

The Church of the Good Shepherd, Dunedin, Florida

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting March 25, 2020

Note: Due to Coronavirus guidelines on Social Distancing the meeting was held online via Lifesize.com. #1131389

Members Present: Pastor Becky Robbins-Penniman, Deacon Cindy Roehl, Phil Beauchamp, London Bates, Iris Brookins, Cheryl Sharpe, Dan Depies, Robyn Harker, Diane Niford, John Russotto, Judy Warner, Joe Nixon (treasurer), Pat Cates (clerk)

Members Absent: None

I. Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Pastor Becky Robbins-Penniman at 6:32PM

II. Opening Devotions

- The opening prayer was given by Pastor Becky.

III. Information

A. Mark Your Calendars

- **Every Sunday:** Services live-streamed at 8:00AM and 10:00AM
- **April 5:** Palm—Passion Sunday Stations of the Cross live-streamed; Note: may be canceled.
- **April 9:** Maundy Thursday Stripping of the Altar
- **April 10:** Good Friday Stations of the Cross live-streamed; Note: may be canceled
- **April 12:** Easter
- **April 19: New Member Social @ 4:00 to 6:00PM—Maybe???**

IV. Decision

A. Consent Items

- February 12, 2020 Regular minutes—approve
- Diane Niford moved for approval; Robyn Harker seconded.
- Approved

B. Bank Resolution—Regions Bank Signatories

- Accounts ending in 1231 (Regions checking), 1517 (Discretionary Fund), 6017 (Regions Money Market) and 4572 (Furniture Thrift Store checking).
- Remove Cheryl Sharpe; add Philip Beauchamp
- Account ending 1517
- Remove Cheryl Sharpe; add Philip Beauchamp

- Joe Nixon, Phil Beauchamp, Dan Depies and Dawn Gordon will need to go to Regions Bank to update the signature cards.
- At the present time Regions Bank requires appointments for any business within the building.
- Currently Dawn Gordon is in self-isolation.
- The group will plan to meet at Regions Bank after Palm Sunday (April 5th)
- Joe gave an update on the current financial situation at the Church of Good Shepherd.
- The parish is in week 4 of a five week month.
- A deposit of \$1500 has been made but is lower than regular weekly deposits between \$4-6K.
- \$20K has been deposited this month as compared with \$30K from the same month last year.
- The Parking Lot team has not been able to work due to the cancellation of some events.
- There may be a June event and an Orange Festival over the summer but more events will be scheduled in the fall in which the Parking Lot Team can participate.
- The Furniture Thrift Shop contributed \$2500 to operations.
- Joe reported that expenses for March, April and May will basically remain the same.
- There can be some savings in expenses: Pastor Becky's medical and pension, insurance and the Diocesan Tithe can be delayed. Additional savings can be seen through office supply purchases, etc.
- If the Diocese will give temporary approval to the above items approximately \$8K can be saved a month.
- Currently there is \$30K in the checking account.
- There are monies available in Restricted Accounts, Operational Reserves and Vestry Designated Funds.
- There was a discussion of the importance of parishioners continuing to make their contributions.
- These can be accomplished through mail, autopay, Realm and texting.
- It was consensus that the emphasis should focus on revenue.
- Vestry liaisons will contact their ministries to hold the line on expenses. Pastor Becky will need to approve expenses.

V. Discussion

A. Bank of the Ozarks CD—update

- The CD was not opened, and it was consensus that the monies which were designated will be better used to meet the current needs of the parish.

B. State of Church of Good Shepherd Finances

- This was discussed during Joe Nixon's presentation of the signature cards.

C. Vestry Letter to Congregation about State of the Parish and Good Stewardship

- Pastor Becky reported that the staff is working to keep things "as normal as possible".
- The campus is quiet and the various groups using the facility are adhering to the 10 person/6 feet rule.
- There will be a staff meeting tomorrow via "Lifesize".
- Pastor Becky stated that the parish "is going into this crisis without being in crisis".
- The parish is in overall good shape but it must be careful with the finances and not overspend.
- There is the need to send a communication to the parishioners to give them the state of the parish and to practice good stewardship.
- It was consensus that the parish is doing well but is asking all members to continue to support the church through their offerings.
- This concept needs to be reinforced on a continual basis.
- There was a lengthy discussion on contributions and under the current situation may require parishioners to make their donation in a way they are not accustomed.
- Some parishioners do not have access to a computer for online giving, and there needs to be the opportunities for them to make their contributions.
- There were comments expressed about dropping contributions at the church and the possibility of members picking up a person's contributions.
- A number of avenues were discussed to inform parishioners including a letter and notifications on Facebook and Instagram. Also mentioned were Constant Contact and the church web-site.
- It was felt that Facebook and Instrgram were probably the least effective.
- It was consensus that sending a letter to all parishioners with a mailing address will be the most effective means to convey the message.
- It was noted that the congregation of Good Shepherd will respond to an effective letter.
- Pastor Becky will draft a letter and send out to the Vestry for their comments.

VI. Closing Devotion

- The closing prayer was given by Cindy Roehl

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:35PM

Respectfully Submitted,

C. Pat Cates
Clerk