

## The Church of the Good Shepherd

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Minutes for February 15, 2022 at 6:30 PM Vestry Meeting, held in person in the library and on zoom due to the pandemic.

**Clergy and Staff:** Arianne Rice+

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

**Vestry members present:** Grace Belkot, Jill Hanson, Mary Ellen Gervais, Harry Gormley, Brooke Riegel, Marge Rodgers, Barry Rollins, Charles Warren

### **WELCOME AND GROUP CHECK INS:**

Arianne+ started with a “Prayer for the Parish” from the Book of Common Prayer and said this was mainly an onboarding meeting for the new Vestry members. The check in question was, “What is a challenge and what was a joy in your life today?”

Arianne+ went over the roles and responsibilities of the Vestry members and said there is a Google drive set up with the Vestry handbook, which has the mission statement for the church along with the rules and responsibilities of the Vestry.

### **MEETING:**

#### **RECTOR’S REPORT:**

- Worship continues to be a smaller but steady presence, online and in-person.
- It is hoped that in Lent we will be able to lessen the restrictions at worship regarding mask mandates.
- The Vestry Retreat on 2/26 will be a time to be present to who we are now as a community of faith and look towards the year to come in setting measurable and faithful goals for 2022.
- She met with two seminarian candidates from our diocese, in-person and over Zoom. One candidate also met virtually with a small committee. Arianne+ decided to move ahead in the call process with that candidate. This decision was affirmed by Bp. Ihloff at a meeting earlier this month. She announced that Mark Lobb, who will be graduating from Sewanee in May, has accepted the call to be the Assistant Rector at Good Shepherd and will hopefully start in June.
- She was thrilled to announce that we can offer a robust series of formation programs for children and adults in Lent! The Rev. Caroline Stewart will lead a weekly Wednesday night series on Zoom and a Saturday morning retreat in April. She will lead a Sunday morning series between worship services on Prayer. Together with St. Thomas, Garrison Forest we are doing a Zoom evening with children and parents as well as a Meditative Walk at Irvine Nature Center for families around practices in Lent.
- Lauren Rohrs completed her (almost) two years at Good Shepherd as our P/T Communications Coordinator. We hope to hire a Parish Administrator in the weeks ahead

and need to work with Finance, Personnel Committees to do so. This is an important and much-needed role at our church.

### **SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT:**

Tina Thomas met with both the new vestry members, Charlie Warren and Grace Belkot. Both are excited to join the group. Charlie talked about how he might be able to take on the annual Stewardship program. Grace mentioned that she was also interested in helping with Stewardship as well as helping with the website. Tina also asked if Grace would be able to reintroduce the "Shepherd of the Day".

### **JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT:**

Bill Baker reported the following:

**Bell Tower:** because of a leak into the church, the bell tower was inspected. The North side of the tower has extensive damage. The other three sides will be opened and inspected for additional damage. We will receive an estimate for repairs. Bill sent an estimate for the bell tower repairs the next day after our meeting. The estimate to repair the East side of the bell tower was \$4,600. The North, West & South sides also need repair. The estimate for these is \$9,300. The Vestry approved these expenses by email.

### **Completed projects:**

- The choir room doors have been redone to meet the Fire Marshal's specifications.
- A new sump pump and back-up battery were installed in the basement
- The kitchen has been professionally cleaned.

**Church capacity:** The fire marshal determined that capacity of the church is 245, including choir and clergy.

**Parish Hall floor:** During Spring Break for the Day School, the floor in the Parish Hall will be completely refinished using water-based stain/sealer vs. oil base. This is approximately 10-15% less expensive.

**Signs:** The two signs at either end of the parking lot on Carrollton have ended their useful life and are beginning to significantly deteriorate. The options for new signs are in process.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Bill Nesbitt presented the Treasurer's Report.

### **TREASURER'S NOTES/COMMENTS:**

- The only extraordinary item is the unbudgeted expense of \$4,650 for the emergency repair of the bell tower
- Pledges for 2022 stand at ~\$345K. This is still \$40K below our budget of \$385K.

- January was not kind to investors, including our endowment funds – balances are down about \$28K from year end 2021
- We hope to post a job for a new Office Administrator at 25 hours per week. This position will be eligible for benefits – which could impact our salary and related expenses budget.

Bill thanked Kim Chalmers for her help in setting up a new accounting system where they can compare the budget month to month and see more readily if we are meeting our goals. He showed this on the screen.

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION 01/31/22:**

- Good Shepherd remains in good financial shape
- Investments and Bank accounts = ~\$1.43 million
- Operating Account balance = 69,134
- Liabilities = \$9,992 (J2A pilgrimage and memorial funds)
- Total Equity = ~\$2.95 million

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY 01/31/22:**

- Non-budgeted expense of \$4,650 was booked for the emergency repair of the bell tower.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Arianne+ said we need connect people in the church to all of our committees.

Mary Ellen Gervais asked about Reparations, and SLYC will be applying for the upcoming grants available through the Diocese through money they have collected for Reparations from Bishop Sutton’s initiative.

**Outreach Committee:** No report

**Formation:** Need to reengage. During Lent, Arianne+ mentioned that the Rev. Caroline Stewart will be leading some Lenten activities on zoom and in person, and that Arianne would lead a Bible Study between the two services on Sunday. There will also be activities for families on Zoom and at the Irvine Nature Center with St. Thomas- Garrison.

**Children, Family and Youth, the Worship Committee and Buildings & Grounds** all need re-engagement.

**Personnel** has been meeting.

**Day School Board:** Brooke Riegel will start as the new Liaison in the Spring.

Arianne+ announced that our Vestry retreat will be held at the Diocesan Center at the Cathedral of the Incarnation, 4 University Parkway, on February 26 from 9-3 PM and Ann Mellow will be our facilitator. This retreat will be about setting goals for the church for the year.

