfortable bringing their children in person.

-We continue to host a *Level II CGS Formation Course* in Cheek Hall and surrounding atria, with weekends in August, October, and March. The remaining weekends will be in June and July. They are lovely—and made more special with the help of Karmine Quiggle, who cooks lunch and provides snacks and refreshments each of the 3 days! We have 13 participants and 2 formation leaders from around the southeast. It's a great ecumenical offering as well, as we have folks from the Anglican, Catholic, Methodist, and Episcopal traditions participating.

-Our catechists and assistants gathered on April 3 for a lunch (fellowship and planning) in Cheek Hall following church.



-Our 6th graders offered a beautiful **Liturgy of the Light** on May 15 at 10:00am in the nave. They wrote prayers, and chose hymns & readings for the liturgy. We also recognized and thank our catechists and assistants at this service. This marked the end of our year in our CGS program.

This Summer 2022

-We are planning for *Vacation Bible School* June 20-23 from 4:00- 6:00pm at church. Registration will go live this weekend. We will have children participate (3 years-3rd grade), including "youth shepherds" (older youth--5th +6th grade). This year's theme is "**We Want A King!**" We will have multiple stations for our children to move through—Singing, Story, and Arts/Crafts.

Looking toward next year—2022-2023

-We are in the midst of getting the word out (local universities/colleges) and hiring a new slate of Nursery/Childcare workers. Our hope is to transform our program a bit to include a few small updates to our Nursery rooms and a new Toddler Atrium space. We would love to have a set atrium space for our youngest—18 months up to 3 years—to begin to become acquainted with the Good Shepherd and Gospel in a way that will look familiar when they enter our Level I atria at 3 years old. AR is currently working on gathering materials and shelves for the space, etc.

-We continue to be in a vulnerable position in our CGS program as we come out of Covid and the past two years. We are in need of more catechists and volunteers as we look to next fall. Our catechists and staff are trying to come up with creative solutions to fill our gaps.

YOUTH:

The Youth Formation and Confirmation classes began meeting consistently, in-person, masked last fall, albeit a small lapse in the winter with the birth of the Omicron variant. We confirmed 14 students at the Easter Vigil. We are thankful for the strong leadership that exists with our teaching team who showed up each week to learn and fellowship with one another.

Highlights of the year: EYC Big Event, Confirmation Retreat, Sweet Potato Drop with Society of St. Andrew and Youth Sunday.

This summer, we're looking forward to our Serve615 week in late June. We will gather daily to learn how Corporal Acts of Mercy are happening in our city as we serve with local community partners. In August, we will come together for our EYC Big Event, a four night event where we celebrate our community together as one and pray Compline.

The greatest challenge came from the unknown landscape with COVID-19 and how to plan for future programming while being a good neighbor and steward of our resources.

For next year, we hope to return to living out our faith both home and abroad as we return to our three summer mission opportunities in Nashville, Memphis and Bolivia. In addition to loving our neighbor, we have a big hope for the return of Discovery Weekend in January 2023.

ADULTS:

Christian Formation is steaming along, slow but steady. We started back up last fall beginning with a Dean's Forum sermon discussion group series based on the "Listening to Black Voices" preaching series from last summer. In addition, Centering Prayer, Bible Studies, EfM, and Journey in Faith all returned to action, mostly in-person.

In terms of seasons of offerings, last Advent The Rev Caroline Parkinson led a study group on "Hearing the Nativity Stories Again for the First Time". And during Lent Matthew, along with Monica Coakley (Parishioner and Seminarian by way of Nashotah House), led a series on "St. Therese of Lisieux: Practicing the Little Way" which explored the key themes of St. Therese's path of humility.

For next year, the Christian Formation Commission is exploring a class on the intersection of the Enneagram and Anglican spirituality, an expansion of Journey in

Faith with a “Journey in Faith 2.0 curriculum”, and to bring a parish-wide “spiritual inventory” called Renewal Works this Fall to do an inventory of spiritual practices and beliefs of the parish. Through an anonymous online evaluation of each parishioner, and a series of guided workshop discussions, the RenewalWorks process is tooled to help parishes refocus on spiritual growth and identify ways that God is calling them to grow.