

The Church of the Good Shepherd

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Minutes for February 21, 2023 at 6:30 PM Vestry Meeting, held in the Parish Hall.

Clergy present: Arianne Rice+, Mark Lobb+

Officers present: Kirsten Lavin (Sr. Warden), Bill Nesbitt (Treasurer), Cynthia Fraser (Registrar)

Vestry members present: Cathy Easter, Mary Ellen Gervais, Jill Hanson, Marge Rodgers, Cheryl Seal

Absent: Bill Baker (Junior Warden), Grace Belkot, Barry Rollins, Charles Warren

WELCOME AND GROUP CHECK INS:

Arianne+ welcomed the new Vestry members and the check in question was “Name three people living or dead you’d invite to a dinner party”, so we could learn a little about each other.

She said the directory and information will be on a new Google drive. Arianne+ said we needed to pass a motion for a housing allowance for Mark and her. Kirsten read the motion.

2023 Clergy Housing Resolutions

Motion Whereas, Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code permits a minister of the gospel to exclude from gross income a church-designated allowance paid to her as part of her compensation to the extent used by her for actual expenses in owning or renting a home; and Whereas, The Rev. Arianne Rice is compensated by The Church of the Good Shepherd exclusively for services as a minister of the gospel; and

Whereas, The Church of the Good Shepherd does not provide The Rev. Arianne Rice with a rectory, therefore, it is hereby resolved that \$50,000 be designated as housing allowance.

Motion Whereas, Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code permits a minister of the gospel to exclude from gross income a church-designated allowance paid to him as part of her compensation to the extent used by him for actual expenses in owning or renting a home; and Whereas, The Rev. Mark Lobb is compensated by The Church of the Good Shepherd exclusively for services as a minister of the gospel; and

Whereas, The Church of the Good Shepherd does not provide The Rev. Mark Lobb with a rectory, therefore, it is hereby resolved that \$57,000 be designated as housing allowance.

The question was asked if this is part of the church audit, and it is not. Marge seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

Bill mentioned that two Vestry members still have not pledged and asked them to please do so. He also mentioned that the Audit was complete.

TREASURER'S NOTES/COMMENTS:

1. Our financial condition remains guarded
2. The annual audit was successfully completed in January
3. Annual giving income for January was significantly lower than last year (almost \$54K)
While there is no cause for alarm this early in the year, we will need to monitor this source of income closely.
4. Our total equity is down \$157,921 compared to last year, reflecting our use of endowment funds for operations and repairs in 2022.
5. Our "final" budget deficit in 2022 was \$76,763

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION 01/31/23:

1. Investments and Bank accounts = ~\$1.28 million
2. Operating Account balance = \$45,068
3. Liabilities = \$14,750 (J2A pilgrimage, memorial funds, \$1,500 due to the endowment accounts, and the security deposit for rectory rental (\$4,450)
4. Total Equity = ~\$2.70 million

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY 01/31/23:

1. Pledge income is down ~\$53,800 compared to January 2022
2. Salaries are up ~\$7,500 compared to last year
3. Utilities were ~\$1400 more than in January 2022

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT:

Bill Baker was out sick, but filed this report by email.

- **School classroom floors:** In the Fall of 2022, a small area of the floor in classroom 7 was dipping. Walking on the floor caused it to move down and vertically. It was inspected and required asbestos abatement. 15sq. ft. was opened and uncovered the floor joists were rotten (see attachment). The problem was structural and under the Cost Share Agreement, is the responsibility of the church. We are requesting a transfer from the Disciples fund for the total repair cost of \$3,162.25 to reimburse the school.
- **Ongoing floor issues:** On January 31st, we met with Waverly Construction to inspect the entire lower floor of the school. Unfortunately, they identified the same structural issues with the wooden flooring in additional areas (see attachment). We recommend maintaining a close eye on these sections of the floor to identify and repair any new areas quickly.
- **New signs:** the new signs on the campus are installed and will help visitors easily identify the various entrance locations. In addition, new sign poles have been installed at the corner of Boyce & Bellona and on Boyce near the school entrance.

- **Remaining roof replacement:** Sections 5& 9 remain to be replaced which will almost complete the roof project. This will be done this Summer after school is out. However the roof of the Foyer addition may need replacement also.
- **Ongoing Projects:** The 2019 Property Condition Assessment report identified a number of areas of the building that will need attention: new doors and windows, new HVAC systems, water heaters, exterior painting, restroom renovation, kitchen equipment, interior space renovation and several more. To address these will require a capital campaign.

OUTREACH REPORT:

Arianne+ provided an update on Camp Imagination which will be at Good Shepherd this summer for 2.5 weeks, culminating in their August 4th Showcase, and Jill talked about Loaves + Fishes.

RECTOR REPORT:

Arianne+ said our annual Vestry retreat will take place on March 4th at Good Shepherd with the Rev. Kristen Krantz facilitating. Arianne+ mentioned she is reading the book, “Vital Christian Community- 12 Characteristics of Healthy Congregations”. She said we have not met regularly and had meetings and regular in person church since 2019. We spent a lot of time working on our relationship with the Day School during Covid, and she thinks we need to think about “Who are we as a community in 2023? She hopes we will spend the retreat thinking about, “How is Jesus calling us now?” She does not want this to be all about the problems, but to listen and discern. She wants us to have a discussion with no decisions, we should not be trying to fix things at this retreat, but open our thoughts to possibilities.

She said before we have a Capital Campaign or a fundraiser, we need to discern the “Why?” behind these events. Jesus is our why, but who are we moving toward?

Sunday, March 5th Bishop Ihloff will be visiting Good Shepherd and will meet with the congregation and answer questions after the 10 AM service in the foyer.

She encouraged us to look at the videos and profiles for the candidates for Bishop of our Diocese. Marge will be voting on the Bishop at the Special Convention and asked if we had thoughts to share with her. Mary Ellen Gervais is our second delegate to the Convention which will be held on March 25th. There is a Meet and Greet at Redeemer on Saturday, March 11 from 1-3 pm if you are interested in learning more about the candidates for Bishop. This will also be live streamed.

Cheryl Seal asked about our mission statement which is not on our bulletin anymore. It is “a caring, compassionate community making a difference.” It was suggested we email or ask the congregation, “what does Good Shepherd need to be listening for?” “What brings you to Good Shepherd?” Kirsten suggested we should be “listening and reorienting” and looking for answers to this theme.

Cheryl Seal asked about First Sunday treats after the service because have been coming out of parishioners on the Hospitality Committee's personal pockets, but other Sundays are covered by the church?

Arianne+ mentioned that she participated in a Women's Retreat at the Redeemer. It was an event for our two churches, and she hopes to continue this collaboration with Redeemer.

WORSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE:

Arianne+ closed with pastoral concerns. She said the wedding for Grace was wonderful, and there are several funerals planned for this weekend, Robert Zouck and Walter Naef. Jean Moore's funeral has not been set yet. We then closed with the Lord's Prayer.

The meeting concluded at 7:42 PM.

Submitted by Cynthia Fraser, Registrar for the Vestry

Signature *Cynthia Fraser*

We had an email vote after the meeting on February 22nd. Kirsten put forth an email motion to approve the parochial report. The motion passed.

There was another email vote on March 13th from the Junior Warden, Bill Baker. He wrote, "We have two roof sections #5&9 (over the church offices and roof over the classrooms on the Boyce Ave. side) to complete. We have already purchased (with vestry approval) the slate necessary for the job. It will cost \$171,070 to complete these sections. This will come from the Improvement Fund. Work will start this Summer once school is out. However, we need to schedule the roofing company now to assure they will be available to meet our schedule. We need your approval of the \$171,070 expenditure for this from the Improvement Fund." The motion passed unanimously.