

## **The Church of the Good Shepherd**

1401 CARROLLTON AVENUE, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21204-6518  
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Minutes for May 12, 2020 at 6:30 PM Vestry Meeting by Zoom due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

**Clergy and Staff present:** Arianne Rice+, Van Gardner+

**Officers present:** Tina Thomas (Sr. Warden), Harry Andrews (Junior Warden), Cynthia Fraser (Registrar)

**Vestry members present:** Missy Adams, Bill Baker, John Bonn, Liza Ebeling, Harry Gormley Jr., Kate Knott, Bill Nesbitt, Brooke Riegel, Hillary Shaffer, Rebecca Williams

**Vestry members absent:** Jamey Hebb, Dick Reid (Treasurer) and Sarah Lemon (GSS Director)

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

The meeting opened at 6:30 PM by Zoom since everyone was social distancing due to the Coronavirus. Arianne+ opened with a prayer and asked the Vestry to check in with One thing they are “Grateful for” and one thing they need to “Let go of” during this unprecedented time.

Mabeth Hudson joined our meeting to lead the Vestry in a Lectio Divina of this passage from John 14:15-21, Jesus said, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.”

“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

We broke in three, small Zoom groups to discuss the passage and what word or phrase spoke to us. We then reconvened and shared our thoughts.

The business meeting began at 7:15. Arianne+ mentioned that Zoom can record the meetings and create a transcript. Tina Thomas made a motion that we record the meetings by Zoom and Harry Andrews seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

### **DAY SCHOOL REPORT:**

Liza Ebeling and Arianne+ discussed a misunderstanding with the Day School. A communication went out to the Day School parents that they could retrieve their children’s belongings, but the church and the building are still closed. We discussed the need for the Vestry to create guidelines to create an organizational structure between the Day School and the Church to improve Communications. The Diocese follows the Governor and Baltimore County Public Schools on opening up the church or Day School.

## **JUNIOR WARDEN REPORT:**

Harry Andrews reported that the AV system was almost completely installed. They realized after the installation, they will need a few more things, the cameras need to zoom and be sensory, need two mikes and a hanging mike for the choir. The total price will be around \$35K. Bill suggested a task force for the new video equipment. Motion was made for more money to complete the AV installation, and it passed unanimously.

## **RECTOR REPORT:**

Arianne+ thanked Rebecca and Cynthia for organizing the bell ringing at Good Shepherd each night at 7 PM for healthcare workers and for spreading the bell ringing to about a dozen churches of all denominations and some schools. She thanked Wim Cassard for his help each week in streaming the church services, he is the only one who knows how to stream on “You Tube”!

Arianne+ said she will continue with Morning Prayer through Pentecost on May 31<sup>st</sup> and then when we begin a new season, she may try a new type of worship.

The Annual Meeting should be May 17<sup>th</sup> but will be delayed; and the Vestry/Officers are not transitioning off yet. She talked about the importance of communication while we are not worshipping in church. It needs to “Clear, Consistent and Open”. She suggested the Vestry may need to meet more often and the building is still closed. The way we communicate to constituencies and the community will keep changing and we need to be thoughtful and pause.

Arianne+ talked about some of her guidelines: “Clarity is kindness”, “we are feeling beings who sometimes think”, “internal reality determines actions” and we need to have a “generous mindset during this time”.

Missy asked who is using our building. Arianne+ said teachers were going in at the end of school year but the school is still closed. She mentioned a cocktail party in the parking lot by some neighbors, she noticed on a walk.

We discussed the need to get back to Outreach and briefly discussed the ACTC food drive that Suzanne Whitney is organizing with “front porch collections”. Outreach had mentioned an idea of parking a truck in the church driveway that neighbors could put food in while social distancing. It belongs to the Roots and they would drive to an ACTC collection site once it was full. People living nearby did not like the idea so the idea was tabled.

## **PASTORAL NEEDS:**

Arianne+ mentioned some parishioners pastoral needs and asked if the Vestry had any to add. She also asked for prayers for all healthcare workers. We concluded by saying “The Lord’s Prayer.” The meeting adjourned at 8 PM.

Submitted by Cynthia Fraser, Registrar for the Vestry

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Attachments:

Junior Warden's Report

Treasurer's Report and Statement of Financial Position as of April 30, 2020