

The Church of the Good Shepherd

1401 CARROLLTON AVENUE, BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21204-6518
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Minutes for October 15, 2019 at 6:30 PM Vestry Meeting in the Foyer

Clergy and Staff present: Arianne Rice+, Rev. Van Gardner+

Officers present: Tina Thomas (Sr. Warden) by phone, Cynthia Fraser (Registrar)

Vestry members present: Missy Adams, Bill Baker, John Bonn, Liza Ebeling, Harry Gormley Jr., Kate Knott, Bill Nesbitt, Hillary Shaffer, Rebecca Williams, Sarah Lemon (GSS Director)

Vestry members absent: Harry Andrews (Jr. Warden), Dick Reid (Treasurer) Jamey Hebb, Brooke Riegel

September minutes were approved by email.

Van Gardner+ joined our meeting and will be attending future Vestry meetings.

OPENING PRAYER WITH WELCOME AND GROUP CHECK INS

Arianne+ asked us to each tell something we are grateful for today. It was Hillary Shaffer's birthday, so we all sang, "Happy Birthday"!

RECTOR REPORT

Arianne+ welcomed Van Gardner+ who will be assisting Arianne+ in several capacities. He will preside and preach on Sundays in consultation with the Rector. He will be a Missioner for Outreach and Community Engagement and be the primary contact for the SLYC Ministry at Good Shepherd. He will help cultivate relationships within Good Shepherd that serve our vision to be a "caring and compassionate community." He is a liaison to Outreach and is available if needed for urgent pastoral visits.

Van Gardner+ announced that the SLYC kids were working on organizing a Thanksgiving Dinner for the people they are grateful for, their parents, teachers and members of Good Shepherd. He will let us know when he has more details. He also said he will be meeting with each of us one on one to discern the needs of our community so he can better help our church.

Arianne+ announced she just drove back from the Clergy Conference in Ocean City. She talked about the success of our Microloan program and that we have received \$50K back on 11 of our 13 loans. She said she wanted courageous leaders to join Good Shepherd with our Microloan and SLYC ministries. She mentioned that a College for Congregational Development will open at Claggett in June 2020. The training program hopes to nurture and develop congregational development practitioners from within existing parish lay and clergy leadership.

She announced that Mabeth Hudson will be the lay preacher this Sunday, Oct. 20th. She also mentioned she will leading a forum on "Joy" as a two-part series on Monday nights in November. This is based on the The Book of Joy by the Dalai Lama, Bishop Tutu and Douglas Abrams.

Arianne + is leading a three-part series, on The Universal Christ, at the *Well for the Journey* in November. The class is full, but she is offering it again in February.

The church has had 2 baptisms, one wedding and one memorial service between the September and October vestry meetings.

SENIOR WARDEN REPORT:

Tina Thomas joined our meeting by phone from Florida. She talked about the new bulletin board she worked on recently. The right side will have photos of the Vestry members and the monthly minutes will be posted. On the left is a thermometer to gauge our Stewardship Campaign and a tree to populate with words that describe our church.

She mentioned that she and Harry Andrews met the neighbor near the church sign by Charles Street. She asked Rebecca Williams to help get a new sign, and it was suggested they coordinate with the Day School because they have nice signage and that the Day School logo should be added to the sign.

She talked to Sara Noon about an AV package and addressing audio problems. They discussed the need for more than one person to know how to use it and concerns about cost.

Rebecca Williams as the liaison to Buildings and Grounds discussed that she is working on getting sink in the Smith Room area fixed as it fell off the wall on Sunday.

JUNIOR WARDEN AND TREASURER REPORTS:

Harry Andrews and Dick Reid were unable to attend but filed reports by email.

DAY SCHOOL REPORT:

Sarah Lemon, Day School Director, said they have posted 2020-2021 new tuitions and tour dates and they are filling up quickly. So far, they have had a 100% return on all those who requested applications. Those who have taken tours have been very impressed and interested in applying. She announced the Day School Board Meeting is Oct. 24th.

Liza Ebeling, the Day School Liaison to the Vestry, mentioned that the Day School Fall Festival is this weekend from 10-12 and they can use volunteers and you can invite neighbors and friends. They will have games, crafts and a spooky room for Halloween. She mentioned their newsletter is working well with photos from the church, and Arianne+ has been helping with the newsletter and Kid's Chapel.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Arianne+ has asked Bill Nesbitt to help in finding more yoga instructors. They have one who can help on one Sunday a month but are still looking for more. Arianne+ spoke to a social worker who works with foster kids who might be able to help, and Hillary Shaffer mentioned she might know someone as well.

OUTREACH REPORT:

Hillary Shaffer reported for the Outreach Committee that Alex Fisher has joined the Outreach Committee as has Ellen Hoitsma. She mentioned Alex's interest in helping people on the East side and his work with a nonprofit that plants trees in urban areas. He then met a lady who gathers clothes and things that her neighbors need and disseminates them and that he has been helping her as well. Ellen Hoitsma has been working to reenergize the Terra Cycling Program at the church and has seen a significant increase in participation with the additional PR in the E-blast and bulletin.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT:

Bill Baker announced the Stewardship Program will begin this Sunday, and he will be speaking in church about their goal of \$425,000. He gave all the vestry and clergy their pledge cards and asked that we return our pledges before this Sunday, so he can announce 100% participation.

Arianne+ thanked Bill and Tina for their work on getting the Stewardship Program launched this year.

Arianne+ asked if the Vestry meetings could be permanently moved to 6:30PM and no one objected, so she was going to check with those absent, but thought we should plan on 6:30PM moving forward.

CLOSING PRAYER AND DISMISSAL:

The meeting closed in prayer inviting everyone's pastoral concerns and prayers for members of the congregation. After saying the Lord's Prayer, the meeting adjourned at about 7:45 PM.

Submitted by Cynthia Fraser, Registrar for the Vestry

Signature _____

Attachments:

Rector's Report

Senior Warden's Report

Junior Warden's Report

Treasurer's Report and Statement of Financial Position as of Sept 30, 2019