

## St. David's Episcopal Church

April 21, 2025

### Vestry Meeting Minutes

The April Vestry meeting was called to order via Zoom at 6:45 PM and was presided over by Sr. Warden David Niles. In attendance were Rev. Katherine Lewis, Jr. Warden Cathy Schwichtenberg, Julia Handley, Bonnie Boyd, Andy Harvala, Mike Sandsmark, Nan Drake, Treasurer Stephen Ferro and Clerk Rita Hayek.

Absent: Ann Robinson

Dwelling in the Word was led by Rev. Katherine focusing on John 20:19-31. Nan read and all reflected on key words or phrases. Reflecting on the faith journey of Thomas was a good way to center us to begin the meeting.

#### **Vestry Visitor-Vida Edmond, Endowment Committee Chair**

The St. David's Cornerstone Endowment Quarterly report was presented.

- Stephen and Shea prepared checks to be sent to Beacon and ECMN.
- \$13,000 will come to the endowment checking, and Shea will transfer those funds internally.
- The endowment committee is paying State Street to advise as to what to buy and sell.
- Decisions are aligned with Best Practices; they are meeting as they should and doing all that is required.
- Vida's updates were as of March 31, 2025. The April statement may reflect market changes.

More Endowment Updates include the following;

- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner raised \$652 for the Youth Group Pilgrimage to Iceland.
- Moved \$5,000 to endowment checking
- Gervaye Parent was asked to write the history of the endowment educating those who are interested in the endowment.
- Working on marketing the endowment by sending personal invitations to encourage involvement.

The membership of the committee has changed. David Niles replaced Diane Curley as Senior Warden, Mike Sandsmark replaced Nan Drake as Vestry representative. Kay Turner and Ann Carda were new appointees to the committee. Cathy Schwichtenberg left the committee because of becoming Junior Warden, and Robby Stokes left the committee after many years of service and leadership.

***The Vestry thanks Vida for her report and her leadership on the Endowment Committee. Our gratitude extends to all of its members past and present. Thanks for joining us, Vida!***

**Discernment Topic-Comprehensive Campus Initiative-2025 Congregational Vitality Goal-  
How can we have “More Frequent, intentional, transparent communication between the  
Vestry and the congregation”?**

**What are some ways the Vestry can communicate with the congregation?**

*What are we doing now?*

- A short summary is shared after each monthly meeting in the weekly email.
- A financial summary is shown at least once a quarter.
- The Vestry meeting is always open to anyone who would like to attend.
- The Jr. or Sr. Warden makes announcements and welcomes all each week.
- Continue to acquaint everyone who is on the vestry to the congregation. Wear our name tags/ in future include our vestry title on the tags.

*How can we make the minutes more accessible to those interested?*

- A printout on the bulletin board-easily accessed-possibly by the office and in the undercroft
- A QR code was suggested.
- Possibly buy a monthly subscription for a program to show information and events in the narthex
- Revisit the use of the TV monitor. Bonnie and Cathy will collaborate to find a way to share pictures and upcoming events. Julia offered to assist. Perhaps share this TV idea with the congregation; someone or a team may be interested in taking on this project.
- Katherine reiterated the bulletin board idea; this is a tangible first step.

**What are some ways the congregation could give us information?**

- Facilitate a forum/generate surveys.
- A Word from the Wardens
- Include a portion of time during the vestry meetings to share what we have heard and share ideas; try this at our May meeting.
- Feed the positive grapevine to encourage communication, e.g., kitchen talk and the choir buzz. Use this information in a positive way.

## **Gratitude and Recognitions**

- Cathy will send a thank you to Scott and Marilyn Clark for their work with Lenten dinners and discussions.
- Andy will send a thank you note to David Allan for organizing the Palm Sunday Passion presentation.
- The Altar Guild will receive a note from Mark.
- Bonnie will send a note to the Buildings and Grounds Committee for their efforts involving all the Easter events and Ned Sorley's funeral.

## **Review and Approve**

- March Vestry minutes were approved as written.
- March 2025 Financials were approved.

Income this past month was down 15% due to the increased cost of utilities, but we are still ahead of things. Stephen will talk to Shea about the possibility of moving \$20,000 to a high yield savings account.

- Follow up on Financial Review Certificate

Stephen appreciated the experience to see how other churches handle their finances and is grateful for all that Shea does. A motion was made and approved for the Financial Review Certificate.

- Quarterly Endowment Report was approved.
- \$15,000 Funding for Kitchen Equipment Replacement was approved.
- Standing Committee Chairs were approved.

Building and Grounds-Randy Schwichtenberg; Finance-Stephen Ferro; Stewardship-Karin Lindquist and Nan Drake.

## **Updates/New Business**

- Rector's report

Celebrating the hiring of Julia Moser-Hardy, our new Minister of Parish Life

\*Thank you to Jane Sandsmark, Marilyn Clark and Vida Edmond for their assistance.

- Warden's report

Encouraged us to wear name tags/not the easiest storage system of tags to use. Could use some future work.

- Nan will provide dinner at the next Vestry meeting May 19<sup>th</sup>.

David closed with prayer.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Hayek, Clerk