

The Church of the Good Shepherd

1401 CARROLLTON AVENUE, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21204-6518
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Minutes for June 21, 2022 at 6:30 PM Vestry Meeting, held outside in the courtyard at church.

Clergy present: Arianne Rice+; Mark Lobb; Bp Bob Ihloff

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

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

Absent: Cynthia Fraser (Registrar); Bill Baker (Junior Warden), Jill Hanson

WELCOME AND GROUP CHECK INS:

Bishop Ihloff opened with prayer.

Arianne+ opened with a check-in question.

What is bringing joy

What is causing concern and anxiety

REPARATION

Bp Ihloff --- shared his experience.

- College and the American dream – was available to everyone – original belief
- Became involved in civil rights movement

- Beyond slavery – Jim Crow laws
- Red lining – into the 80's – preventing home ownership

- Reparations does not make the playing field even – we don't have enough money to do this. It is not paying back but it is laying a foundation for younger people a "leg up".

- Reparation moneys are being awarded for young people of color and old people of color – one is in Calvert Co.

- Asked to investigate how churches benefited from slavery. Every church that was built before the civil war was built by slaves.

- Personal stories --- are what might make a difference in stimulating conversations about reparation.

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT:

Bill Baker was not able to be at the meeting – report submitted – below:

Bill Baker's Junior Warden Report:

- The wood exterior above the large stained glass window at the back of the nave was completely rotten, a large center board directly below the cross fell off. Both vertical and horizontal wooden parts were rotten. The repair/replacement these problems required scaffolding (see attached photo) because of the height. The work (which cost \$5,700) was performed last week. The replacements are a composite material, not wood.
- Church & School have decided on a sign design from Baltimore Signs and Graphics. This “main/primary” sign (attached-the first sign with the brick base) reflects the design of our buildings. Additionally, smaller signs will be placed at strategic locations to help direct people to the church, school, offices, columbarium and parish hall.
- All the gutters around the church buildings and the rectory have been cleaned.
- Several electric outlets in the foyer have been repaired. The light posts at the Memorial Steps have been repaired and are operational.
- The work to repair the cracked beams in the nave should start before the end of the month.
- The proposed curb (to protect the Memorial Steps) along Carrollton Ave. will be installed this summer.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Bill Nesbitt reported - Finance committee met last night. Now need to take funds from endowment fund. We did not come near to the pledges, and we have had some extraordinary costs.

Needs \$25K per month in the next 3 months for operating costs

Might have more costs coming. Including some rectory costs including a new roof.

Entertaining selling the house – will probably not do that –

- The dioceses against this
- This is very big benefit to draw clergy

At finance – time to make the congregation fully aware of the fact that we are operating at a deficit.

Need to identify other members of the congregation who could lead a stewardship committee.

Motion made by Brooke and Harry seconded to approve the \$25,000 per month

TREASURER'S NOTES/COMMENTS:

1. The impact of our projected deficit is beginning to become evident in the form of a shortage of operating cash. The business manager and I have concluded that we will need to transfer \$25,000 per month for the next three months in order to meet our payroll and other operating expenses through the summer. I am asking the vestry to approve these transfers from the Disciples Fund in the months of June, July, and August. Without additional sources of revenue this problem will persist through the rest of the year, especially given our increased payroll and utility costs.
2. The latest emergency repair to the back of the church (see Junior Warden report) means that another \$5,700 will be needed to fund this emergency repair. In addition, the repairs to the nave beams will also be made in the coming month. This will mean that Repairs and Maintenance will be ~\$23,000 over budget once these expenses are booked.
3. Asset balances (specifically the endowment funds) continue to be negatively impacted by the markets
4. We are projected to fall \$44K short of our annual giving budget
5. Expenses are now projected to be ~\$24K over budget, due mainly to utility costs (\$4,738), repairs & maintenance (\$12,373), and employee benefits (\$12,472). This deficit will increase by ~\$10,700 once the scheduled repairs referenced above are made.
6. Our projected deficit for the year is \$135,874.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION 05/31/22:

1. Good Shepherd remains in good financial shape, although current assets are \$167,700 less than last year, despite an increase in the Improvement Fund balance of \$17K
2. Investments and Bank accounts = ~\$1.38 million
3. Operating Account balance = \$39,736
4. Liabilities = \$9,923 (J2A pilgrimage and memorial funds)
5. Total Equity = ~\$2.90 million

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY 05/31/22:

1. Pledge income (\$240,960) is down \$18,400 compared to last year at this time
2. Regular contributions are down \$10,400 compared to last year
3. Non-budgeted expense of \$13,950 for repair of the bell tower and the beams in the sanctuary have driven our expenses higher than last year (and there is more to come)
4. Salaries are up ~\$18K over last year (in all categories) due to staff raises as well as increased costs for choir, organist, and supply clergy as well as the hiring of new staff. This variance will increase significantly for the rest of the year with the addition of the Assistant Rector this week

SENIOR WARDEN REPORT:

Thanks to all who assisted in the celebration coffee for Arianne & Bryan.

Please plan on attending the Church Picnic on June 26th, immediately following the service at 10:00.

Please plan on taking one page of the directory on Tuesday night and making calls to the congregation, inviting them to the picnic. I will bring your page to the vestry meeting on Tuesday.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE:

Camp Imagination is going strong.

Barry reported that ACTC was awarded the \$10,000 donation from COGS.

RECTOR'S REPORT:

Arianne handed out her report – will provide it electronically.

Arianne+ closed with pastoral concerns and a prayer.

The meeting concluded at 8:05 PM.

Submitted by Mary Ellen Gervais, Vestry

Signature ___Mary Ellen Gervais_____

Additional Vestry votes during the summer by email:

On June 22, 2022, Bill Baker asked for a motion through email for approval to transfer funds from the Disciples Fund for the bell tower repairs. The repairs to the bell tower and the recent repair to the gable were approved by vestry/executive committee. However, we need your approval to transfer the funds from the Disciples Fund to pay for these repairs.

1/27 Bell tower \$4,650
3/1: Bell tower \$9,300
6/21: Gable \$4,850

TOTAL \$18,800

The motion was approved.

On June 29, 2022 Bill Baker asked for a motion to repair the rectory for a new tenant. With Arianne moving out of the rectory and with our plan the to lease the house, there are some necessary repairs, replacements and additions in order to meet Baltimore County licensing requirements and to make the house a desirable rental property. These include installation of

wired smoke/carbon monoxide detectors, painting, plumbing, roof work, inspections, repairs and cleaning. The estimate for this is \$20,000. The funds for this will come from the Disciples Fund.

The motion was approved.

On July 11, 2022, Tina Thomas asked for a motion via email for “Whereas the Rev. Mark A. Lobb is employed as a minister of the Gospel by Church of the Good Shepherd in Towson, Maryland, which does not provide a residence for him, the vestry resolves that of the total annualized compensation of \$70,261 to be paid to the Rev. Lobb during 2022, that \$30,500 (housing amount) be designated a parsonage allowance within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code.” The motion was approved.