# All Saints' Beverly Hills Minutes Vestry Meeting on November 28, 2017

#### Attendees:

Clergy: Steve Huber

**Vestry:** Joe Becci, Bob Craft, Jean Marc Madelon, Sydney Nichols, Theresa Amy, David Van Iderstine, Ruth Loomis, Dennis McGuckian, Maggie Reid, Chris Cook, Susan Humphreville and Ken Sulzer

Staff: Jennifer Hill & Dr. Craig Phillips

Observer(s): David Seck

Excused/Absent: none

Dennis McGuckian: provided the meal.

Joe Becci: called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

David Van Iderstine: led the attendees in prayer

Chris Cook: recorded minutes for the meeting.

**Previous Minutes:** Minutes were presented from the November 14<sup>th</sup> regular vestry meeting and the associated executive session, plus the Telephone Executive Session held on November 20th. Ruth Loomis outlined the changes that were made to the minutes. A motion to accept the minutes was offered and seconded, changes/corrections were recorded and unanimous vote to approve the minutes was held.

## Dr. Craig Phillips provided the Music Ministry Report

Craig presented an overview of the Music Program, including the choir program and the multitude of services they perform in throughout the year, and the planning that goes into each service. Attached to the minutes is an outline of what Craig read, plus a one-sheet of the budget and revenue expenses for the Parish Operating Budget, and the Music Guild.

Craig mentioned that he has a new recording coming out which could be released shortly. Joe Becci mentioned that all of the music is available online through the church's website with links to sites like iTunes and Spotify. Steve Huber complimented Craig for his collaborative abilities and the joy he brings to his music ministry. David Van Iderstine complimented Craig for the quality of his work. David asked about the number of participants in each choir. All Saints Choir is 40 singers, Parish Choir has 3 paid singers with a total of 20 singers. Choristers (Children's Choir) has 10-11 total, which has been larger in the past. David asked about the organ, which was built in 1951, expanded in 1988. Craig says that it needs support to keep it performing at peak level after 30 years of use. Craig said that upkeep on the organ won't affect the Sunday services. Craig said that with extra funding he would make the Associate position full time, up from three-quarter time. The organ in the Chapel is not adequate, but

is not his top priority. For funding, there is the option for endowment funding if a donor chooses to do so. Research would have to be done for possible grant funding. First AME church visited recently and Craig was open to figuring out how to have the two churches might work together.

Craig provided his comments in writing which are attached.

#### **Reverend Steve Huber provided the Rector's Report.**

- On Friday of Thanksgiving weekend, Steve traveled to Miami to officiate at Christian Anderson's wedding.
- The staff is busy preparing for the upcoming Christmas services
- The church will have plain-clothes security on campus for the upcoming services. Steve discussed having the ushers trained to work with the security guard if there is an altercation. Ushers have been trained to have parishioners leave their backpacks and large bags on the patio. There will be a meeting on Thursday with the City of Beverly Hills to discuss security.
- Advent Lessons and Carols is this Sunday followed by the Art Auction Event. Ticket sales have begun to pick up but people tend to wait until last minute to purchase their tickets. Vestry are encouraged to purchase tickets and bring friends.
- The Diocesan Convention is being held this weekend.
- The Episcopal School of Los Angeles will be hiring a new head of school with Maryetta Anschutz continuing as founder and advisory role. All Saints has a wonderful history with the school with parishioners serving on the school's board.
- Steve called on David Seck about the children's church service that happens on the first Sunday of the month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Parish Hall. David reported on the success of the service and how wonderful it will be to have it continue for the children. Children are from ages 3-13, with close to 60 children in attendance. The children then joined the church community for Eucharist.

### 2018 Budget Process presented by Sydney Nichols

The budget committee has been meeting and there will be one more budget meeting before December 12<sup>th</sup>. The budget workshop meeting for the vestry and the finance committee will be on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. On Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> the finance committee will present the budget to the Vestry.

#### **Closing prayer:**

Reverend Steve Huber led the attendees in a closing prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 pm.

Joe Becci - Senior Warden

Theresa Amy- Clerk 🤇

#### MUSIC DEPARTMENT BUDGET AND EXPENSES

PARISH OPERATING BUDGET

Salaries for Staff Singers, All Saints' Choir and Parish Choir Music Supplies (Music Library, folders, vestments) Instruments Maintenance (3 organs, 7 pianos, harpsichord) Instrumentalists (Easter Brass) Choristers (Continuing Education) Music Other (Copyright agreements, singers for various occasions, misc.).

It is the responsibility of the Parish budget to fund the worship life of All Saints' Church, including provision for its music staff, choirs and all musical instruments.

## MUSIC GUILD

**Concert Series** 

Including Spring Concert, Choir and Orchestra Chamber Music/Organ Concerts Christmas Lessons & Carols Visiting Groups

Provide funds for special occasions

Strings for Christmas Eve

Instrumentalists for Miscellaneous Sundays

Guest Singers for various occasions

Fund new recordings

Publicity and Hospitality for various events

All Saints' Music Guild is the cornerstone of financial support for concerts at All Saints' Church. Patronage comes both from within and outside of the parish. Along with the modest donations taken at the door at each concert, Guild membership makes possible the program of musical outreach to greater Los Angeles and beyond via the great choral and instrumental works. What is it that makes music in the Episcopal Church so special? Without a doubt, the heritage and beauty of the Anglican musical tradition, from which our own tradition derives, is something to take great pride in and to cherish. Our music draws from many sources, beginning with plainchant and encompassing music of the Renaissance and Baroque, and the wealth of treasures that developed in England and America in the  $19^{th}$  and  $20^{th}$  centuries, right up to the music of today. The richness of this heritage, along with an emphasis on excellence and the central importance of music in worship, is one reason why so many who grew up in other denominations have gravitated to the Episcopal Church.

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In being the Church of Jesus, those of us called on to lead music are tasked with planning, rehearsing, leading worship though playing and singing, as well as leading the congregation in making music and in myriad other ways. So, what does a year in the **musical life of All Saints' look like?** The choirs sing at the 10am service all 52 Sundays a year, we have music at AS2 all 52 Sundays a year, we have 4-5 services of Choral Evensong, Advent Lessons & Carols, Christmas Lessons and Carols, Missa Mystica services, at which are sung great choral settings of the Mass, 5 services in the Style of Taizé, the great services of Christmas Eve and Holy Week and Easter, music at Noonday Prayer 2 or 3 times a week — and, under the umbrella of Music Guild and as an outreach to the greater community, our chamber music series (which typically consists of 4 concerts), guest groups such as Golden Bridge and Tesserae (and this year the Canterbury Cathedral Choir), and our Spring Concert, which is normally sung by All Saints' Choir

with full orchestra. And then there are the rehearsals with All Saints' Choir, Parish Choir, Choristers and all of the musicians who make all of this happen. And, presenting all of this music is about more than just singing or playing the notes, it's very much about interpreting and bringing out the meaning in the words and music and conveying that to the heart of the listener. All of this takes a great deal of time, and this gives you a sense of a full season at All Saints'.

So what gives a busy year such as this its rhythm? That can be easily answered – the Liturgical Year! We are fortunate to have this built in framework on which to focus and plan. It also provides the opportunity to relish in much loved traditions, as well as to bring in new music and new ideas. Telling the story of the life of Christ as we walk through the church year, from Advent and Christmas, though the seasons of Epiphany, Lent, Eastertide and finally Pentecost – rather than feeling like a repetitive exercise, seems to bring a freshness and new life as we take the journey each year. Much of what I do involves planning music for each of these services. For each week, the hymns, anthems, service music, communion music and so forth are chosen to go along with (reflect on or highlight) the lessons from the lectionary for that day. It's not just that we like this hymn, or "that's a beautiful anthem", let's do it this week or that – no a great deal of time and intentionality goes into planning services so that the readings, sermon and music all resonate together. [STOP HERE]

What about congregational music? I think that the music sung by the whole congregation, hymns, psalms, service music and other music, such as Taizé or similar

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sacred songs, is of the utmost importance — and I'm happy to say that this is a congregation that sings! [and we are fortunate to have a room that helps that to happen]. An article I was recently reading by Andrew Reid talks about the importance of both "specialists" and congregations in making music in the church. By "specialists" he means trained musicians such as choirs, organist, instrumentalists and others. He mentions the heritage in the Old Testament of skilled singers and musicians and the legacy of David's psalmody, but he also mentions that "Jesus and his disciples sang a hymn before ascending the Mount of Olives without specialists. And nowhere in Acts or the Epistles do we get a sense of specialists leading music in the prototypical liturgy." Happily for us, it need not be "either - or", the two types of making music both have their place and bring their own special contribution to the worship experience! This brings me to the Hymnal. Along with the Bible and the Prayerbook, the Hymnal is our most importance resource for worship and growth in the Christian faith. Hymns bring together great music and great texts; they are rich source of theology and scripture, poetry, and preserve words and tunes that have stood the test of time - there is a reason why these many hymns have been sung for centuries, and are beloved around the world today!

Along with traditional hymns, the *Hymnal 1982* sought to "reflect the nature of today's Church by including the works of contemporary artists and works representing many cultures, and to strengthen ecumenical relationships through the inclusion of texts and tunes used by other Christian traditions." And subsequent to the Hymnal 1982, supplements such as *Lift every Voice and Sing, Wonder, Love and Praise*, and *Enriching Our Worship*, have brought much variety and many more options for congregational