

**THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**  
**VESTRY ZOOM MEETING**  
**Monday, March 15, 2021**

**Vestry Members Present:** Sr. Warden Christie Barbee, Jr. Warden Jennifer Tlusty, Jamey Bass, John Beck, Maggie Fyfe, Anna Howard, Susan Jackson, Caryn Meade, Chas Sharp, Michael Springston, Martin Taylor and Rob Zucker; and Cle Newsom-Registrar.

**Vestry Absent:** None

**Clergy Present** Rev. Imogen Rhodenhiser  
Rev. Joyce C. Cunningham

**Clergy Absent:** None

The meeting was called to order by Rev. Rhodenhiser at 6:02pm.

**I. Opening Prayer:**

Rev. Rhodenhiser led us with an opening prayer.

**II. Approval of the March Meeting Agenda and February Minutes**

Martin Taylor made a motion that the March Agenda and the February minutes be approved as submitted. John Beck seconded. Motion passed.

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

Rev. Rhodenhiser presented her report as well as the Addendum, also attached. As mentioned in her report, she discussed her meeting with Kristin Edrington, who will be ordained as a vocation deacon on March 20<sup>th</sup>. Rev. Rhodenhiser was impressed with her energy and thought she would be a gift to CGS. At about the same time, she met with Andrew Phillips, who is a long-time friend. He is a candidate for clergy. He could fill a Pastoral Associate Rector role and work into a preaching rotation. He has been ordained for 2 years. She discussed the possibility of having both of them join our staff with Bishop Sam Rodman, who agreed. In fact, Bishop Rodman indicated there may be funding available. After discussion by the Vestry, Chaz Sharp made a motion to support having both Ms. Edrington and Mr. Phillips start at the CGS when we are ready. Christie Barbee seconded and the motion passed.

The Addendum to the Rector's Report discussed having a third Warden for the 2021-2022 years. She has asked Martin Taylor to fill this role. The Warden of Administration would assist Rev. Rhodenhiser in identifying gaps in our current administrative operations, offer improvement ideas for new systems as needed, and provide another point of contact as we interview and onboard a new administrative staff person. After

discussion by the Vestry, Anna Howard made a motion to create the Warden of Administration role for 2021-2022 and to have Martin fill that role. Rob Zucker seconded the motion and the motion passed. The remainder of the Rector's Report can be accessed online.

**IV. Associated Rector's Report**

Rev. Cunningham's report can be accessed online. There was no further discussion.

**V. Senior Warden's Report**

Christie Barbee's report can be accessed online. There was no further discussion.

**VI. Junior Warden's Report**

Jennifer Tlusty's report can be accessed online. There was no further discussion.

**VII. Treasurer's Report**

Jamey Bass presented the February 2021 monthly financial recap. As expected, the general offering revenue was much lower than budgeted, but the pledge amount was \$32,000 greater than budgeted. The reason for the increase is likely due to timing. The January pledges were lower than budgeted, so the "increase" in February may be due to the timing of the receipt of funds. For the year, our revenue outpaced our expenses by about \$20,000. Anna made a motion to accept the February 2021 financial recap. Susan Jackson seconded and the motion passed.

The Finance Committee decided to make the April principal payment on the Parish Life Center (PLC) building in March instead of waiting until April. The earlier payment will save approximately \$1600 in interest.

Martin asked about the Tower Fund and our plans when these funds become unrestricted later in March 2021. Jamey responded that the Finance Committee had discussed using the funds for the next 2-3 principal payments on the PLC loan. The advantage of pre-paying the principal is the savings in interest, but the disadvantage is the loss of available funds if emergency repairs are needed. Jamey recommends that we keep funds available for emergencies. Christie and John agreed.

## **VIII. Serving on the Vestry in a Pandemic**

Rev. Rhodenhiser led a discussion of what is expected of the Vestry members, and what is expected by the Vestry members. The discussion led to the following conclusions:

- Committee reports should be completed and uploaded to the Vestry monthly folder by the Thursday preceding the Vestry meeting.
- Vestry meetings should continue on Zoom for now
- Vestry members should attend church whenever possible but with an awareness letting other parishioners have their turns. All are hopeful the attendance limitations will be increased in the near future. Rev. Cunningham shared the link for the Diocesan newsletter called "Please Note". The emails are sent weekly to the distribution list, and all parishioners can be on the list.  
<https://lp.constantcontact.com/su/QCPKOTo>
- Vestry members should review the committees and decide which one(s) would be right for them.
- Rev. Rhodenhiser presented focus areas of growing our relationship with:
  - God
  - One another
  - Our wider Raleigh and Wake County communityShe would like 4 Vestry members on each of the three points above.
- We need to be thinking of stewardship and
  - how we can tell the story of what we are doing,
  - how to make giving easy and accessible
  - how we can express thanks to those who have given

An outgrowth to the above discussion centered around our Easter services. How we will celebrate? Will we have flowers, singing and handbells? Rev. Rhodenhiser stated that Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will be online. The 8am indoor service will be for baptisms only, and with family members only. Rev. Rhodenhiser asked Susan, Maggie Fyfe, Rob, and John to work together to create ideas for our Easter worship. Maggie suggested we create a video with photos of our parishioners. (Update: Michael Springston has checked with Dave Roten, who is willing to help with the video.) Outdoor logistics will also be important in case of bad weather.

## **IX. Personnel Updates**

The Deacon and Pastoral Associate Rector have already been discussed. Rev. Rhodenhiser realizes that she will have more supervisory responsibilities.

**X. March Mini-Retreat**

The Vestry Mini-Retreat will be held March 27 from 9am until noon at the church. Rev. Rhodenhiser will send out a packet that will include discussion items to help each Vestry member prepare ahead of the retreat.

**XI. Closing Prayer and Adjournment**

Rev. Cunningham played a video with a musical prayer, called Simeon's Song.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm.

Respectfully submitted:

*Cle E. Newsom*

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Registrar