

Saint Luke's Episcopal Church, Scottsboro, Alabama
Minutes of August 14, 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 a short devotional.

Jared moved the *minutes of July 10, 2023* be approved, J.P. seconded, and all voted in favor.

Charles distributed *financial* information and reviewed it. He pointed out it is generally a good report. Tom Brewington has agreed to serve on the Finance Committee. Charles left the meeting at 5:28 following his report.

In his *Senior Warden's report*, Jared reminded the group of the meetings on August 27 with Geoff Evans from the diocese. The Finance Committee will meet at 4:00 P.M. followed by the Mutual Ministry Review at 5:00. The vestry hopes to discuss future plans for St. Luke's with Geoff.

Jared had nothing further to report concerning the Heaths' thoughts concerning the intellectual ownership of the book Barbara has written on the history of St. Luke's.

The Audit Committee, consisting of Jared, Bill White, and Don Word met last week. Jared reminded the Vestry of some of the issues required by the diocese and covered in the audit. He reviewed notes on the auditors' findings, and complimented the work the committee has audited over the last few years.

The committee's final report will become a part of the vestry minutes. Don Traut may join the committee next year. J.P. moved to accept the audit recommendations as presented and moved that the audit report be attached to vestry minutes when completed. Sherry seconded, and all approved.

Brett's *Junior Warden's Report* is attached to the minutes in the clerk's notebook. He reported Polly has met with a sprinkler technician, who recommends we not spend the money trying to repair the sprinklers between the sidewalk and the street.

Brett suggested we get an additional quote for the roof leak over the sanctuary. The quote we have is for \$3250. Polly found someone to do some landscaping around the church, and someone has been able to cut the trees, the roots of which were damaging the bricks around the columbarium.

Brett suggested we need a clean-up day before our 145th celebration, and there was a discussion about removing the old water fountain in the hall.

J.P. reported on the *columbarium*. They were able to find someone with the large equipment necessary for the removal of the big crepe myrtle trees threatening the columbarium, and who had his equipment in the area. He also cleaned up the debris. The cost was \$875.

Polly, for *Parish Life*, reported there were seven teachers and eight or nine students for blessing of the backpacks.

She reminded the group of worship and the baptism at the lake at the Robbs' home, with a picnic to follow. We will also recognize the Olcotts then and what they have meant to Saint Luke's as they prepare to move to Tennessee to be near family.

Plans continue for the 145th celebration on October 7th and 8th.

Seven people plan to attend confirmation classes prior to the bishop's visit October 15. A reception will follow the service on the 15th.

Although we are still looking for a **youth** director, the youth will begin meeting on September 10.

Reporting on **Mission and Evangelism**, Everett reviewed a preliminary draft of what will be submitted to Northeast Alabama Community College concerning the Canterbury Club to be started there. We have active student involvement there, so plans can proceed. Our grant from the diocese to create our presence there as the local representation of the Episcopal Church and St. Luke's of Scottsboro was received earlier, but Covid delayed the plans.

Deb reported on **Outreach**, noting the Food Pantry served 191 at the last pantry. She attended their committee meeting and summarized their activity. Detailed information is in the clerk's notebook. Polly has carefully cleared unnecessary items from the pantry shelf space and Melody Reed and Don Traut will meet August 14 to further organize the existing pantry room space. Polly noted the Olcotts' leaving will leave a huge vacancy for Meals on Wheels. They deliver several days a week for other than St. Luke's team.

In her **Rector's report**, Polly reported the Parish Register update is in process and plans for the Choral Music Academy are going well. Ashton Bell will be working with our music director in this program, and a \$500 stipend was suggested for her. This year's Advent Journey program may feature music instead of visual art. The Red Mass date will be changed, and a program of Lessons and Carols has been suggested as a program for them as well as another for the church.

The youth will not be selling barbecue at Art in the Park this year.

Updated nursery plans are under way since we have some little ones.

Christian formation will start again soon.

Polly will be away for continuing education September 26-28.

Polly **closed the meeting** at 6:45 with a stewardship prayer.

Ann Moody, Clerk of the Vestry