

NOVEMBER 2020 VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

A virtual 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, November 17, 2020.

Members Present: The Reverend Dr. Doug Sharf, Kevin Johnson, Michael Howard, Kathy Hawken, Heather Graham, Gwen Gouery, Grace Owosina, Steve Pollard, Denise Preston, Tracy Smith, Rob Taylor, Matt Ulman, Bill Unger, Mike Greene, Merike Seely and Mark Chittum

The meeting opened with prayer. The Agenda was approved as amended with the removal from the agenda of consideration of the 2021 operating budget and the addition to the agenda of the 2021 housing allowance for the rector. The October 2020 Minutes was approved with minor clarifications to the Financial Report.

Financial Report: Mike Greene gave the Financial Report. Total revenue is under budget for the year by \$54,767. Total expenses are under budget by 43,540 leaving a net operating deficit for the year of \$31,639. This deficit is more than budgeted but is consistent with previous years. Pledging remains strong and the church should be in good position by the end of the year. On the Balance Sheet there was a drop in operating funds due to the operating deficit and there was a reduction in the investment account to fund the drainage project and due to a decrease in value. There were changes to Restricted accounts due to donations to the Food Pantry and purchase of outside signage on campus. The Financial Report was approved unanimously.

School Financial Report: Financial Reports for the School was presented by Father Doug. The net deficit for October was \$13,106 but that it was budgeted to be a greater deficit of \$20,065. The school still has a surplus YTD, and they are now halfway through their fiscal year.

Giving Campaign Update: Merike Seely provided the update. The Stewardship goal is the same as last year at \$618,000. To date we have received \$347,608 in pledges from 95 pledging units. At this time, we are at 56% of the goal with 43% of the pledges received. There are 7 new pledging units and 28% of the pledges were made online.

Gallery Square Insurance Update: The Vestry approved including the two Gallery Square owners as additional insured on our insurance policy. This approval will provide increased liability protection for the church relative to shared parking.

Housing Allowance: The Vestry approved the annual housing allowance for The Rev. Dr. Sharf. This allowance is for tax purposes only and provides no additional compensation.

Discerning God's Vision for the Future: With the changes experienced by the church due to the COVID-19 pandemic Good Shepherd needs to be prepared to evolve and adapt to new realities and reflect on what God is calling us to do in the new year. The Rev Dr. Sharf said that we need to see 2021 as a bridge year and develop a mini strategic plan for 2021 with concrete, measurable goals in six areas of focus. Priorities may have to shift, and the master plan delayed. Additional information will be given at the January Annual Meeting.

Annual Budget: The annual budget was reviewed. The budget is in balance with a small surplus. Approval by the Vestry is expected at the December meeting. In the new year, the budget may be revised to focus more fully on evolving priorities.

Youth Report: Grace Owosina provided the Youth Report. Wednesday Zoom meetings are continuing with Virtual Sunday School recordings and packets sent to families. A Family, Youth and Sunday School activity and outdoor service is scheduled.

Senior Warden Report: Kevin Johnson supported viewing 2021 as a bridge year and communicate how we plan on using 2021 to prepare us for restarting the Master Plan post pandemic.

Junior Warden Report: Tracy Smith reported the following campus activities: Roof and Fascia repairs, painting on various areas on campus, garden cleaning and estimates for duct work related to fire system hook-up.

Vestry Nominations: The Rev. Dr. Sharf will contact outgoing Vestry members for nominations.

The meeting closed with prayer led by Heather Graham.