

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS – December 2022

A meeting of the Vestry of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd was held pursuant to the Bylaws and by the order of the Vestry on Tuesday, December 20, 2022. The meeting was in person in the library and on Zoom

Members Present: Michael Howard, Heather Graham, Matt Ulman, Beth Bohnsack, Ian Anderson, Brad Davis, Akintunde Owosina, George Hines, Tracy Smith, Mike Greene, Merike Seely and Mark Chittum.

The meeting opened with prayer.

The **agenda** was approved as presented

Financial Reports: Mike Greene reviewed Financial Report for November. The year-to-date deficit continues. Reductions in the deficit are expected as pledge income increases in December.

School Financial Reports: Senior Warden Heather Graham stated that the school continues in excellent fiscal condition. The school had net income at the end of October of \$262432. There is one area of concern. Electric utilities expenses are increasing and are over budget. This situation will be monitored.

Search Committee Update: The search committee met on December 19. Progress is slow at this time with comments needed from the Bishop's Office. The parish profile OTMs and 5-year budget are either completed or in draft form

Youth Report: Beth Bohnsack provided the youth report. The cookie sale was very successful generating approximately \$770. The Christmas Pageant was well received, and the youth will have a PJ Christmas party on the 21st. In January there will be a youth retreat and coffee house. February will focus on pancakes with mixes being sold and a dinner the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday.

Senior Warden Report: Heather Graham discussed several items. The police have been asked to conduct additional patrols to discourage unauthorized use of the fields after hours. There are liability and damage concerns. Evaluation on alternative uses for the Ridgewood property continues. Turning the property into a second parsonage may save money on the long run.

Three candidates for the Vestry need to be selected. Heather Graham as Senior Warden will be staying on the Vestry. The nomination committee for the new members is Tracy Smith, Matt Ulman and Mark Chittum. They were requested to provide three names to Heather as a starting point.

Junior Warden Report: Mike Howard reported that it is the holiday season, and everyone is very busy. Issues addressed included: AC leak in Church, completion of fire alarm panel repairs, ice maker repairs and repairs to overflow preventer. Shed installation and drainage repairs are still pending.

Giving Team Report: Merike Seely provided information on the current status of the fall giving campaign. Pledges received currently stand at approximately 70% of goal. Many pledges come in over the first two months of the year. 143 pledges have been received out of 204 last year. There is \$15,000 in new pledgers, \$16,000 in increases, \$8,000 in decreases and 70 pledges contained no change

End-of-year Projection/Plan: Merike Seely is working with parishioners to fulfill their 2022 pledges. All bills are paid and at this time it appears that receipts will reduce the pending year-end deficit.

Parsonage Allowance: The Vestry approved the parsonage allowance for Fr. Larson that is required for tax purposes

2023 Proposed Budget Presentation & Discussion: The proposed budget for 2023 was presented by Mike Greene. Most of the discussion centered around whether the pledge revenue was realistic. As discussed previously by Merike in the giving update pledges come in over the next several months and the campaign goal may still be met. Vestry members discussed the possibility of conducting a Faith Challenge if there is a shortfall.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.