

The Church of the Good Shepherd

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Minutes for August 24, 2021 at 6:30 PM Vestry Meeting, first in person Vestry meeting in over a year, due to the pandemic. We met socially distancing outside in the courtyard.

Clergy and Staff: Arianne Rice+

Officers present: Tina Thomas (Sr. Warden), Bill Baker (Junior Warden), Bill Nesbitt (Treasurer) Cynthia Fraser (Registrar)

Vestry members present: Missy Adams, Liza Ebeling, Jill Hanson, Harry Gormley Jr., Brooke Riegel, Marge Rodgers, Barry Rollins, Rebecca Williams

Vestry members absent: Mary Ellen Gervais

WELCOME AND GROUP CHECK INS:

Arianne+ welcomed us back since we had not met in person for over a year. The check in question was **Lectio Divina – 1 Corinthians 13** “If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end.”

Paul describes what love is and what it isn't. How do you hear this call to love point towards the life of our community?

This is a personal passage. Paul compares his speaking skills, generosity and knowledge as nothing in comparison to how he embodies love. Does this speak to you personally? If so, in what way(s)?

How do you think this passage might inform our work as a Vestry to “walk in the way of love” through this year?

Many people mentioned the need for compassion and patience in the coming year and some spoke of the need to help our various ministries, including thinking of the recent current events in Haiti and Afghanistan. Others thought we need to look inward to the needs of our own community, the parents with kids in school and our seniors who are isolated during the pandemic.

MEETING:

RECTOR'S REPORT:

Arianne + asked that the Vestry approve \$5,000 for 5 days of Ann Mellow's time including leading our Vestry retreat this year on September 11 from 9:30-12:30 PM. Marge made a motion that the Vestry approve the funds and Liza seconded, and the motion was approved. Jill Hanson abstained from voting as she did not attend the June meeting with Ann Mellow.

Barry mentioned with the 20th anniversary of 9/11 coming up, he thought it would be nice if our church would ring the bell at 8:35AM in remembrance of those who died. Everyone agreed it was a great idea, and Harry agreed to ring it.

Arianne+ said last Sunday had 27 parishioners in person which was an uptick in in-person attendance. She also mentioned there have been a lot of baptisms and funerals. She also asked that the Vestry approve a paid month of sabbatical for Kim Chalmers who has worked so tirelessly during the pandemic on behalf of the church. Arianne+ said Kim would like to travel home to Australia to see family, and they would agree on a mutually agreeable time for her to be away for a month. Tina made a motion that we give Kim a month of paid sabbatical and Bill Baker seconded it, and it was approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Bill Nesbitt reported that the church is having a cash crunch, and it often happens in the summer that income lags behind due to vacations, so he asked any Vestry members who can pay their pledges for the year now, he would appreciate it.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT:

Bill Baker took the Vestry on a tour of all the improvements to the church and Day School over the summer. We all wore masks and were socially distancing. First, he showed us the library which had asbestos removed and the ceiling replaced with new lights. The cinder block was replaced with drywall and they put in new lights for the Tiffany window and created access to be able to replace the lights for the stained-glass window. Several people helped inventory the books and consolidated them on two walls. The rest were given to charity. We still need to replace the floor and wall to wall carpet in the hallway and offices. There are many portraits of former rectors who will need a new home. The library will now be a multi-purpose room for conferences, formation and they need a nicer table and new furniture to accommodate the new uses of the room since the Day School will be using Room 14.

Bill then showed the Vestry several places in the Nave where there is water damage, which will require a lift to repair the damage that will have to be left in the Nave over many days.

He put in new lights in the copier room, and Room 14 will be the Nursery, and it was painted and has new lights.

Arianne+ mentioned that the Foyer needs to convey that this is both a church and school, and she is hoping a committee will form to address these issues in both an affordable and compassionate way. She said the Counselor may leave in 2022 and no longer need her space.

The Choir Room is now the old Rug Room. The school bought a piano to thank the church for giving up the old “Choir Room” downstairs to accommodate the growing needs of the Day School. Several people helped move all the music upstairs, and it will need to have the carpet taken up and the room painted.

There is asbestos in the Hall Closet that needs to be attended to and the “Serving Room” painted. The Hospitality Committee is working with Kim on how to share the kitchen and Serving Room with the Day School.

Arianne+ said we need a committee and someone to help continue the conversation on how we share our space with the school.

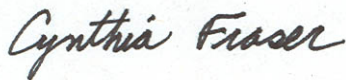
COMMITTEE REPORT:

Liza reported that the Day School has full enrollment of 136 kids and everything is going well for the new school year, and that the school is very appreciative that we gave up the “Choir Room” and moved the choir rehearsals to the Rug Room.

Arianne+ then invited the Vestry to walk over to the Rectory to see the brick work completed on her driveway area by the stream and the tree pruning near the Rectory.

The meeting adjourned around 7:35PM.

Submitted by Cynthia Fraser, Registrar for the Vestry



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