

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
VESTRY ZOOM MEETING
Monday, April 20, 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, Cle Newsom-Registrar and Kirk Royal-Parish Administrator.

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 6:00pm.

I. Opening Prayer:

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

II. March Minutes

At the time of the Zoom March meeting, we were under the impression that the Vestry could not officially meet unless we were in person. Therefore, Rev. Imogen informally asked the Vestry members to share how they are doing during the statewide stay-at-home orders, and solicited ways we could help our parishioners. No official minutes were recorded at this meeting. We have since received a legal opinion that our by-laws would allow for a virtual meeting.

III. Rector's Report

Several days ago, Rev. Caleb Tabor and Rev. Imogen discussed if we could offer joint services to the Cheshire House during the shutdown. The preaching duties would be shared with Rev. Tabor. By combining our services, it would reduce the number of recordings.

Rev Imogen noted that although we should take care of ourselves as best we can now, once we can come back together, there will be a stronger need to help others understand what has happened and how we can grow stronger as a parish.

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

Jack Boyne briefly discussed the telephone outreach to our parishioners during the corona virus pandemic. The effort was successful and church staff will be able to update our directory information once all of the information is compiled. More details can be found in the written report.

The Holy Huddles check-ins has been less successful. The Vestry decided to discontinue this initiative due to low participation.

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

Jan Harris noted her report includes updates on 2 continuing projects: replacing a component in the chiller and the Rain Garden. Details can be found in the written report. Jan is looking forward to viewing a Zoom Webinar entitled “Managing Empty Buildings in the Era of COVID-19” on April 21.

VI. Associate Rector Report

Rev. Joyce stated she enjoyed attending the Youth Confirmation Class, as well as the Adult Confirmation Class. She further indicated there is a desire to start a Zoom Bible study with Debbie Moyer as the leader. Rev. Joyce mentioned studying Acts, but Christie and Cle both stated the recent Bible classes with Rev. Nancy Allison were on Acts. No decision was made as to the study focus nor starting date.

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

Jamey Bass presented the March financial statements. The lack of in-person services has had a significant negative impact on the church revenue. Another concern was the amount spent on office supplies during the first 3 months of the year. Our Treasurer Caryl Fuller is investigating and will report in the future.

Our church has submitted an application through BB&T/Truist for the Payroll Protection Program. Unfortunately our application was not submitted by BB&T/Truist to the Small Business Association in time for the first round of funding, but will be re-submitted in the second round of funding. Further details can be found in the written report.

VIII. CGS Activities during COVID-19 Shutdown

Jack has prepared a draft letter to the congregation advising what we are continuing to do in the way of Worship and Outreach, and providing updates on our Finances. The letter will be sent as part of our weekly parish newsletter.

IX. Mennonite Proposal Decision

Rev. Imogen is excited that the CGS is being recognized as a partner that others would like to partner with. After discussion, the Vestry would like to enter a 12-month partnership with the Raleigh Mennonite Church (RMC) for use of our Shepherd’s Hall for their Sunday services. While there is still some details about competing needs for the same space at the same time, RMC has agreed to worship with our congregation during these few days of conflict. Chas Sharp made a motion to move forward with a 12-month partnership with the RMC to rent Shepherd’s Hall as a worship space with lease terms, including the need for classroom and office space, to be approved at a future Vestry meeting. Jamey seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Jack will work on a set of Frequently Asked Questions for a document for our parishioners. He invited the Vestry members to submit questions.

X. Adjournment

At 7:38pm, Maggie motioned the meeting be adjourned. Jan seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Cle E. Newsom

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Registrar