

**January 22, 2018**  
**St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church**  
**Bethesda, MD**  
**Minutes of the Vestry Meeting**

**In attendance:**

Carl Adams  
Julie Anderson  
Jessica Ault  
Elizabeth Douglas  
Lacy Douglas  
Joel Hemphill  
Mark MacCarthy  
Jeff MacKnight  
Frank McCormick  
Cliff White

**Vestry Appointment:**

Joel moved that Carl Adams be appointed as Junior Warden until the February 25 Annual Meeting. The plan is to nominate Carl to complete the final year of the two-year Junior Warden term that was vacated by the departure of Matt McNally.

**Dwelling in the Word – Luke 6:36-38**

*Be compassionate just as your Father is compassionate. Don't judge, and you won't be judged. Don't condemn, and you won't be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. A good portion – packed down, firmly shaken, and overflowing – will fall into your lap. The portion you give will determine the portion you receive in return.*

***What word or phrase stands out to you?***

***What is the Good News for us at St. Dunstan's here?***

**Rector's Report:**

Jeff shared a summary of Christmas season activities. Notably, the family event and Christmas pageant was effective and something to build on for the future.

St. Dunstan's welcomes Eugene Wright, a Deacon-in-Training. Eugene will be with us for six months. His specific interests include stewardship and evangelism.

The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 25 beginning at 9:50 am.

The 2018 Vestry Retreat will be held on Saturday, March 17. Location is TBD. Paula Clarke of Church House staff will be joining us for the retreat.

The Annual Cabaret fundraiser is scheduled for April 21 from 6:00-9:00 pm. The theme will be Mary Poppins.

**Warden's Report:**

Vestry members volunteered to fulfill key roles for the auction portion of the Cabaret: Carl will arrange for auction items; Joel will create the programs and other paper documents needed for the auction; Julie will help with auction set-up on the day of April 21; Frank volunteered to serve as the main teller the night of the auction; and Lacy and Elizabeth will also be available to help with close-out payments after the auction has closed.

Frank volunteered to be the main POC who sends out the Sign Up Genius to Vestry and parish members to help plan for each month's Second Sunday Social. The February 11 Second Sunday Social will be a pancake breakfast in honor of Shrove Tuesday.

St. Dunstan's will be celebrating its 60h Anniversary in May 2018. Volunteers are needed to lead the planning efforts.

The Church Security Team can hold an initial meeting and could explore increasing parish security as a area of collaboration with Redeemer. Thus far, Joel Hemphill and Tony Gomez have volunteered to serve on the team.

**Treasurer's Report:**

The financial picture for 2018 is dramatically different than what we expected in the final two weeks of December 2017. We finished 2017 with a healthy budget surplus that we will carry forward to 2018. In addition, an increase in undesignated gifts, fundraiser earnings, and pre-paid pledges for 2018 means that we are starting the new year from a position of financial strength. We will not need to make dramatic budget cuts.

The Vestry approved budget recommendations from the Executive Committee of increasing the parish pledge from the Diocese to \$36,310; setting the choir budget at \$11,000; and identifying offsetting designated gifts at \$7,000.

**Other Business:**

Jessica volunteered to lead the Nominating Committee to identify new Vestry members. Elections will be held during the Annual Meeting on February 25. We need five nominees.

Jeff reminded the Vestry members who volunteered to learn more about area parishes to plan and execute those meetings with Grace Church, Silver Spring; St. John's Norwood; and St. Luke's in Bethesda. Our goal is to learn from other parishes' that have managed change and achieved growth in the current climate.

A reminder that our first dinner with the Vestry from Redeemer is scheduled for January 31 in our Parish Hall.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m. following a prayer.

*Respectfully Submitted by Julie Anderson, Senior Warden*