

**THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
VESTRY RETREAT MEETING
Tuesday, February 18, 2020**

Vestry Members Present: Jack Boyne, Jan Harris, Christie Barbee, Jamey Bass, Maggie Fyfe, Anna Howard, Caryn Meade, Chas Sharp, Michael Springston, Sheldon Smith, Rob Zucker, and Cle Newsom-Registrar.

Absent: Kevin LeCount
Caryl Fuller, Treasurer

Clergy Present: The Rev. Imogen Rhodenhiser
The Rev. Joyce C. Cunningham

The meeting was called to order by Rev. Imogen Rhodenhiser at 6:04pm.

I. Opening Prayer:

Rev. Imogen opened the meeting with a prayerful review of the day.

II. Approval of the January Minutes:

A motion was made by Anna Howard to approve the January minutes. Seconded by Jan Harris. Motion carried.

III. Opportunity to Rent Space to Mennonite Church

Pastor Melissa Florer-Bixler from the Raleigh Mennonite Church attended and told us of her church's dilemma of having to find a new place to worship. The building they have used for many years has been sold and the new owner has other plans. They have the opportunity to re-rent from the new owner, Fletcher Foundation Academy, but no classrooms would be available.

Their needs include a worship space for approximately 70 people on Sunday mornings for approximately 3 hours. They typically offer educational classes from 9:30-10:30 and a worship service from 10:30-noon. Additionally, they would like an office space and a conference room where they can meet once a week. They would need 3 classrooms, 2 for adults and 1 for children. They have approximately 7 children in their church and are not opposed to having their children attend our classes.

Their worship service includes lots of singing, some liturgy, and a focus on discernment of preaching in the community. The latter involves their parishioners sharing their experiences. They also enjoy potluck dinners.

The Vestry members were able to ask questions to gain a better understanding of the Mennonite faith and rules. Rev. Imogen then asked that our Vestry members to send her any further questions or feedback after proper reflection.

IV. Rector's Report (Written report attached and made a part of these minutes)

Rev. Imogen discussed the progress for the Children's Minister position. The interview team consisted of Meredith Swindell, Dwayne Holloway, and Tristen Carpenter. The Vestry was delighted with the progress made thus far. Kirk Royal is now our new Parish Administrator and Katie Sheffel is our new part-time bookkeeper. Randy Coupland is familiarizing her with our records. Other activities can be read in the Rector's Report.

V. Senior Warden's Report (Written report attached and made a part of these minutes)

All information is contained in the written report.

VI. Junior Warden's Report (No written report submitted)

Jan handed out the revised Rental Policies for Parishioners and Non-Parishioners. The revision concerned the Usage Hours paragraph. She further discussed the bids for the air conditioner repair needed. The Building and Grounds committee will review all the bids once they are received.

VII. Ministry Team Guidelines and Clarifications

Rev. Imogen reviewed the new committees: Building and Grounds, Outreach, Communications, and Newcomers. Kirk and Rev. Imogen will meet with each committee to help with priorities. The Vestry was asked to reflect on who might be good fits for the committees.

She also passed out the book Radical Welcome by Stephanie Spellers. She asked each member to read the Prologue and Part I prior to the next Vestry meeting.

VIII. Vestry Reports Guidelines and Clarifications

Rev. Imogen approached the subject of using a Consent Agenda to make better use of the time at the actual Vestry meetings. She handed out an example from St. Swithen's Episcopal Church. As a new procedure, she would like all committee reports to be sent to Cle Newsom, as Registrar, one week prior to the Vestry meeting date. For March, all reports should be sent to me by March 9. Rev. Imogen will develop a Consent Agenda and I will send out a package to all Vestry members containing the Consent Agenda, the prior meeting's minutes, the wardens' and committee reports prior to the Vestry meeting. At the Vestry meeting, the Consent Agenda, and its reports, will be accepted with no discussion needed. Any wardens' items or committee items that need a motion will be in the regular business meeting agenda. These items should be sent to Kirk, as Parish Administrator, one week before the Vestry meeting so the business agenda can be composed. The Financial committee meets the Wednesday before the Vestry meeting so their report will be on the business meeting agenda.

This new procedure is thought to be temporary, as we would like to develop a drop box process so that all Vestry members can drop their reports to a folder, and all would be able to read and print reports once they are in the folder. Kirk will be working to set up this technology.

IX. Treasurer's Report (Written report attached and made a part of these minutes)

Jamey Bass presented the January financials. The notes from the latest Finance Committee meeting and Additional Financial Items are also a part of the Treasurer's Report. Please refer to the full report for additional reading.

X. Closing Prayer

Christie Barbee gave the closing prayer. Maggie Fyfe volunteered to give the Opening Prayer next month.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cle E. Newsom

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Registrar