

**St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church**  
**Vestry Meeting Minutes**  
**September 14, 2021**  
**Via Zoom**

**Present:** Eddie Bennett, Kelly Black, John Bray, Blaine Everson, Anna Hiers, Jane Hudson, LeeAnne Krause, Nikki Mathis, Caley Ross, Julie Worley, Roger Schwenke, Les House, Chrissy Moffett

**Devotion:** Nikki Mathis

Nikki read from the “Flunking Sainthood” daily devotional by Jana Riess. Discussion followed on taking time to be present and rest in God’s lap on the Sabbath.

**Approval of August Minutes:** Nikki Mathis

Nikki called the meeting to order. She noted that Roger Schwenke was joining the meeting to request a proposed revision to the bylaws. The minutes of the August 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.

**Proposed Revision to Bylaws:** Nikki Mathis and Roger Schwenke

Nikki informed the vestry that Roger is requesting a revision to Article 7, Section 7.1 of the bylaws based on events he experienced in other dioceses. No motion is needed for the revision, just consensus. If there is consensus from the vestry, it will be presented at the annual meeting for parish approval and will be in place for a year before being voted on at the annual meeting in 2023.

The current verbiage with no changes is as follows:

Section 7.1 Delegates to the Diocesan Annual Council.

The Diocesan Annual Council conducts the affairs of the Diocese. Delegates to Annual Council shall be Communicants in Good Standing and meet any other requirements as set forth in the Constitution of the Diocese. In addition to the Clergy, the Vestry shall nominate and elect a minimum of two delegates and one alternate to the Diocesan Annual Council (amendable by the Diocese, which is determined by Parish size). At least one delegate shall attend all Convocation Pre-Council meetings and the Diocesan Annual Council. Delegates shall provide a report on the Council meeting to the Vestry.

The same verbiage with proposed changes follows:

Section 7.1 Delegates to the Diocesan Annual Council.

The Diocesan Annual Council conducts the affairs of the Diocese. Delegates to Annual Council **and any alternate for those delegates shall be** Communicants in Good Standing and meet any other requirements as set forth in the Constitution of the Diocese. In addition to the Clergy, the Vestry shall nominate and elect a minimum of two delegates and one alternate to the Diocesan Annual Council (amendable by the Diocese, which is determined by Parish size), **who indicate willingness and capability to attend same**. At least one delegate shall attend all Convocation Pre-Council meetings and the Diocesan Annual Council. Delegates shall provide a report on the Council meeting to the Vestry.

Discussion followed and consensus was received from the vestry. The revision will be presented at the next annual meeting.

**Financial Report:** Les House

The August financial report was distributed in advance of the meeting. Les reviewed the report and noted that the operating checking account had a balance of \$39,426 and the Vanguard account had a balance of \$70,336. August revenues are \$1,658 over budget and expenses are \$3,882 under budget. The August net total is \$2,917 compared to a (\$2,624) budget. Year to date revenue is \$25,398 over budget and expenses are \$1,744 under budget. The year-to-date net total is \$24,207 compared to a (\$2,935) budget. Les would like to see if cost of living allowances for staff can be added to the 2022 budget. Discussion followed on pledges and the budget.

**2017 IRS Resolution:** Les House

Information on the September 2017 IRS issue was provided in advance of the meeting and Les summarized the situation. He believes that the issue may be related to housing for Rev. Laura Bryant however, it is complicated. Ultimately, more could be spent to resolve the situation than paying the IRS the notice amount of \$681.60.

The following resolution has been unanimously recommended by the Finance Committee for vestry approval: *St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church will pay the IRS \$681.60 to resolve the September 2017 payroll tax issue. In addition, the vestry authorizes additional penalties and interest of \$50.00 or less to be paid.*

Discussion followed. A motion was made and seconded to accept the resolution as presented. The resolution was unanimously approved. Les will send an email to Kendall to process the payment. It was noted that this should not be an issue any longer since the payroll processing company, Paychex, was employed in 2019.

**Rector's Report:** Nikki Mathis

Nikki reported on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary festivities. There were 43 people at the Founder's Hymn Sing and 150-156 attended the Sunday service with Bishop Wright. In October, Nikki would like to discuss doing something special for Jonathan due to the amount of unpaid overtime he has worked.

Increasing the credit card limit from \$3,000 to \$5,000 is being pursued. The credit limit was reached paying for live-streaming expenses and could not be used to pay for the 50th anniversary expenses.

**Vestry Nominating Committee Report:** Kelly Black

Kelly indicated that the committee met and prioritized a list of five people plus one. Four have been contacted and they are obtaining information on the fifth. Three of the four contacted have said yes.

**Other Business:** Jane Hudson

Jane asked that all pay attention to the vestry person of the day schedule and put the dates on calendars.

Nikki closed with a prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 7:42.

Respectfully submitted by Chrissy Moffett.