

SAINT PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Minutes of the Vestry Meeting
September 3, 2020

There was a Zoom meeting of the Vestry of Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, Chestnut Hill, on the above date at 7:30 p.m.

There were present Ruth Desiderio, Rector's Warden, presiding; also Interim Rector Albert J. Ogle, Assistant Rector Dan Kline, and Vestry members Lisa Budd, Chip Butler, Steve Camp-Landis, Cheyenne DeMulder, Mark Duckett, Clark Groome, John Kimberly, George McNeely, Steve Pearson, Kristin Poole, Louise Thompson, and Hugh Williamson. The Rev. Barbara Abbott, St. Paul's consultant, and the Rev. Canon Carrie Schofield-Broadbent, canon for transition and church development in the diocese of Central New York, were also present.

The meeting was called to order at 7:38 p.m.

I. Interim Rector Albert Ogle opened the meeting with a prayer.

II. The minutes of the August 24, 2020 Vestry meeting were approved with one abstention.

III. At 7:43 p.m. Canon Carrie Schofield-Broadbent assumed the chair.

IV. After reviewing our previous meeting, Carrie said she felt that we had done good work so far in determining what our core values are. She said we are likely looking for a culture shift, not necessarily focusing on problems and pathologies but to shift the culture in order to be more trusting and more explicit in our core values. Albert said that he thinks we are looking for a center, something with which the Vestry seemed to agree.

Carrie said that this exercise can be a plumb line for the parish. She also noted that these core values are not written in stone. That which served us in the past is probably not exactly what God is calling us to in the future.

V. After much discussion, the following core values, aspirations, and questions were determined:

•**Core Values** in no particular order: Worshipping God through sacred music; living Anglican Heritage: Scripture, Reason, Tradition; maintaining parish traditions/honoring history; fostering a "big tent" where *all* are welcome; supporting one another in hard times; serving the community/outreach; nurturing the faith of children; building and honoring relationships; animating our church buildings/sacred spaces; practicing fellowship/hospitality; living into *The Book of Common Prayer*; loving God with our minds and hearts.

•**Aspirational Core Values:** Transparency; accountability; welcome/inclusion.

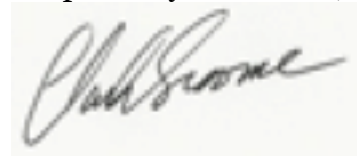
•Questions and observations:

- Is this list to be used internally or externally?
- How can we spread the Good News about St. Paul's? Do we take a stand?
- Does *all* are welcome really say what we mean?
- Things that involve people should be at the top of the list.
- Does our Sunday morning schedule support these values, or only some of them?
- Do these core values assume that Sunday morning is the only time we do faith formation?

VI. The next meeting of the Vestry will be **on Zoom on Monday, September 21 at 7 p.m.**

VII. Following Carrie's closing prayer, the meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Clark Groome", is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Clark Groome
Secretary