

**St. Mark's Episcopal Church**  
**Vestry Meeting Minutes**  
**December 3, 2019**

**Opening Devotion:** The meeting was called to order by Jim Bailes at 7:02 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Alexandria, Virginia. The Rev. Elizabeth Gardner led the Vestry in prayer.

**Present:** Jim Bailes, Rob Bluey, Eric Bryda, Charlotte Brown, Rodney Fisher, Nihal Masih, Tracy Tienken, David Walton. **Absent:** Belinda Appiah.

**Senior Warden's Report:** Jim Bailes announced Pam Hamrin resigned from the Vestry on Dec. 1.

**Guest:** Jim Bailes welcomed the Rev. Elizabeth Gardner, candidate for rector of St. Mark's. Members of the Vestry and Rev. Gardner made introductions and conversed for approximately one hour about a range of topics, including her path to the priesthood, her vision for St. Mark's, top ministries of interest, preaching, family and youth outreach, and matters related to leading a congregation. Rev. Gardner asked members of the Vestry to describe St. Mark's and inquired about the church's finances.

**Resolution 1**

**Whereas**, the Discernment Committee recommends the Rev. Elizabeth Gardner to serve as the next rector of St. Mark's, having passed a background check and receiving approval from the Bishop, be it **Resolved** that the Vestry affirms the Discernment Committee's recommendation and calls the Rev. Elizabeth Gardner to serve as the next rector of St. Mark's Episcopal Church.

*Jim Bailes made the motion, Tracy Tienken seconded, and the Vestry voted to approve. Following the vote, the Vestry made a formal offer to Rev. Gardner, who accepted and agreed to work with Mr. Bailes on a letter of agreement. Mr. Bailes will notify the Diocese of Virginia.*

**Resolution 2**

**Whereas**, the Discernment Committee, led by Bonnie Wilkins and including members Ashley Bryda, Eric Murchie-Beyma, Sheryl Sims, and Mary Jane Stockstill, having presented a candidate for rector to the Vestry, be it

**Resolved** that the Vestry discharges the committee of its duties and thanks its members for their leadership during this time of transition and diligence throughout the search process.

*Jim Bailes made the motion, Tracy Tienken seconded, and the Vestry voted to approve.*

**Adjournment:** Jim Bailes made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m., Tracy Tienken seconded, and the Vestry voted to adjourn.