

**Holy Trinity Episcopal Parish Vestry Meeting**  
**January 15, 2017, 7 pm**

**Present:** Mother Suz Cate, Michele Cauley (Senior Warden), Paul Anderson (Junior Warden), Iris Reed, Bob Taylor, Kevin Crouse, Diana Stafford, Jack Davis, Betty Snowden, Byron Harder, David Robb, Kathy Sparks, Tommye Hurst, Kathy Hunter, Bill McDaniel, Dustin Foxworth, and Treasurer Phil Maiberger.

**Absent:** Joe Yanes, Kaleb Ellison, Meredith McTigue, Rebecca Eidson

**Opening Prayer:** The meeting was opened with prayer by Byron Harder.

**Development:** Mother Suz asked Vestry members to reflect upon and share how we have seen God working in Holy Trinity since the last Vestry meeting. Many shared their thoughts. She then asked Vestry members to say what they would like to discuss with Bishop Waldo when he visits Holy Trinity on February 19. Some of the topics mentioned were plans for campus ministers, the possibility of diocesan funds for St. Paul's and our Trinity Place development, relationship of our diocese with the two SC lower dioceses, the state of the diocese in light of diversity hiring at Universities and rise of mega churches, and his hopes for Holy Trinity.

Mtr. Suz announced that in light of our Vestry retreat and meeting with the Bishop in February, we would not have a Vestry meeting on the third Sunday of next month.

**Rector's Report:** We are soon beginning the search for a Family Ministry Coordinator (currently staffed by Mary Beth Johnstone). This will be by word of mouth and a diocesan and possibly national posting. Mtr. Suz had a Skype interview about an Assistant Rector's position with a seminarian and invited him to visit us. She hopes to hear from him soon and the search will be widened as of February 1<sup>st</sup>. This is Mtr. Suz's hire to make, but she will ask for Vestry approval. She mentioned that all is on tract and set for the Vestry retreat on February 3-4.

The Discovery Class and Youth Confirmation Class have both been well attended. A new Christian Formation small group initiative - the SHIFT program - will begin in February and continue for 10 weeks. Holy Trinity will also host Partnership Cange and CEDC on February 17-18 and probably host the dinner on February 17.

**Senior Warden's Report:** Michelle extended her thanks to the Vestry and prays we can keep the momentum going. She hopes to stay engaged.

**Junior Warden's Report:** Paul went over the rules for Security again and will re-issue a formatted, edited Security Schedule tomorrow.

**Vestry Minutes:** Bob Taylor made a motion, seconded by Byron Harder, to approve the Vestry Minutes as amended for December 2016; motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Phil Maiberger introduced Dustin Foxworth, our new treasurer. He reported on the year-to-date Operating Fund balance, which shows a sizeable surplus. Earlier this year, we moved \$60,000 to our investments with the Episcopal Church Foundation, and \$15,000 will be given from this year's surplus funds to Outreach for 2017. \$20,000 of the surplus was put in the Building and Maintenance Fund to be used for future repairs, etc. This leaves about \$30,000 in the operating fund surplus. Other expense categories are largely in line with what was expected. A motion was made by Bob Taylor to approve the treasurer's report; seconded by Iris Reed. Motion passed unanimously.

Phil presented reported that the church received a \$66,000 anonymous gift to be used to reduce the Trinity Place debt in 2017. He presented revised Statements of Mission for the Operating and Trinity Place funds. The revisions to the operating SOM include updating Pledge offerings to the most recent total, adding an expense item for necessary equipment purchases, and adding to the special expense item to provide funds to relocate the hoped for new assistant rector. There have been \$19,000 in new pledges made to debt reduction on Trinity Place property. That and the parking revenue will reduce the note balance in 2017. The scheduled payments should cover the note through 2020, but we'll probably refinance soon to lock in a lower rate. Bob Taylor moved and Betty Snowden seconded that the Statement of Missions be approved; motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Reports:**

**20-20 Task Force:** Bob Taylor reported the group came up with a list of Absolutes and Negotiables that should guide our actions on what we value for Holy Trinity. After considerable discussion, the Vestry decided to adopt the preamble and Absolutes (see Attachment A) as guidance for the future without the Negotiables included. Bob Taylor made this motion and Jack Davis seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Clemson University/College of Charleston Case Study on Preservation.** Jack Davis reported that this group will conduct a study and develop a report to guide us regarding what actions we need to take to preserve the building/structure of historic St. Paul's. The Committee is also meeting with a diocesan representative on Thursday to help clarify our role in caring for St. Paul's.

The meeting was adjourned after a closing prayer at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Iris Reed for Rebecca Eidson

## ATTACHMENT A

List of Absolutes recommended by the 2020 Taskforce for endorsement of the Vestry

In 1928 Holy Trinity was established as a mission church of St. Paul's to serve the Clemson University community. Holy Trinity has since grown into a significant presence for Clemson and the surrounding communities. The task force recognizes that anything undertaken with property purchased in 2008 must be done in accordance with the primary justification for its purchase: ***to ensure that Holy Trinity remain in its current location.*** Consequently, the major goal of the Taskforce for Enhancing our 2020 Vision has been to investigate ways of ***'ensuring Holy Trinity's foreseeable future at its current site as a significant Church with the Clemson Community and the University Community.'***

Thusly, it absolutely essential that there is sufficient space and resources into the foreseeable future for:

1. physical buildings for Holy Trinity's programs and services
2. sufficient parking to conveniently accommodate Holy Trinity's parishioners and visitors as they participate in the Church's programs and services.
3. protect the sanctity of Holy Trinity's primary purpose as a worship space (for example, no student housing next door would be a wide spread opinion)
4. alignment and support of the goals set forth in the 2020 Vision
5. support of Holy Trinity's ministry areas.