

THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
VESTRY ZOOM MEETING
Monday, July 20, 2020

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

Absent: Jamey Bass
Kevin LeCount
Caryl Fuller, Treasurer

Clergy and Staff Present: The Rev. Imogen Rhodenhiser
The Rev. Joyce C. Cunningham
Kirk Royal, Parish Administrator

The meeting was called to order by Rev. Imogen Rhodenhiser at 6:10pm.

I. Opening Prayer:

Rev. Imogene read from Thomas Merton's *The Seven Story Mountain*, originally published in 1948. Imogen's key point is that people are depending on your perseverance. The book is a spiritual autobiography of the author's initial struggle to become a Trappist monk.

II. Approval of the May Minutes

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

III. Rector's Report (Verbal)

Rev. Imogen participated in a silent retreat at the Valle Crucis mountain hermitage last week near Boone, NC. She described her experience as fruitful and is grateful for the staff and Vestry at CGS (and her husband, Giles) for supporting this time of seclusion to pause, reflect and commune with God.

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

Rev. Joyce's report starts on page 9 of the meeting package provided prior to this meeting. In addition to the report, she noted the Diocese has approved a proposal to allow Columbarium visits prior to Phase 3. Leon and/or Christie Barbee will need to be present when people are visiting the Columbarium during the pandemic.

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

Jack Boyne's report starts on page 7 of the meeting package provided prior to this meeting. The contract has been finalized with Campbell University Law School to use our space for fall classes. Thanks to Rev. Imogen, Jr. Warden Jan Harris, and Will Cherry for working on the contract. A protocol to manage the flow of Campbell personnel has been developed: Access from the outside to the Shepherd's Hall will be limited to glass entry doors between the sanctuary and the Parish Life Center, and students will be directed to move toward the elevator/elevator stairs to reach the 3rd floor. This planned route will minimize potential contact with our staff.

VI. Junior Warden Report (Written report attached and made a part of these minutes)

Jan's report starts on page 8 of the meeting package provided prior to this meeting. Two approvals are needed from the Vestry as noted in detail in the report. Motion #1 made by Jan to 1) proceed with the repairs and painting in the 1st Floor Gathering Room, 2) gratefully accept Elizabeth Gant's offer to repair and reupholster the room's furniture and 3) to wait on the floor covering and trim until a later date. Seconded by Anna. Motion carried. We anticipate the carpeting cost will be approximately \$5,000. Carpet tiles may be a better option and will be explored.

Motion #2 made by Jan to approve payment of \$2,851.78 to Stained Glass Associates, Inc. to repair the lower portion of the left hand stained glass window on the church's front porch. Sheldon Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried. Please note our insurance policy's deductible is \$3,000.

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

Neither Jamey Bass nor Caryl Fuller were able to attend. The Vestry was referred to the Finance Committee Notes and Treasurer's Report in the meeting package. Jack reported the church is in good financial health thanks to the generosity of our parishioners. Pledges for June exceeded the budget by \$12,000. Expenses have been managed well by clergy and staff. The Finance Committee recommended that we not take the initial trust draw as scheduled. At this time, the funds are not needed and can be taken later, if necessary.

The Audit Report was presented, and is a part of the meeting package. Jack made a motion that based on our auditor's advice; the CGS continue to use the cash basis of accounting instead of the accrual method. Anna seconded the motion. Motion carried.

VIII. Community Partnership Possibility: Growing Together Preschool

Rev. Imogen presented a partnership opportunity with Growing Together Preschool (GTP). This preschool's mission is to provide free early childhood education for three- and four-year old children living in low income housing in downtown Raleigh. Kathy Boos, Director and Lead Teacher of GTP is a member of the Raleigh Mennonite Church, which tries to provide a teaching assistant through its Service

Adventure program. A bus will pick the children up and deliver them to the preschool for afternoon learning; 1:00pm to 5:00pm. The bus will then deliver the children back home. Rev. Imogen discussed renting making our nursery area available to the GTP, and Ms. Boos was delighted from her tour of our facilities. The Vestry was excited about the prospect of being involved with young children and aiding their education. Caryn asked how many children might be involved and the answer was 8-10. As we have done with other groups, the cleaning responsibilities need to be ironed out. No decision was made during this meeting.

IX. Discussion/Vote: Redecorating First Floor Gathering Space

This vote was taken and approved earlier in the meeting, as discussed above.

X. Discussion/Vote: Raleigh BoyChoir Rental Proposal

Just prior to our Vestry meeting, Jack provided the proposed Key Agreement Terms for the use of our church by the Raleigh BoyChoir (attached). They would use the second floor and share the office with our CGS Director of Music Ministries. Will Cherry will review the lease agreement. Anna made the point that leasing policies and terms should be consistent with our partners. Rev. Imogen discussed the differences of renting building space versus taking care of our neighbors. A motion was made by Maggie Fyfe to approve the terms stating in the Key Agreement Terms document and Rob Zucker seconded. Motion carried.

XI. Closing Prayer

Rev. Joyce shared an inspirational and uplifting video of the song “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus” performed by 3 African American gospel singers, Loyiso Bala, Neville D and Ivan Siegelaar. The link is:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8bXF3PZcCGI>

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus
Look Full in His Wonderful Face
And the Things of the Earth
Will Grow Strangely Dim
In the Light of His Glory and Grace

The Vestry members were touched by the words, voices, and instruments. Anna made a motion to adjourn and Jan seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:32pm.

Respectfully submitted

Cle E. Newsom

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Registrar