

**THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**  
**VESTRY MEETING**  
**Monday 19 March (due to canceled 12 March meeting)**

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**Clergy Present:** The Rev. Dr. Robert Sawyer, The Rev. Bill Bennett

**Vestry Members Present:** Don Blankenship, Jack Boyne, Van Giersch, Margaret Nobles, Shannon O'Brien, Kitty Pruitt, Ed Sharp, Sheldon Smith, Karen Sommerville and Jeffrey Whittaker

Meeting Called to Order by Rev. Dr. Robert Sawyer at 5:58 PM

Prayer led by Rev. Bill Bennett who also said a prayer for Saint Joseph on his feast day.

**Approval of the Minutes:**

**Motion** to accept minutes (made by Shannon O'Brien/Seconded by Van Giersch): **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Finance Committee Report:**

- Major expense variances in Property and Program categories are due to items that will be reimbursed in the future (i.e. registration fees for Women's Retreat, pending insurance claim for water damage).
- A trust draw will be required in May.
- The Finance Committee discussed membership in the Consortium of Episcopal Endowed Parishes (CEEP); if approved it will incur unbudgeted expense of \$750.00 for annual membership fee. The recommendation is to join the Consortium.

**Motion** to join Consortium of Episcopal Endowed Parishes (CEEP) and pay \$750.00 for annual membership fee. (Giersch/Pruitt). **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

- The committee will not have a regularly-scheduled April Financial Committee meeting due to conflict with the Bishop's Visit and reception on the 8<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Easter).

**Approval of Financial Reports:** [Attached]

**Motion** to accept March Financial Reports (Sharp/Giersch): **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Rector's Report:**

1. The Rector explained the decision to postpone the March Vestry meeting because of the threat snow.
2. He informed the Vestry that much of his personal library is being donated to Christian Library International in Raleigh that sends books to prisoners. He is in the process of moving out of his office.

3. The Holy Week and Easter schedule was presented. He will send this schedule by mail to the congregation.
4. On Holy Monday 2 April, the office will be closed.
5. On the First Sunday after Easter 8 April, Rt. Rev. Samuel Rodman will visit the Church of the Good Shepherd and administer Baptism and Confirmation. The Bishop was informed that this will be the same time as the Rock & Roll Marathon which requires many to take alternative routes for the 8:00 AM service. There will be a reception after the 10:15 AM service.

### **Associate Rector's Report**

#### **Rev. Bill Bennett**

1. The Canterbury Trip is still not filled, and it is not clear that it will be a go.
2. Rev. Dr. Cheryl McFadden will be back this coming Friday.

### **Senior Warden's Report:**

1. The Church cleanup was completed in the Church and outside. Mulch, pine straw and pruning were done on the exterior. Thanks to those who attended.
2. Thanks to those who participated in the Chili cookoff. It was a great success.
3. Everyone who attended the meeting with Pamela Wesley Gomez was impressed with her presentation and kind words on how well-organized the CGS is particularly the financial statements.
4. The Church website is up to date with financial statements and vestry minutes.
5. A parishioner offered to pay for the split pew repairs. Previously, these repairs were postponed because of a lack of funds.

**Motion:** To initiate repair of the cracks in the back of the pews in the Church by Alton's Custom Cabinets (whose work was previously evaluated and deemed satisfactory.) (Giersch/Nobles).

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Action:** Van Giersch will notify Alton's to schedule the repairs.

### **Junior Warden's Report:**

1. Power wash was done to the front of the Church. It was needed and cost \$350.
2. American Red Cross has toured the Church and requests CGS become a Service Center that directs those effected by a disaster to shelters and other facilities.

**Action:** Sheldon Smith will distribute a copy of the Facility Use Agreement to all the vestry members electronically. Unless there is objections or substantive questions, it will be signed and adopted.

3. There will be a presentation on Hazard Preparations for the Church to help churches be more sensitive to preventing terrorist activities within the facility. There will be a presentation in May by Ret. Highway patrolman Ed Mannis and representatives from CGS should attend.

4. Reminder that the 10:15 Sunday Service ushers should schedule a 7<sup>th</sup> greeter who is present in the Narthex during Communion.

### **Committees:**

#### **Strategic Plan** presented by Jack Boyne

- There were 20 comments by parishioners to the draft plan distributed in the Church.
- Comments did not disagree with the substance of the plan and were either requesting reordering sections or rephrasing. Two comments were not about the plan but were concerning the damage on the pews.
- The next steps are:
  - Include the maintenance or infrastructure upgrades in the yearly budget to minimize the impact of replacements.
  - Drew Elliot is going to help with marketing.

**Motion:** To adopt the 5-year strategic plan (Giersch/ Blankenship). **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **Fellowship** presented by Van Giersch (Report Attached)

- Chili Cookoff on 25 March was successful with Swindell Family receiving 1<sup>st</sup> prize.
- Pig Pickin' is scheduled on 5 May at Tera's Farm picnic shelter. This year members will cook an entire pig. Plans are well underway for a successful Pig Pickin' and Derby Celebration.

#### **Stewardship** presented by Jack Boyne (Report Attached)

- A successful meeting was held with Pamela Wesley Gomez who came to discuss stewardship with the committee and vestry on 8 March. Thanks to Rev. McFadden who knew Ms. Gomez from Yale and knew she would enrich us with her knowledge of stewardship.
- Fran Hoch, David Stroud and Julie Lowe have agreed to serve on the committee.
- Historical pledge information has been requested from the Parish Administrator to help prepare for the stewardship campaign.

**New Business:** None

### **For the Good of the Order**

Concern was expressed about people attending our services who panhandle in the church.

**Action:** Jeff Whittaker will distribute a notice to the BOD committee members that contain a script on how to gently encourage those asking for financial assistance to do so outside the Church.

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting (Whittaker/ Giersch). **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m. with a blessing by Rev. Sawyer

Jeffrey W. Whittaker, PhD  
Registrar

Attached:

- Financial Report
- Senior Warden's Report
- Stewardship Report
- Fellowship Report

*The next regular meeting of the Vestry is scheduled for 9 April.*