



"Disciples of Jesus, Discipling in love."
VISION

Church of the Apostles glorifies God by celebrating the healing power of the Holy Spirit through prayer, praise and worship that overflows into community, living the joy of knowing Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Minutes of Vestry Meeting
March 10, 2015

Clergy Present: The Rev. Joseph Acanfora, Rector.

Vestry Members Present: Bill Collins, Sr. Warden; Tom DeSocio; James Daffron; Lynne Harris; Mike Kelley; Brad Brewster; Terry French; Joel Carrillo; Andrew Blount; Paul St. Andre; and Gayle Fischer.

Vestry Members Absent: Jane Campbell, Jr. Warden.

Others Present: Phil Rooney, Treasurer; Gary French, Administrator; John Stock, Vestry Nominee; and Donna Wenrick and Marilyn Henretty, Intercessors.

The meeting began at 7:15 pm with holy praise and worship. The Rector shared about several church members who were ill or had fallen on the ice over the past week. He also shared the sad news that after a long struggle with failing health Fenner Urquhart had gone to be with the Lord. The Rector shared that Fenner's service will be held in the Catholic Church and that while he hoped it would be a joint service, he had not yet received information on preparations for the service.

The Vestry prayed and moved to a reading and discussion of Mark 7:14-23 (from our Lenten Series on Mark, with N.T. Wright Commentary) – Jesus Teaches about Inner Purity. Gayle read the scripture and Joel read the commentary. The Rector asked the Vestry what this scripture is saying to us. James said that Jesus is raising the bar. It's not the law, it's about what's in our heart - the "heart condition." John said the scripture reminded him of the Sermon on the Mount, refocusing perspective, giving a smaller focus, and redefining purity. Paul shared that he and his daughter pray and put on the armor of God every day, including the breastplate of purity. Mike shared that it is not a new standard—it is The Standard. It puts us in front of the mirror. John added, "and with a magnifying glass."

The Rector reminded the Vestry of last Sunday's sermon and the story of the two unclean women—the woman with the issue of blood and the dead daughter of Jairus. By Jesus' definition, they were not unclean, and He had no problem touching them. Marilyn shared that you need the perspective of the rules of the time. When change comes up, it becomes difficult to get people out of the rut. The Rector asked us how we would pray into this scripture. James prayed for the Lord to clean our hearts, help us to turn wounds and scars and sins of the heart over to Him and be cleansed.

Business Discussion:

Annual Meeting Agenda. The Rector shared his plans for the format of the annual meeting scheduled for March 15, 2015.

Vestry election. The Rector shared that ballots for Vestry election would be collected during the morning and afternoon services and the results would be announced in the early part of the annual meeting. The Rector shared that he would thank last year's Vestry for their work and welcome the new Vestry members. The Rector shared his appreciation for Bill Collins' work as Senior Warden the past 2 years. The Rector shared that he had asked Andrew Blount to be Senior Warden for the upcoming year and that Andrew had accepted. The Vestry acknowledged approval of the Rector's selection of Andrew as Senior Warden.

The Rector asked the Vestry to start thinking about whom they would like to serve as Junior Warden for the next year. (Section X, F., of our By-laws covers the Rector's selection of the Senior Warden and the Vestry's election of the Junior Warden.)

Vision Update. The Rector shared that the annual meeting would include an update on our Vision and that he would cover Stewardship Enrichment's role in the Capital Campaign as part of the Vision discussion. The Rector shared that in working with the staff, they had come up with the name "Destined for Joy" for the Campaign. The Rector shared that this is a campaign for living our Vision and this name conveys our enthusiasm.

Building Proposal. The Rector shared that he plans to bring our building proposal to the congregation and discuss the series of steps we are taking in the process of discerning the Lord's will regarding the property at 9715 Fairfax Blvd. The Rector said that he also plans to share the site plans the architects have prepared. He will explain that the next step will be to move forward to sign a Purchase and Sale Agreement, which initiates a study and information-gathering period. The Vestry discussed further details of the Purchase and Sales Agreement, potential addendums, and related matters. The Vestry also discussed the balloting process for the congregation's vote on whether to take the next step to sign the Purchase and Sale Agreement and enter the study period.

Vestry Decision on Proposed Building. The Rector shared that if the congregation votes to move forward on the proposed building, the Vestry needs to be in a position to approve the signing of the Purchase and Sale Agreement. He asked the Vestry if they were willing to vote on a conditional motion in this regard so that in the event that the congregation votes to approve signing the Agreement, it could be signed following the annual meeting instead of waiting until the next Vestry meeting for the Vestry's approval to do so.

After a short discussion, Andrew moved and Terry seconded a motion that: Pending at least a two thirds super-majority vote of the congregation at the annual meeting on March 15, 2015, in favor of moving forward on next steps in the acquisition study process regarding the proposed building, the Vestry approves the signing of Purchase and Sale Agreement for the property at 9715 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax, VA. All were in favor.

Designated Gift List. Phil presented the current Designated Gift List (i.e., list of designated funds) to the Vestry for approval. Phil shared that our By-laws require the Vestry to approve this list each year.

James moved and Brad seconded a motion that the Vestry approve the Designated Gift List as presented. All were in favor.

Apostles' By-laws Updates. James summarized his proposed updates to the By-laws and answered questions from Vestry members. The Rector shared that the Vestry needs to vote on the change regarding relatives of staff and clergy serving on Vestry. At our last meeting we had discussed removing the qualification that a Vestry member cannot be someone living in the same household as a current church staff member because the appearance of a lack of independence could arise even if a close relative who is on staff did not live in the same household.

Terry moved and Mike seconded a motion to change Church of the Apostles' By-laws Section X. C., "Qualifications of Vestry," to remove the phrase "if the relative is living in their home at the time of the election." All were in favor.

Application to John Kirby. The Rector shared that John Kirby is currently employed as our Youth Pastor. The Rector explained that John had been working 30 hours a week, but since September, John has consistently been putting in 40 or more hours a week. However, John has continued to be paid for 30 hours a week. The Rector shared that he would like for the Vestry to consider raising John's salary to cover the 40 hours of work he is currently performing.

The Rector outlined for the Vestry, John's duties during an average 40-hour workweek. John's duties include supporting Sunday services at George Mason University, and Apostles afternoon services and Youth Group activities on Sunday evenings. John works at Trinity Christian School Tuesdays through Thursdays doing IT work and leading Bible Study. John leads Apostles' High School Boys Bible Study on Wednesday nights and on Fridays works with CANA providing IT and Website support. On Saturdays, John provides pastoral care to families with kids and everyday help with things such as car problems and transportation. In addition, the Rector shared that based on his current duties, John helped develop the Church of the Apostles' Youth Pastor Job Description.

The Rector asked Phil if the budget currently has funds available for Youth Pastor. Phil said that funds are available in the budget to cover paying John for 40 hours a week at his current rate along with the related insurance benefits.

Because of John's plans to enter Seminary in July 2015, the Vestry discussed using the Youth Pastor Job Description to set John's expectations for the interim period. Also, to help prepare John to enter Seminary, the Rector shared that he planned to counsel John twice monthly in two separate 2-hour sessions. In addition, Tom DeSocio volunteered to mentor John twice a month in two separate 2-hour sessions.

Paul moved and Andrew seconded a motion for the Vestry to approve moving John Kirby to full-time pay at his current hourly rate, effective for the pay period beginning on March 16, 2015. The change to full-time pay is contingent upon 100 percent compliance with the Youth Pastor Job Description and John's participation in twice monthly meetings each with Tom DeSocio for mentoring and with the Rev. Joe Acanfora for coaching. All were in favor.

Vestry Retreat. The Rector shared that the time for the Vestry Retreat was expanded at the request of several Vestry members. The Rector shared that the plan is to depart from the Church Office on Friday at 1 pm and arrive at the Loyola Retreat Center in southern Maryland at 3 pm. The Friday Program will run from 3:00 to 8:30 pm. The Saturday Program will start with Breakfast and run from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. The Vestry should arrive back at the church office by 6:00 pm. The

Rector shared that the Rev. Pamela Meeks will administer the retreat and will be using a devotional based on Colossians.

The Rector thanked Vestry members for their service over the past year. The Rector shared that the next regular meeting of the Vestry would be on March 24, 2015, with the new Vestry.

Brad moved and Andrew seconded a motion to adjourn. All were in favor.

The Rector led the Vestry in a closing prayer. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 pm.