

Saint Luke's Episcopal Church, Scottsboro, Alabama
Minutes of May 8, 2023 Vestry Meeting

Attending the meeting were the Reverend Polly Robb; vestry members Brett Bell, Jared Dovers, Sherry Holland, Deb McBride, J.P. Parsons, Everett Reed and Janet Sage; Charles Heath, Chairman of the Finance Committee; and Ann Moody, clerk of the vestry.

Polly *opened the meeting* at 5:15 P.M. with prayer .

Charles distributed *financial* information and the vestry reviewed it. He left the meeting at 5:19, following his report.

J.P. moved the *minutes of March 14, 2022* be approved, Janet seconded, and all voted in favor. There was no April meeting.

Polly did a reflection on Pious Bob, one of her EYC leaders when she was growing up, and his influence. She told of an example of working together which made a lasting impression on her.

Senior Warden Jared reported on the first meeting of our Violence Preparation Task Force via Zoom with Josh Edmondson, a federal police officer who went into the ministry, on May 4. Committee members present were Jared, Paul Holland, and Don Word. Parker Edmiston was absent. Mr. Edmondson stressed the need for someone to be in charge of security for all meetings, so we need to be thinking of security-minded people. He recommends locking doors. He feels armed parishioners is not the best plan. Notes from the meeting are in the clerk's notebook.

Jared reviewed a note from Geoff Evans concerning minimum compensation for full-time priests. This figure has been \$49,945 since 2011. The new minimum is \$62,000 with no rectory, or \$43,400 if a rectory is provided. This is not retroactive but will be in effect for the next priest we hire. Whether we can comfortably afford a full-time priest is a real decision for the future. We currently have no debt, which is unusual.

Junior warden, Brett, reported on *buildings and grounds*. His committee, consisting of Danny Bridges, Paul Holland, and Robert Robb has met. He is putting together his spread sheet of who is doing what (lawn service, roofer, maintenance contacts, etc.) Not much is going on right now, but we need another parish workday soon.

Re *parish life*, Janet reported on the upcoming Youth Sunday with lunch to follow the service. The church will furnish ham and chicken, and parishioners are asked to bring side dishes. A summer picnic is being planned for this summer following an outside worship service. October 15 is the 145th birthday celebration for St. Luke's. The bishop will be with us that day.

Polly, reporting on *Youth*, reminded the group Jacob Raulerson, Youth Director, is graduating from UAH and will be leaving St. Luke's, so we will be looking for a new director. We have two seniors graduating this year and Polly is concerned we will have only six or seven youth remaining.

Re *Mission and Evangelism*, J.P. reported on the Diocesan conference, Courageous Conversations, held at St. Stephen's in Birmingham on March 15. He noted that it was a very enlightening meeting. An outline is included in the clerk's notebook.

Polly would like a parish trip to The Scottsboro Boys Museum.

Work continues toward establishing an Episcopal presence at Northeast Community College through

the formation of a Canterbury Club. Everett has learned we must have a student leader involved. The College requires by-laws and a constitution submitted by a student leader. Jared suggested their daughter, Rainey Hicklin, might serve in this capacity to get things under way by fall.

Regarding ***Outreach***, Deb reported the Food Pantry committee met April 21, with Melody Reed, Don Traut, Stan Schmoller, and Phil Dutton in attendance. Their minutes reflect what the group is currently doing , as well as detailed plans and wishes to more effectively serve the community. A copy of their minutes is in the clerk's notebook. The Sawyerville shower was very successful.

In her ***Rector's report***, Polly announced that Organist and Music Director, James Kuykendall, will attend a Music Director's Educational Conference in Sewanee in July. He will help with Vacation Bible School July 18-20.

Next Monday is the last "Breathing Under Water" study group meeting.

Women's Wednesday will start back in August.

Barbara Heath is working on a history of St. Luke's to be a part of the 145th celebration.

The Robbs will be away on vacation for ten days in June, leaving June 4 after church and returning June 15. Virginia Monroe will be with us for services three Sundays. The Robbs' grandson, Jack, will be baptized in Nashville May 28, and they will be away the Sundays of June 11 (vacation) and 25(Sawyerville staff).

Polly reminded the vestry is to appoint an audit committee to do the in-house audit this year.

Wednesday eucharist, suppers, and Inquirers' classes are included in plans for the Wednesday evenings from August 30 to October 11. Four people have signed up for the inquirers' classes, and the date for a baptism is to be determined.

June's vestry meeting will be a week later next month, June 19.

The meeting closed at 6:51 with the reciting of The Lord's Prayer.

Ann Moody, Clerk of the Vestry