

Vestry Meeting Minutes:

Monday, December 16, 2024, 7:00pm

Location: Undercroft, Holy Trinity Parish Church

Present: Father Crippen, Senior Warden Regan, Vestryman Smith, Bookkeeper Green, Vestryman Gregg, Treasurer Young, Vestrywoman Ringenberg, and Secretary Bassett.

Absent: Junior Warden Novak

Meeting convened at 7:05

Approval of Minutes — Secretary Bassett

The November minutes were approved after clarification (motion by Vestryman Smith, seconded by Vestryman Gregg).

Rector's Report — Fr. Crippen

The average Sunday attendance has held steady at 171 over 50 Sundays. During the time that the College is in session, August 25-December 15, our attendance has been slightly above 200, at an average of 207. Across 131 weekday services (weddings, funerals, midweek services etc.) our attendance has averaged 16 per service. The Thanksgiving service had 78 present.

Fr. Crippen informed the vestry that Coffee Hour will return through Epiphany and Christian Education will be in recess till January 19th.

The rector reported that 7 trees were planted on the northern side of campus: white and blue spruce. The ducts were also cleaned out—Fr. Crippen was very pleased with the service from the contractors.

Fr. Crippen reminded the vestry that the diocesan meeting will be in McLean, Virginia. Archbishop Steven Wood and Deacon John Stonestreet (daughters connected with the College) will be present and will speak.

Financial Report — Bookkeeper Green

92% of pledges have been received—this is good. Bookkeeper Green informed the vestry that pledges for 2025 are coming in. Payroll and taxes for employees will now be handled by Bookkeeper Green and no longer outsourced.

Nominations for the class of 2025

Jack Shelley, David Bassett. Miles Smith moves, Jon Gregg seconded.

Input from outgoing vestrymen:

Pai: Always support Holy Trinity. She expressed her regret over being spread out over three services because Holy Trinity is like a big family. She exhorted the vestry to keep the unity of the church!

Miles: The vestry needs to continue to provide fiduciary oversight. Holy Trinity has grown because of its commitments. He charged the vestry to steward these qualities and commitments. The parish will grow and even though it will not be without challenge, we must pass on to newcomers what we have inherited.

Budget for 2025 – Bookkeeper Green

Some of our budget has grown due to the growth of fixed expenses from increased attendance and other variables, i.e., more Sunday services, inflation, internet costs, and upkeep. This proposed budget is based on 2024 spending and needs as well as actual revenue. Senior Warden Regan informed the vestry that this is a conservative budget in light of the revenue that we are expecting. The vestry discussed the differences between volunteer v. salaried v. guest services that receive an honorarium. It was agreed that volunteers should give freely of their time and workers should be paid and that some volunteers should in the right circumstances become workers. The vestry agreed that any extra revenue should go toward the parish's investments. The budget for 2025 was approved: motion by Vestryman Smith, seconded by Vestryman Gregg.

Bookkeeper Green will share budget with ministry leaders.

All Parish Business Meeting February 2nd

Resignation of Father Alan: Effective January 12th

Fr. Crippen submitted his official resignation. He will serve as the Blake Center Executive Director and Chaplain. Vestryman Smith prayed over Father Alan and the parish in this transition. Fr. Crippen departed from the meeting.

Executive Session

Communicating the Resignation

Wendy will send out the Resignation Letter tomorrow to all on the email list. Senior Warden Regan will announce to the church during Sunday services. Interim pastor: Adam—willing to serve with compensation—this will prevent him from being eligible to be hired for the position. Vestryman Smith is willing to volunteer and serve the parish as may be needed. Miles: male only deaconate under the presbyter.

Adjourned at 9:30pm