

Summary of the June 15, 2022 Vestry Meeting

The Vestry met for its regularly scheduled meeting on June 15, 2022.

Parishioner Comments

There was a parishioner comment regarding the idea of having high school students sing in the church choir. Students often need community service hours to include with their college applications. This opportunity would be advantageous for both the student and the choir. There are three high schools near Grace: Palo Verde, Centennial, and Cimarron-Memorial that could be approached.

There was a comment from a member of the congregation regarding the service posting on Facebook. It appears that when the service is posted, comments regarding the sermon that Sunday are also posted. If anyone has opinions regarding the sermon, they should be posted as a separate post, not as part of the service posting.

There was also appreciation expressed to the Vestry for the work they have been doing.

Vestry Action

The Vestry approved the May 18, 2022 minutes and the financial report.

Interim Rector Report

Fr. John expressed appreciation for the cards and calls during his recent illness.

He also expressed appreciation for the parish's welcoming of Bishop Elizabeth during her visit.

Fr. John will be attending the convention in Baltimore July 7-12.

Senior Warden Report

The Vestry was informed that letters of resignation were received from Cheryl Bruni and Ra Simmons. There is no plan to fill those vacancies currently. Conversations with Bishop Elizabeth may lead to a proposed revision to the bylaws at the next annual parish meeting to decrease the number of Vestry members to seven (7).

Ra has also resigned as lead for the ushers. Ray Clark has agreed to take on that responsibility.

Attendance at weekly services has been down recently.

Junior Warden Report

Landscape changes have been postponed until fall to avoid the summer heat.

Guidelines for the use of church facilities by outside groups will be available soon. The guidelines will include requirements for liability insurance coverage by any group not affiliated with Grace.

Ministry Reports

The CAT survey is ready to start. There is some preliminary work that has to occur prior to having the survey rolled out to parishioners.

Sunday School will start in the fall, but no date has been set.

There will be an inside labyrinth walk on July 23

Healing service will start in the fall.

Helping Hands ministry needs a chairperson so it can be re-established.

Vacation Bible School begins on July 11. Volunteers are needed.

Old Business

Columbarium Committee has developed bylaws, rules and policies and other documents setting up the process to administer the columbarium. One of the first steps is to create a Columbarium Board to begin the process of establishing the Grace in the Desert Columbarium. The Vestry approved the documents submitted.

The Vestry discussed the use of the Nevadans for the Common Good House Meeting process to provide additional input to the search process for a new rector. The Vestry approved working with NCG to conduct the necessary training for and the conducting of the House Meetings. The Vestry stipulated that the House Meetings should be delayed until the completion of the CAT survey process.

The Vestry approved Darlene Albert to be chair of the Clark High School Charger Closet Ministry.

There was general discussion regarding attracting young people to our church services. An example was given of a service that was high energy and enthusiastic as opposed to staid and solemn. There was concern expressed that we need to find a way to attract the younger generation or the "church" as we know it may not survive.