

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
VESTRY MEETING
Monday 8 October 2018

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Clergy Present: The Rev. Canon Patricia Grace, The Rev. Bill Bennett, The Rev. Dr. Cheryl McFadden

Vestry Members Present: Don Blankenship, Jack Boyne, Van Giersch, Jan Harris, Kevin LeCount, Margaret Nobles, Kitty Pruitt, Ed Sharp, Sheldon Smith, Karen Sommerville, and Jeffrey Whittaker

Also, in attendance was Caryl Fuller, Treasurer

Meeting Called to Order by Rev. Pat Grace at 5:58 PM.

Prayer was led by Rev. McFadden

Dwelling in the Word: 1 Kings 17:1-24. Discussion on following God’s plan by listening. Generosity was key to the story because the generosity didn’t run out. The essence is to trust in God’s plan and to follow it.

Old Business

Security Issues in the congregation–study committee. A committee to investigate security issues. Members with security, police or EMT backgrounds as well as some who objected to police presence at Sunday services will be recruited to propose security. This committee will address medical emergencies as well as protection from dangerous persons.

Action: Rev. Pat Grace will recruit security committee members.

Approval of the Minutes:

Motion to accept amended minutes (Proposed by Kevin LeCount/Seconded by Jan Harris):

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Finance Committee Report: Presented by the Treasurer, Caryl Fuller.

- September finished more favorably than projected due to higher than expected pledge and general offering revenue. This is an improvement from the third quarter of 2017.
- The loan balance for the Duncan-Giersch Parish Life Center is now \$740,000 after a \$10,000 principal payment from the Virginia Keaton Estate bequest.
- The Diocesan audit has been submitted but has not yet been posted.
- Department and committee budgets are now overdue.

Action: Rev. Pat Grace will request the auditors to present their finding to the Parish.

Action: The discretionary fund was not audited, and this will be requested in next year's audit if the fund is used. Currently, the discretionary fund is being utilized.

Approval of Financial Report: [Attached: 09 18 Finance Comm Report.pdf].

Motion to accept Financial Reports (Whittaker/Boyne): PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Rector's Report: Presented by Rev. Canon Pat Grace [Attached: Rectors report October 2018.docx]

1. **Stormwater Project**

The issue is that the project costs \$70,000 which will be reimbursed (City of Raleigh: 95% or \$66,500, Diocesan Green Grant up to \$5,000). After discussion, the consensus was for a design that did not have a cistern that could lower the cost to \$60,000. Besides the lower price, the maintenance would be less for a cistern-less design. A parishioner also offered to fund up to \$5,000 for the project. Thus, funding for the project is covered contingent on a firm design estimate. Wake County requested our answer tomorrow.

Motion: The Stormwater Project will be funded by borrowing from the Trust not to exceed \$70,000 and the money will be paid back from County Grant and Green Fund (LeCount/Sharp): **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Motion: A Green Grant will be submitted to the Diocese for the Stormwater Project. (LeCount/Sharp): **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. **Strategic Plan**

Bob Goodale has interviewed most of the staff to create job descriptions and a written report with recommendations. A committee of parishioners with human resource or organizational development background will develop a plan for how to improve our staff structure, job descriptions, personnel policy, and evaluation process.

3. **Baptismal Customary**

An enhancement to Good Shepherd's practice of baptism was discussed.

The following is proposed:

- The process of handling Baptisms will be documented in a Baptismal Customary that parishioners can request.
- One aspect of the process is that Baptisms will be five times a year:
 - Sunday after Epiphany,
 - Easter Vigil,
 - Pentecost,
 - All Saints Day,
 - Good Shepherd's Sunday

This will promote community among the parents and godparents of the baptized

- Baptism on other Sundays will be Sundays will be offered for pastoral reasons which are approved by the rector.

- The Saturday before the Baptism there will be a Baptism workshop for the parents and godparents.

Action: Rev. Grace will draft the Customary which will be presented to the Vestry.

Action: Rev. Grace will announce the Customary and that it will begin January 2019

4. Pilgrimage to Montgomery is being planned for Lent 2019.
5. Mutual Ministry Review. As part of the Letter of Agreement for the Interim Rector, there will be a discussion of how the Interim Rector, Vestry and Congregation are progressing during this interim year using a facilitator. The facilitator will be Rev. Canon Cathy Deats from the Diocesan office.

Action: The time and location need to be established at the next Vestry meeting.

Senior Warden's Report: [Report Attached: Senior Warden October 2018.pdf]

- Two- year appointment of the Chairs for Stewardship, Fellowship and Membership Committees

These critical committees require continuity to improve effectiveness. Thus, the chair will be a 2-year appointment. The chair will recruit a vice-chair who will serve the second year that the chair serves. When the chair's term ends, the vice-chair will become the new chair.

Motion: The chairs of the Stewardship, Fellowship, and Membership committees will be a two-year term. The chairs of these committees will appoint a vice-chair who will serve the second year and assume the chair at the end of the chairs' term. (Blankenship/Sharp): **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- The Storm Water project proposal mentioned in the Senior Warden's report was previously discussed.

Junior Warden's Report:

- Labor Day repairs were completed and are satisfactory.
- The Soup Kitchen
Ms. Tamara Gregory – Executive Director of the Shepherds Table Soup Kitchen requested upgrades on the Morgan Street entrance for the soup kitchen. Specifically,
 - Paint the hallway
 - Complete a security table near the entrance
 - Secure some spaces that are misused
 - Upgrade the area with paintings
 - Place signage with the logo of the table on the garage door.

These will be detailed after the City regulations are checked concerning the signage and the design is submitted and approved by the Vestry.

Committee Reports:

Stewardship – Presented by Jack Boyne (Report Attached: Stewardship Committee Report – October 2018.docx)

- Stewardship Kickoff Sunday 14 October. Message: Stewardship is what God is asking us to do to support God’s dream for the world through the church.
- A “BINGO” theme will be presented: a**B**undance, g**I**ving, ge**N**erosity, **G**ratITUDE, and **O**ffering.
- The parish mailing includes two-page folding piece containing:
 - Introductory letter
 - Q&A on Stewardship
 - Chart showing proportional giving at various incomes
- Parishioner’s database is more difficult to update than anticipated.
- The Stewardship celebration is on hold due to the full church calendar. If scheduled, the event will follow NC Alcohol Law Enforcement regulations which require a \$200 fee.

Fellowship- Presented by Van Giersch (Report attached: Fellowship Committee Report 10.7.18.docx)

- Planning for the Oyster Roast on 10 November.
- The Oyster Roast will be held at the Church with seating in Shepherds Hall
- Pageant scheduled for 16 December.

Christian Education-Presented by Margret Nobles

- Apple Pie Sale, where the pies were made by the EYC, was successful.
- Program to boost High/Middle School attendance is to provide a substantial breakfast. A signup sheet was circulated, and hearty breakfasts are being provided.
- Robin, the part-time assistant who manages the EYC has resigned as of 31 October. She was overcommitted with part-time work at Cheshire House, part-time at CGS and full-time college degree program. Plans to provide adult management of EYC are underway.

Communications/IT-Presented by Ed Sharp

- Looking to implement a method to search the CGS website.

Action: Ed Sharp will investigate and correct why the audio sermons are not working correctly on the CGS website

Membership- Presented by Karen Sommerville

- The new member’s class have started with 30 invited and 9 people attending.
- A Newcomers Lunch is scheduled for 21 Oct. in Shepherd’s Hall
- The committee concluded meetings that brainstormed other ideas to orient those new to Good Shepherd.

Legacy Guild-Presented by Kevin LeCount

- A meeting of the Legacy Guild will be 6th November.

Associate Rectors' Reports

Rev. Bill Bennett

- An adult series Sunday school offering review of "The American Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege, and the Bridge to a New America" by Jim Wallis will begin 21 Oct in the Library. It will continue for 6 weeks.
- The effort to rekindle the koinonia groups is well received. Notification will come by email for those who signed-up.

Rev. Dr. Cheryl McFadden (Report Attached: Office of Family Ministry October Vestry Update.docx)

- Spaghetti Lunch and Learn raised \$426.33 (YTD: \$1430.84 raised for youth programs)
- Lector/ Ushering training was successful with two lectors recruited.
- Outreach to those in the parish resulted in 102 calls between parishioners to help those in need.
- Youth presented Lumberton Mission trip 7 October to 35 parishioners in Shepherd's Hall.

New Business:

- To help the Search Committee prepare a historical profile of CGS, Rev. Pat Grace will facilitate three meetings for parishioners to tell stories about their life at CGS. These will take place during the Christian Education hour on 21 Oct., 28 Oct. and 4 Nov.
- The next Celtic Service will be held 6 January (Epiphany) and the theme will be Light and Dark.
- The Nominating Committee for new Vestry Members will meet in Rev. Pat Grace's office. This committee consists of the members who are leaving the Vestry this year.

Associate Rectors were excused and the Vestry went into Executive Session to discuss the search process

Search Committee – Presented by Don Blankenship

- Discussion and report were in executive session. The following committee personal change is public record.
- After prayerful consideration, Will Cherry realized that he could not give the time needed to the Search Committee. He resigned, and Martin Taylor was appointed to take his place. The Vestry applauded Will for quickly realizing the situation.
- Nomination of Martin Taylor was confirmed by an email vote of the Vestry. The following motion confirms this vote.

Motion: Confirms the email vote that Martin Taylor will take Will Cherry's position on the Search Committee (Blankenship/Smith): **PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m. with a recitation of the Doxology .

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey W. Whittaker, PhD
Registrar

Attached:

- Financial Report
- Senior Warden's Report
- Interim Rector's Report
- Stewardship Committee Report
- Fellowship Committee Report
- Family Ministry Report

The next regular meeting of the Vestry is scheduled for 12 November