

# EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT JULY 20, 2021, VESTRY MINUTES

Action/Date Due  
for Review/  
Assigned To

**Date:** July 20, 2021    **Time Started:** 5:35 pm    **Time Ended:** 7:10 pm

**Next Meeting:** August 17, 2021, 5:30pm.

**Members Present:** Kathleen Phillips, Senior Warden; Peggy Wilson, Junior Warden; Debra Alexander; Dick Jordan; Mary Maupin; Barbara Schauer; Nancy Larkin; Loraine Hilty; Mark Holland

**Members Absent:** Pam McNally

**Other Attendees:** David McNair, Rector; Bill Sewell, Treasurer; Lorrie Cooper, Clerk; Rev. Jennie Lou Reid, supply priest during David's sabbatical.

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## DISCUSSION/FINDINGS/CONCLUSIONS

**Call to Order, Prayer or Reading** (*David McNair*)

**AGENDA ITEM: Vestry Minutes Approval: June 15, 2021** (*Clerk, Lorrie Cooper*)

**AGENDA ITEM: Financial Report** (*Bill Sewell*)

(See Sr. Warden's report below for a summary of Bill's report to the Finance Committee.)

Bill asked for approval of the 2020 financial statements and auditor's report so that he can send them to the Diocese.

**AGENDA ITEM: Sr. Warden's Report** (*Kathleen Phillips*)

1.) The **Finance Committee** met on Monday, July 19, 2021. The meeting was chaired by Sam Shiver and attended in-person by Bob Johnson, Margie Haaga, new member Nicki Toole, new Senior Warden, Kathleen Phillips, Treasurer Bill Sewell, and Rector David McNair. Attending remotely were Peggy Barnes and Kent Self. Bill Sewell provided an in-depth review of ECHS financial reports to date. He gave clear and concise answers to questions concerning some budget line items, as well as explanations about how electronic methods work for making donations and pledge payments, and the ways these are beneficial to the church. The pathways for the Ingles Gift Card outreach program were also laid out clearly.

Minutes from the June 15 meeting were unanimously approved.

Vestry voted unanimously to approve financial statement be sent to the auditor.

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Bill pronounced that finances are in good condition, while acknowledging the transition to in-person services and meetings will increase costs. Discussion about the number of committee members needed was explored. They agreed that a recommendation to reduce the number from six (6) to three (3) members over the next two years should be submitted to the Vestry. The terms will continue to be three years with one new member coming on board each year. Currently two members rotate off, and two new members replace them. The ex-officio members — Rector, Treasurer, and Senior Warden — will remain in place. The next meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2021 at 9:30am. This session will focus on the preparation of a Proposed 2022 ECHS Budget.

2.) We may all need a refresher session on **procedures for the various Sunday ministries** as we return to in-person services. Some folks who signed up back in 2019 for the 2020 calendar year have never received orientation guidance. And some of us have been away for a long time and forgotten what our assignments entail. Plus, some changes have been instituted due to pandemic restrictions. [A white notebook in the hallway cubby lays out responsibilities for each of these ministries. David has been updating the notebook.] I recommend that we set up short sessions immediately following the services to gather with folks and review these materials and answer any questions or concerns.

Peggy Wilson offered to train new acolytes. David will ask Martie Carson to send out an email asking for additional acolyte volunteers.

**Discussion:** David is particularly concerned that after the services, windows are not being closed and doors locked and asks that someone make sure these matters are attended to.

3.) We are prayerfully looking for ways to **reach out to those in our congregation** who are struggling emotionally from the prolonged upheaval in our lives caused by the pandemic. Here are a couple of examples:

David asks that Vestry members reach out to people who are reluctant to return to in-person attendance.

—Provide a write-up to be folded into the bulletin that includes anecdotal information along with statistics from our three primary counties. Ann Smith is a good source of anecdotal information on the effects already of the Delta variant among people in her workplace.

—Contact folks who are missing from among us to find out how they're doing and offer support as needed.

Additional positive ideas are welcome.

**AGENDA ITEM: Jr. Warden's Report** *(Peggy Wilson)*

No report from the Jr. Warden

**AGENDA ITEM: Outreach Report** *(Nancy Larkin)*

An Outreach meeting was held June 27, 2021, following the service. In attendance: Genevieve Burda, Crellin Byrd, Annette Henry, Nancy Larkin, Pam McNally, Mary Jo Sparrow, Carol Van Voorhis, Marnie Wilson, Nancy Whittaker.

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**First Sunday Designees:**

**May**—La Esperanza received \$2,000 in contributions. Rebecca wrote an article for *Mountain Spirit* and *Weekly Spirit*.

**June**—*Las Ninos in Guatemala* (School to support the children in this organization)—Still bringing in contributions

**July**—Beacon of Hope

**August**—Church of the Advocate

**September**—Homeward Bound

**October**—Pisgah Legal

**November**—Consider Haiti

**December**—Outreach Fund

**Rector's Discretionary Fund:** The following procedure for this fund was established for David McNair's sabbatical. Jennie Lou or Carol will field the requests. Susan Sherard will approve them and obtain funds from Bill Sewell.

**Church of the Advocate Lunch, August 8:** We will provide lunch for 60+ people in the form of bag lunches (i.e., sandwiches, chips, desserts, and fruit.) The following people agreed to provide:

Sandwiches (20 each)— Crellin Byrd, Annette Henry, Mary Maupin, Marnie Wilson

Chips (60+)— Nancy

Fruit, i.e. watermelon or cut up melon (60+) — Pam McNally and Nancy Whittaker

Desserts—TBD

Deanna Waylon, the priest at COA, has offered to preach one Sunday. David McNair will follow up on this offer.

**Room in the Inn:** Mary Jo Sparrow will collect for August 1.

**Backpacks:** Genevieve Burda will coordinate. Bethany from Social Services has been contacted and requested that 34 backpacks be provided. Genevieve will obtain names, ages, and school supply lists.

**Heritage Festival:** The Heritage Festival is October 2, 2021, the first Saturday in October. Nancy Larkin motioned that we participate. Pam McNally seconded the motion and it passed. Discussion is needed, and a sub-committee was formed for this purpose: Crellin Byrd, Nancy Larkin, Pam McNally, Susan Sewell, Mary Jo Sparrow, and Carol Van Voorhis. The sub-committee will report to the larger group. The possibility of jars of soup or other items was discussed.

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**Future Meetings:** Sunday, August 8 at 9:45 a.m. Meetings also on the Sundays of September 19, October 31, and December 5 will follow the service.

**AGENDA ITEM: Rector's Report** *(David McNair)*

**1. Pastoral Care issues:**

**Bob Magnus** left the service early Sunday because he was having shortness of breath and indigestion. Several medical doctors in attendance (Ann Smith and Jim Haaga) checked his heart rate and vitals and helped him return to Mars Hill retirement home where the medical staff again checked his vitals and will continue to monitor him.

David reports that Bob is doing okay. It was a simple matter of indigestion.

**2. Review of Sunday morning Vestry responsibilities.**

Reminder: the Vestry person needs to check in with the priest before the service and let him/her know that all the Sunday ministry roles are covered for the day. Also, please make sure that all windows in the sanctuary are closed and all the outside doors to the building are locked before leaving.

**3.** Please make sure that people making announcements following the service are standing where the camera for the virtual service participants are able to see and hear the person making announcements.

**4.** Rev. Jennie Lou Reid will be supply priest from July 25 through September 12. The Reverend Carol Jablonski and Rev. Deacon Ty Jones will be supplying as priest and deacon on Sept. 13-18, 2021. Please make a point to welcome them, introduce yourself, and offer them support during the time while they are supplying.

Their contact info:

Rev. Jennie Lou Reid at #305-495-6934 Email: [dean.jlreid@gmail.com](mailto:dean.jlreid@gmail.com)

Rev. Dn. Ty Jones at #828-989-2847. Email: [jtjones100@gmail.com](mailto:jtjones100@gmail.com)

or Rev. Carol Jablonski at #202-714-8134. Email: [cjjablons@gmail.com](mailto:cjjablons@gmail.com)

**5.** Jennie Lou Reid and Carol Jablonski are authorized to make Rector's Discretionary Fund (RDF) check requests while I am on sabbatical. Susan Sherard is authorized by our bank to sign these checks. Please refer any RDF need which comes to your attention to Jennie Lou and/or Carol.

**6.** I will be officiating the wedding of Jeremy Fox and Jan Shahbaz at ECHS on Saturday, October 16, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. Jeremy was active in our Men's Prison ministry for several years. This wedding was postponed from February, 2021, to October 16, 2021, because of the pandemic.

**7.** The Vestry must elect two persons to serve as delegates to the Annual Diocesan Convention in Hickory on November 12-13, 2021. One or two others may be elected as convention delegate alternates.

Pam McNally and Kathleen Phillips offered to attend the annual convention as delegates. Barbara Schauer offered to be an alternative. Vestry voted acceptance.

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8. The ECHS Stewardship Committee will meet Wednesday, July 21, to begin making plans for the 2021 Stewardship season. Jim Haaga and Peggy Barnes have agreed to co-chair this committee.
9. FYI, currently our congregation is assisting with rides to and from Sunday services for OC and Jane Edwards, Bob Magnus, and Jade McWilliams. At some point, additional volunteer drivers may be needed to assist with this ministry.
10. Updated ECHS Directories are ready for pick up. Please periodically communicate with the persons on your Vestry call list – and especially reach out to those who have not returned to ECHS for in-person Sunday worship services. We, of course, want to stay connected with one another and to share concern, encouragement, and an ongoing welcome with all those in our church family.
11. The ECHS Black Jesus Book group will meet next on Sept. 8 at 4 p.m. via Zoom for a discussion of Michael Eric Dyson’s book, *Long Time Coming*. Copies of the book may be picked up at ECHS on the table in the hallway. Susan Sherard will be leading the discussion.
12. Save the date: Saturday evening, Nov. 6, for a retirement celebration for Ty Jones and Carol Jablonski. More details TBA.
13. Currently we do not have anyone coordinating the “Art Wall” in the hallway at ECHS. Please contact Kathleen Phillips if you would be interested in coordinating seasonal art exhibits on our Art Wall.
14. I am very grateful for the gift of a sabbatical! Thank you for working with me and on my behalf to make this possible. Also, thank you for all the ways you will be providing help and leadership for ECHS in these next thirteen weeks. Your generosity and leadership is a wonderful gift and blessing!

Jade prefers being contacted via text, not by phone.

**AGENDA ITEM: New Business**

—Jennie Lou Reid prefers text messages over phone calls and can be contacted at the phone number given in David’s Rector report.

—Requests for help from the Rector’s Fund during David’s absence can be made to Jennie Lou Reid or Carol Jablonski.

—Following the incident with Bob Magnus at the Sunday service, David suggests that there may be a need for the church to have a stethoscope on hand, should a medical need present during a service or other activity at the church. Ann Smith researched the cost as being in the range of \$90 to \$150. This cost could be provided from the Covid expense account. There is a defibrillator at the church and it could be helpful to have refresher training on using it.

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—Should the need arise for an ambulance to come to the church during in-service gatherings, parking must enable the ambulance to drive to the door at the office side of the building. Ushers are responsible for monitoring the parking.

—After-service refreshments should be simple in order to allow people to quickly move through the line. Cookies and lemonade are suggested. Coffee will not be served.

—Face masks will continue as a requirement for indoor attendance at services and meetings.

—Artwork displayed in the main corridor should not have price tags.

**AGENDA ITEM: Next Vestry Meeting Date**

August 17, 2021, 5:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lorrie Cooper, Clerk

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