

Chapel of the Cross
Celebration of Holy Eucharist & Annual Meeting
January 29, 2017
10:00 am

Welcome: Ben Robertson

2017 Annual Meeting Called to Order at 10:05 am by Ben Robertson

Introduction of Vestry Nominees: Ray Balentine, Amanda Camp, George Ezell, Rebecca Haas, Suzanne Files, Ashley Herden, Lesley Kinney, Debbie Lominick and Jim Russell. Ballots were given out. Ben reminded members that, in order to vote, you must be a confirmed Episcopalian, at least 16 years old and a member of the parish.

Prayer: Ben Robertson

Service continued with 1st Reading, Psalm 15, Hymn 593 and Gospel

Annual Reports

- **Davis Frye, Senior Warden**: Davis said his experience serving as Senior Warden has been very rewarding. He has seen the inner-workings of the Chapel. He has witnessed a strong and devoted parish. He said we are a diverse group and have had healthy disagreements. He reminded members of the Rector Search and stated some of the initial needs of the parish of what they stated they wanted in a Rector “positive attitude, good speaker, engaging”. Davis said that Ben Robertson has been a blessing for this Church. He told members how great the Chapel staff is and how blessed we are. He encouraged us to get to know the Chapel. Davis discussed the Capital Campaign and thanked his wife Martha and Malorise and Brian Martin for co-chairing Capital Campaign. He stated it has been a great challenge. We have 111 pledges and 3.3 million dollars. Over \$400,000 has been deposited in a bank account. We initially had a 8.5 million dollar project. Davis confirmed we are a financially stable parish, and we will minimize our debt. The next 12-18 months will be a ‘quiet, planning phase’. Davis stated it takes a lot of people and loving hands to make this Church work. He challenged members to volunteer. He concluded by thanking Will Compton, Ben Robertson and Vestry members.
- **Jon Woodward, Junior Warden**: Jon gave an overview of completed projects in 2016. The Education Building had leaks fixed, EYC area was painted and PDO received their license. The Parish Hall light fixtures and video equipment were fixed. The driveway has been repaired several times. They are reviewing the Cleaning Service. Trees have been hauled off. An engineer has looked at the Deweese House. It will be painted. Jon thanked Cheryl Welch and Brenda Fortenberry for their work on the landscaping of Chapel. Jon reminded members that the headstones were cleaned and cracks in Chapel have been fixed. The electrical wiring has been completed. The flooring in the Chancel area will be re-done in February and the windows were recently washed.

Vestry confirmed election of Amanda Camp and Jim Russell to the Vestry. Additional ballots were handed out for 2nd ballot.

- **Oscar Hartman, Treasurer**: Initially, the proposed budget showed Chapel as \$36,000

deficit. We were able to turn that around and finish the year with a \$28,000 profit in 2016 (actual income \$25,000 over budget and expenses were \$40,000 under budget). He is able to send anyone the 2016 actual/expense item report if interested. He stated that we are looking forward to a healthy financial year moving forward.

- **Ben Robertson, Rector**: He wanted to focus on the word, “thankful”. He is thankful for all that has happened in 2016. He thanked the Vestry and stated we are a healthy, vibrant congregation. He gave thanks for the giving towards the Capital Campaign and Annual Fund. He enjoys working with our competent and hard-working staff. He is pleased with the growth of Chapel of the Cross. We have seen a 10% increase this past year (Sunday attendance is stronger and increased number of new members). The Director of Children’s Ministry is now a full-time position. Ben thanked all our ministries including Our Daily Bread and Stewpot. He thanked Will and announced Will has been promoted to Associate Rector. Ben thanked his wife, Ellen. He also thanked the members for being so friendly and welcoming and concluded by saying, “the best way to grow a Church is a personal invitation from one person to another.”

Service continued with Prayers of the People, Peace and Announcements.

Vestry confirmed election of George Ezell and Debbie Lominick.

Shirley Abney made announcement of giving towards Our Daily Bread during Offertory.

Service continued with The Presentation, Lord’s Prayer and Communion

- **Outgoing Vestry Members**: Ben thanked outgoing Vestry members: Mac Brown, Tell Flowers, Sloan McKellar and Senior Warden Davis Frye.
- **Commission of New Vestry Members**: Amanda Camp, George Ezell, Debbie Lominick, Jim Russell and Youth Representative, Grayson Guillory

The Annual Meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am

Respectfully submitted by Grace Simmons, Vestry Clerk