

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE VESTRY OF SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
March 21, 2018

Summary of Actions taken\* Approved Consent Agenda

- February 2018 Vestry minutes
- Youth Ministry Committee report
- Farmers Market Committee report
- Buildings and Grounds update

\* Approved two requests by the Finance Committee to approve fundraising efforts for the chorister program and the Farmers Market

\* Approval of Parochial Report to be submitted to the Diocese

Eucharist was celebrated in Bishop Moore Chapel prior to the regular meeting of the Vestry of Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church on March 21, 2018 in the Coke Room.

In attendance were Vestry members: Margaret Spellings, Bonner Allen, Marla Briggie, John Ellerman, Whitney Grogan, Warren Houser, Jay Lipscomb, Kyle Moore, Anna Paccone, Sally Schupp, Elizabeth Selzer, and Chris Wiley.

Ex-officio members in attendance included the Rev. Dr. Chris Girata, Margaret Cervin, and Kathy Kelley. Others in attendance included Justin Brooks, The Rev. Dr. Bill Murray, Susan Kalen, Caroline Marak, Keith Quarterman, and Jonathan Ryan.

Senior Warden, Margaret Spellings, called the meeting to order at the appointed time, and Warren Houser opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of Consent Agenda Prior to the meeting, the Vestry received for its review the materials included in the Consent Agenda. The Vestry unanimously approved the consent agenda, which included the February 2018 Vestry minutes, the Youth Ministry Committee report, a Farmers Market report, and an update from the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

Discussion Items:

Music Ministry Report

Jonathan Ryan, Director of Music and Organist, displayed his enthusiasm for the growth of the chorister program and highlighted upcoming events with the Magdalen College (Oxford University) Choir, including participation in two services on Sunday, April 8, a concert that evening, and meet-and-greet opportunities to provide insight into the development of our own chorister program. Saint Michael choristers will sing alongside the Magdalen choir. Another event June 15 will feature the girls' choir from Washington National Cathedral. Saint Michael girls will join the performance. He discussed the need to raise funds to support the growing program, further explained by the Treasurer in her report to the Vestry. Jonathan hopes to expand the program and have the choristers sing on a more regular basis in Sunday services.

Jonathan also reported that the compline choir sings the office of compline as part of SMU's campus ministry and that choristers, who sang at the Advent Lessons and Carols, will sing at the 9:00 am Easter service in the church. The choristers continue to receive a warm welcome.

Jonathan reported an increase in the number of adult and staff singers and noted he is pleased with their ambition to tackle new pieces, furthering a desire for the choir to cultivate growth and try new things.

Jonathan also mentioned a search for a permanent, full-time associate director of music and expressed his gratitude for Glenn Stroh's service as Interim Assistant Organist/Choirmaster.

Justin Brooks, Director of Modern Worship Music, then presented to the Vestry his mission statement: "To educate and equip the congregation with the theology of the Church by leading a beautiful musical expression of worship that is distinctly contemporary in its approach; using the musical movements and relevant technologies of our time, yet honoring the ancient and liturgical, embracing a variety of influential styles." Justin further explained that he wants Saint Michael and All Angels to be known as a place for good, liturgical songwriting.

Justin explained that the Modern Music department oversees all music in the Joy, Youth, Discovery, and Celebration services, which are served by a team of professional and volunteer musicians dedicated to the mission of the Church. He reported that the Modern Music department provided music for the Youth/Confirmation retreat and have begun leading music at Wednesday night gatherings, with plans to extend to Sunday nights. Continued growth in attendance at the Joy and Celebration Services was noted.

The Modern Music department has also begun composing original arrangements of each week's Psalm for the Lenten season. These original arrangements have been well received.

Justin was thanked for performing at the recent Women of Saint Michael Mardi Gras party.

### Finance Report

Kathy Kelley, Treasurer, reviewed the Church's February 2018 income statement, noting a positive net income variance between the actual and budgeted numbers for the two months ended 2/28/18. Total revenue is basically on budget, expenses are ahead by \$81,398 primarily due to timing, thus resulting in net income of \$96,540 over budget. The YTD surplus is expected to decline slightly as expenses catch up with church programming though will hopefully remain on budget. In order to collect pledges in a timely manner this year, emphasis will be placed on making sure that quarterly statements are sent out on schedule. The first statements are scheduled for mid-April.

Kathy then reported on two fundraising requests that were brought to Finance Committee for approval. SMAA policy states that fundraising activities are first approved by responsible clergy and church management, then brought to Finance Committee. She explained that the Committee's role is to oversee that all fundraising activities are properly coordinated with stewardship and other efforts to avoid overlap or excess. This month the Finance Committee reviewed and approved two requests: 1) Music - a campaign to raise \$40,000 for the chorister program, as outlined by Jonathan Ryan in his earlier report to the Vestry, and 2) Farmers Market

- the annual letter writing campaign to raise a goal of \$30,000 to cover operating costs of running the Market independently of Saint Michael. The Farmers Market pays for all expenses except for those of sexton assistance and electricity as contributed by the church. Kathy presented these two requests to the Vestry. Following a brief discussion, the request by the Finance Committee to approve the two fundraising efforts was unanimously approved by the Vestry.

### Stewardship Report

Caroline Marak reported that the Stewardship Committee is looking to develop a diversity of talent on the committee and is looking at generational messaging in stewardship appeals.

### Senior Warden's Report

Senior Warden, Margaret Spellings, discussed the parochial report to be submitted to the Diocese. Following some discussion, the Vestry noted one answer (#23 – adult education offerings) needed to be corrected and agreed that the report should reflect the full complement of clergy. With these two changes to the report, the Vestry unanimously approved the report.

Margaret reminded Vestry members that *Safe Church* training must be current for each member. Keith Quarterman will coordinate the training.

Margaret then noted that there are wonderful offerings for Holy Week and encouraged Vestry members to participate and provide feedback.

### Junior Warden's Report

Junior Warden, Sally Schupp, announced Mission and Outreach service opportunities for all ages on each of the four Saturdays following Easter and encouraged Vestry members and their families to participate.

### Rector's Report

The Rector, the Rev. Dr. Chris Girata, issued a Holy Week invitation to all. As part of the extensive preparation for Holy Week, the Rector noted that the Church is engaging in staff care to both support and thank staff for their efforts during this special – and busy – time. The Rector noted that Tish Visinsky is leading the staff care efforts and that she has been promoted to Director of Parish Life. He further noted that Tish and Steve Haal will lead long-range planning efforts.

The Rector then discussed priorities identified for him during the clergy performance planning and review process, including energizing parishioners and deepening their faith through improved worship, compelling preaching, and excellent formation offerings.

The Rector noted that he has encouraged staff to create immersive experiences for parishioners, including mission trips, fellowship trips, and pilgrimage trips, with the additional hope of creating a sequence of immersion experiences for youth and families.

### Vicar's Report

The Rev. Dr. Bill Murray reported that Saint Michael Episcopal School is in the process of finalizing the accreditation report and that an official visit by accreditors is anticipated for October 2018, with anticipated accreditation in the 2018/2019 time frame.

Old/New Business

After announcing *The Archangel's* shift to a magazine-style resource guide this spring and an upcoming website redesign, the Rector announced he will be delivering Palm Sunday and Easter sermons on the "Day One" radio program to be broadcast worldwide. The broadcast can be heard on the local station, WRR.

The Vestry adjourned its regular meeting and met in executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Cervin, Clerk