

**St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church**  
**Vestry Meeting Minutes**  
**December 14, 2021**  
**Hybrid: In Person and Socially Distant and via Zoom**

**Present:** Eddie Bennett, John Bray (Zoom), Blaine Everson (Zoom), Jane Hudson, LeeAnne Krause, Nikki Mathis, Caley Ross, Julie Worley (Zoom), Les House, Chrissy Moffett **Absent:** Kelly Black

**Devotion:** John Bray

John shared the lectionary for the day from Isaiah, Numbers, and Acts. Discussion followed on the topics of faith and revelation.

**Approval of November Minutes:** Nikki Mathis

Nikki called the meeting to order. The minutes of the November meeting were sent to Vestry members in advance. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as written. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Financial Report:** Les House

The November financial report was distributed in advance of the meeting. Les reviewed the report. November revenue is \$29,552 and expenses are \$34,082. The November net total is (\$4,530). Year to date revenue is \$368,726 and expenses are \$351,108. The year-to-date net total is \$17,618. Les noted that funds received in excess of pledges were categorized as non-pledge trend.

Les shared the Finance Committee's recommendation for funding the heating repairs of \$5,400 using the following designated funds:

Diocesan Loan Funds (balance remaining from roof)	\$2,350
Building & Grounds	\$989.20
Capital	Balance needed (approximately \$2,061)

Les noted that using designated funds to pay for the heating repairs will help with the budget for next year.

A motion was made to accept the Finance Committee's recommendation as presented. The motion was seconded and approved by unanimous voice vote.

Les shared a handout with information on revenue for 2019 - 2022 (projected). Discussion followed on pledges. Due to the gap between pledges to date and expenses, the Finance Committee has not yet been able to prepare a line-item budget. After December month end, the Finance Committee will share pledge and expense information with the vestry for prioritization.

It was requested that information on the gap between pledges and expenses for 2022 should be shared with the congregation to allow members to pledge or to increase their pledges before budget decisions were made. Nikki will provide this information in the weekly newsletter as well as in an announcement on Sunday.

**Proposed Changes in Future Budgeting & Stewardship Cycles & in the Date of the Annual**

**Meeting:** Nikki Mathis

Nikki indicated that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 23. The January vestry meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, and will include the new vestry members approved at the Annual Meeting.

Nikki indicated that the existing dates for stewardship and the Annual Meeting do not allow for a budget to be shared with the congregation prior to the start of a new calendar year. She proposed that the stewardship cycle start in September and continue through the end of October with the Annual meeting held in November, before Thanksgiving. This would allow a budget to be prepared and reviewed by the congregation prior to the new calendar year. A soup day could be held in January to keep with the tradition of a gathering in the new year. Nikki indicated that a change in this timeline would allow for more responsible financial planning. Discussion followed.

**Rector's Report:** Nikki Mathis

Nikki provided her report and distributed a copy. She indicated that attendance/participation numbers are stable.

Given the current budget situation, a paid position for livestreaming services is no longer an option. Volunteers will be used instead, and Anthony Barkdoll will provide training. Discussion followed.

**Personnel Changes:** Nikki Mathis

Nikki noted that Catherine Drewry was taking an unpaid sabbatical for one year starting in January. A candidate to step in for a year has been identified. Discussion followed.

Nikki noted that Allena will be leaving as Sexton due to family obligations. Discussion followed.

**Gifts for Will Drosos & Catherine Drewry:** Jane Hudson

Jane informed the vestry that a \$250 gift certificate with the Church outfitter had been purchased for Will Drosos and a self-care gift basket had been purchased for Catherine Drewry.

The topic of the Wright House at UGA was tabled until January.

Nikki closed with a prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50.

Respectfully submitted by Chrissy Moffett.