

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS – November 2021

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 16, 2021.

Members Present: The Reverend Dr. Doug Sharf, Fr. Derek Larson, Michael Howard, Heather Graham, Beth Bohnsack, Tracy Smith, Kathy Hawken, Rob Taylor, Matt Ulman, 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 October. The reports were reviewed in detail and showed that the parish remains generally in good financial condition. Year to date the parish has a small operating deficit.

Investment Fund: To foster growth of Memorial Gardens revenue for the future, these funds will be transferred to the Investment fund and tracked separately.

School Financial Reports: The School Financial Report for September was presented. The financial statements cover the first quarter of the fiscal year. Overall revenue and expenditures are in line with expectations. The school is amid its annual fund drive.

COVID Safety Protocols and procedures: Covid safety protocols were updated on November 1 to make masks optional for the fully vaccinated and mandatory for unvaccinated individuals. Masks are also optional at the school. Acolytes have been reinstated. There will be no Eucharistic Ministers at this time, but Eucharistic Visitors are giving home communion.

BRIDGE Plan Update: Work of the BRIDGE plan continues. A task force will be established by the end of the month to facilitate community engagement. Fr. Larson will be leading the task force. The group will be focusing on “Who is Our Neighbor” in response to the biblical commandment. To address diversity and racial issues a Sacred Ground Circle is expected to be formed sometime in the first quarter of the year.

2022 Budget Discussion: A draft budget was presented to the Vestry. It showed increases in revenue and expenses. The Estimate of Giving goal is \$675,000. To date Estimates of Giving in the amount of \$466,744 have been pledged from 126 individuals or families. The Vestry will approve the final budget at the December meeting.

2022 Vestry Nominating Committee: As in past years a nominating committee composed of outgoing Vestry members will select candidates for the Vestry to be voted on at the annual meeting. There will be three candidates for three-year terms and one candidate for a two-year term.

Senior Warden Report: Heather Graham suggested that the Vestry recognize the work done by the Pennies for Heaven staff and volunteers. Ideas were requested. The Volunteer luncheon scheduled for November 28 appears to be the appropriate time.

Junior Warden Report: Mike Howard stated that that it has been very busy and identified the following maintenance items/projects: organizing the Parish Hall for ongoing activities; implementation of a new landscaping contract to consolidate all maintenance; and soliciting proposals for sealcoating of parking areas.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM with a prayer.