

**GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**Minutes of the Vestry Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 10, 2018**

In Attendance: Maggie Buonarosa, Pam Clark, Cindy Esselburn, Larry Fees, Diana Hillock, Tom Roohr, Bob Sawyer, Rusty Shelley, Barbara Vaughn, and visiting parishioners Barbara Johnson and Janet Lawlor.

Absent: Marcel Tabor

Before the meeting officially began, Nancy Fees requested a few minutes to present information on a 10 day trip being planned to the Holy Land in March 2019. There have been several requests from the Bible Study Groups to offer such a trip to the family and friends of Good Shepherd parishioners. Nancy wanted the Vestry to know the information will be in the next E-Blast as well as a presentation planned for Sunday, April 29, 2018.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

**Opening Devotions**

Senior Warden Larry Fees led the group through “In the Early Evening” Daily Devotion from the *Book of Common Prayer, 1979*. Time was also given to add prayers for the needs and concerns of the Vestry as well as the Good Shepherd congregation.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Rusty Shelley made several key comments regarding her report:

- We had a small shortfall of \$317 at the end of March where the year-to-date actual funds was less than the projected budget.
- Capital Fund pledges are still coming in. Statements will be sent to those who still have an outstanding balance asking for their pledge commitment to be completed hopefully by August 2018.
- The Endowment Fund has had a large infusion of funds so far in 2018. The National Church has chosen State Street Bank to manage their endowment fund and many other Episcopal churches including Good Shepherd.
- The excess amount in the Memorial Garden restricted fund was moved to the designated Money Market account.
- Contributions for Easter flowers came to \$1,600 with \$1,000 spent resulting in a nice floral display for Easter Sunday.

**Approval of Minutes**

Diana Hillock made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2018 Vestry meeting. Seconded by Cindy Esselburn.

Barbara Vaughn did point out two typographical errors which the Clerk will correct before posting. Approval of the minutes passed unanimously.

## **Formation & Discussion**

- We began our discussion of the Vision/Mission Statement by giving each Vestry member the opportunity to share some of their ideas:
  - Bob Sawyer - Short and sweet...3 words: Community, Communion, Commitment.
  - Cindy Esselburn - Good Shepherd is a welcoming community; everybody knows your name; we are the hands of Jesus in the world; to help build lives that respond faithfully to the good news of Christ.
  - Tom Roohr - Good Shepherd encourages and welcomes all people seeking the Christian faith or seeking to return to the Christian faith.
  - Diana Hillock - Come join Good Shepherd in the celebration of life through Jesus Christ our Savior.
  - Make Jesus, the Good Shepherd, known to our community and the world.
  - Incorporate some of the 2016 Vestry Covenant into the vision for the church.
  - To do, to be, to become.
  
- Larry Fees then distributed a handout titled “Disciples & Apostles” from Renewal Works (A Ministry of Forward Movement-Monday Matters blog). The article tried to explain the difference between the two words. One thought: To be a disciple is to know Christ; to be an apostle is to make Him known.
- No decision on the Vision/Mission Statement will be made until after Fr. Gary’s return.
- It is also the intention of the Vestry to get input from the congregation.

## **Information**

- All information items were reviewed.
- Food Bank Wednesdays-Cindy Esselburn asked about the arrival time of the food truck. Diana Hillock did confirm the food delivery truck has been arriving early which may necessitate adjusting Rich’s work schedule for those Wednesdays. It may mean these particular Wednesdays are long days and then another day that week would have shortened hours. It was a Food Bank Wednesday when Bishop Smith visited on March 21st. He was glad to see our involvement in this community program.
- There were many positive comments on Fr. Harris’ first Sunday. There were some who could not hear since he did not wear a microphone. It was also being considered for Fr. Bob to use the hand-held microphone when making announcements since he was also not wearing a microphone.
- The vacation list was passed around for Vestry members to fill in as to where they would be over the summer months (basically June-September).
- The Bible Read-a-thon held in downtown Venice the week after Easter was very successful. Barbara Vaughn, Bob Sawyer and Larry & Nancy Fees participated.
- During this time Larry asked our two visitors if they had something to share with the Vestry or had questions to ask.
  - Janet Lawlor had a question concerning what happens to money/checks donated into a specific fund. If money does not go where it is intended then people might be discouraged in making memorial donations. She was informed that requests

made for where a donation should go are always honored. The giver needs to be sure to write that information in the memo section of their check.

- Barbara Johnson asked about Fr. Gary's Sabbatical and was directed to refer to the Sabbatical Booklet that was developed before he left. She also asked why so many people seem to be leaving Good Shepherd Church. Larry responded by saying people leave for a variety of reasons and that for as many people who have left, we have an equal number of new people attending. He recognized we are a church divided and need to heal the divide yet at the same time, we need to keep in mind that all have the right to their own ideas but can still work toward unity.

### **Review of Commission Reports**

- Bob Sawyer did not receive any of the Commission reports this time. Larry will look into correcting this problem.
- In Fr. Gary's absence, Larry Fees, as Senior Warden, has the added responsibility to preside over staff meetings. Today, April 10, he was able to meet with Lynn, Rich, Fr. Bob, Deacon Michael and BetteAnn.

### **Decisions**

None at this time.

Tom Roohr made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Bob Sawyer. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sally Mock, Clerk of the Vestry