

The Church of the Good Shepherd

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Minutes for January 18, 2022 at 6:30 PM Vestry Meeting, held on zoom due to the pandemic.

Clergy and Staff: Arianne Rice+

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

Vestry members present: Missy Adams, Grace Belkot, Liza Ebeling, Jill Hanson, Mary Ellen Gervais, Brooke Riegel, Marge Rodgers, Charles Warren, Rebecca Williams

Vestry members absent: Bill Baker (Junior Warden)

WELCOME AND GROUP CHECK INS:

Arianne+ started with a prayer and by saying this was a crossover meeting. We had the outgoing Vestry members, Missy, Rebecca and Liza and the two new Vestry members, Grace Belkot and Charles Warren. She wanted to thank the outgoing members and welcome the two new members. Tina Thomas graciously agreed to stay on another year as the Senior Warden, and Cynthia Fraser is staying on an additional year as Registrar. We all introduced ourselves and said how long we had been on the Vestry.

We then broke in small virtual groups for a 15-minute Bible Study on a passage from the Feast of St. Peter. We were asked to discuss what does Jesus's direction to Peter mean to us personally, as a member of the Vestry and why does he repeat three times?

MEETING:

RECTOR'S REPORT:

Arianne + said there will be a Vestry retreat on Saturday, February 26 from 9-3PM off site and Ann Mellow will facilitate. She hopes we can gather for a meal together on Friday, February 25th before our retreat, but this is tentative due to the pandemic.

Our Christmas Eve services had 54 at 4:30PM and 52 at 9 PM and 128 views online. The Sunday service had 40-70 online and 15-30 in person.

She is encouraged that there are 7 seminarian candidates, and she hopes to have zoom interviews in February and is hopeful about 2. We hired Ruth Martin as a weekday custodian and will share this cost with Day School. She is part of the firm the church has used and is very reliable and trust worthy.

She is grateful to have some help in the form of guest preachers. Jim Holmes+, Judith Proctor+ and Dan Meck+ have all agreed to fill in for Arianne+ in the coming weeks. She is hoping to have a Lenten Formation, both in person and online, this Spring in the form of a Bible study. She is going on a silent retreat From February 7-11 in New York.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Bill Nesbitt presented the Treasurer's Report. He was pleased that although we began the year with a deficit we ended with a \$25K surplus. This was due in part to the fact we did not hire additional staff and the Day School repaid their cost share. He did say that pledges are down this year, but often people don't pledge, but still give later in the year. 96 families have given for 2022 and that is 10-12 less than last year.

TREASURER'S NOTES/COMMENTS:

- We ended the 2021 year with a surplus of \$25,431. Our budgeted deficit was \$81K
 - Unexpected cost share repayment was \$59K
 - Salaries were less than budgeted because we did not hire additional clergy and staff in 2021 as planned
- Repairs and maintenance expenses were ~\$22K higher than in 2020.
- Pledges for 2022 stand at ~\$324K. This is \$61K below our budget of \$385K. Without additional pledges we may need to revisit expenses in the 2022 budget as the year unfolds.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION 12/31/21:

- Good Shepherd remains in good financial shape
- Investments and Bank accounts = ~\$1.46 million
- Operating Account balance = 60,648
- Liabilities = \$100,859 including \$91,576 in prepaid pledges
- Total Equity = ~\$2.89 million
- Specific items of interest:
 - **Current Assets.** Our total current assets ended 165,881 higher than at year end 2020. \$60K of the difference is from the Improvement Fund, and the rest is from investment gains in our endowment funds.
 - **Current Liabilities.** Included in Current Liabilities is the J2A pilgrimage holdover, prepaid 2022 pledges of \$91,576, memorial funds of \$1,915, and \$2000 to be transferred to endowment funds.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY 12/31/21:

- Salaries and related expenses were less than 2020 in the categories of clergy salaries, choir, and organist.
- Benefits expenses were \$2,400 higher than last year due to increases in workers comp and pension contributions.
- Repairs and Maintenance costs were \$22K more than 2020, mostly due to the large amount of repair work to clean out and re-purpose various rooms in the facility.

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT:

Tina Thomas mentioned that the Capital Campaign is on hold while we work on our relationship with the Day School.

Tina Thomas's notes: As Arianne mentioned, I will be staying on another year as Senior Warden. I am starting my annual report with the above quotations. You might remember my theme last May was flexibility and ingenuity. I think this year will call for more patience than we can believe we can muster not to mention grit as we endeavor to solidify our relationship with the school and look to define our long-term goals.

I am looking forward to and hoping that every member of the Vestry will attend the Retreat Friday evening February 25th and Saturday February 26th. Arianne is planning on having Ann Mellow return and I know it will be both productive and entertaining. She is a marvelous speaker and facilitator.

Once again, until our church/school relationship building is on-going, it means that the Capital Campaign is on hold. I was hoping if Arianne had found a replacement for me, I could recharge, but actually, I think getting our ducks in a row first with the school, etc. is the first priority.

Thanks again to Missy Adams, Liza Ebeling and Rebecca Williams for serving so well as vestry members and I am very excited to welcome Grace Belkot and Charlie Warren.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Outreach Committee: Cynthia mentioned that the Outreach Committee delivered 195 meals to ER healthcare workers for both the day and night shifts at GBMC and UM St. Joseph's Medical Center to show our gratitude for their incredible dedication during the ongoing pandemic. Graul's discounted the boxed meals and both hospitals posted our deliveries to social media and told us how grateful their exhausted staff were to be remembered and given a nice meal! Mary Ellen said that SYLC was packed for afternoon tutoring recently.

Day School Board: Brooke Riegel has agreed to be the new Liaison to the Day School for the Vestry, since Liza Ebeling is rotating off this year.

Arianne+ briefly reviewed the other committees for the new members. They include Finance, Hospitality/Fellowship, Formation, Children, Family and Youth, Worship and Buildings + Grounds.

Arianne+ then asked for any Pastoral Concerns. She said Bill Baker is recovering from surgery and is doing well at home. We then closed with The Lord's Prayer.

The meeting adjourned around 7:56PM.

Submitted by Cynthia Fraser, Registrar for the Vestry

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