

# The Church of the Good Shepherd, Dunedin, Florida

## Minutes of the Vestry Meeting March 22, 2021

Note: Due to Coronavirus guidelines on Social Distancing the meeting was held online via Zoom, Meeting ID: 883 2577 5620

Priest-in-Charge: Michael Durning

Sr. Warden: Phil Beauchamp      Jr. Warden: Dan Depies      Deacon Cindy Roehl  
Treasurer: Joe Nixon; Clerk: C. Pat Cates

|               |                |                 |                 |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Class of 2022 | Phil Beauchamp | Robyn Harker    | John Russotto   |
| Class of 2023 | Dan Depies     | London Bates    | Judy Warner     |
| Class of 2024 | Robin Megel    | Caroline Maisel | Rhiannon Sharpe |

Members absent: None

### I. **Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order by Canon Durning at 6:33PM.

### II. **Opening Devotions**

- The Opening Devotion was given by Canon Durning.

### III. **Reporting in:**

#### A. **Transition Process Update**

- Phil Beauchamp reported that Rev. Whitney Burton will begin her ministry at Good Shepherd on May 17, 2021.
- She plans to arrive in Dunedin the first week in May.
- Rev. Whitney and her husband reported that the Rectory is well suited for their needs and will plan to stay there for several years.
- An orientation is being planned for her. Dawn Gordon will put together a list of committees, and she will be scheduled to meet with Cindy Roehl, Joe Nixon and other key leaders.
- Phil and Canon Durning are discussing a date for the Vestry Retreat.
- The retreat will probably be held "in person".
- Judy Warner requested that the retreat be held prior to her return to Wisconsin on June 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Phil reminded the Vestry of the Diocesan Vestry Retreat which will be held virtually on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Members were encouraged to attend.
- Canon and Bonnie Jean Durning's last Sunday will be April 25<sup>th</sup> and a celebration of their ministry will be held.
- On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Rev. Hayden Crawford will be preaching.

- London Bates suggested that a thank you reception be held for all persons who were involved in the Rector search.
- This was approved by consensus, and London will plan the event.

## **B. Finance update**

- Reports #1A and #1B
- Joe Nixon reported that pledges are down from last year and that the March budget will not be met.
- The last bank deposit was encouraging.
- Joe requested that the members monitor “Operating Cash” on page 1 of the Financial Report. The figure should stay above \$30K.
- A Capital Tithe to the Diocese will be due in 2022.
- \$44K was spent on capital improvements including the Furniture Thrift Store paving, cameras, double steel doors in the educational building, ADA doors in the restrooms and the electrical update to the Albert Street house.
- The tithe due for these improvements will be \$4398.
- Phil Beauchamp made a motion to transfer \$4398 from the Vestry Designated Fund to the Capital Tithe to the Diocese Fund to pay the Diocesan Tithe. Robin Megel seconded.
- Approved.
- Joe reminded the Vestry that a Diocesan Tithe will be due in 2023 for the new roof for the Furniture Thrift Store. The Furniture Thrift Store has agreed to set money aside for the tithe.
- Canon Durning asked Judy Warner to give an update on the Stewardship Program.
- Judy met with Dawn Gordon who reported that twenty households who have not pledged in 2021 are giving.
- If these households could be added to the 70 households that are pledging it would bring the total households giving to 90.
- Ten households who pledged in 2020 are not giving this year.
- Judy will talk with Phil Beauchamp concerning households who have not pledged to determine a plan of action if appropriate.

## **C. Priest-in-Charge**

- Canon Durning reported that there will be a Memorial Service for Ted Hughes on April 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:00PM.
- Becky Robbins-Penniman will be leading the service.
- A Memorial Service was recently held for Al Kulikauskas using the 1928 Prayer Book.
- At the request of his wife, Leslie, it was a small service.
- There has been a lot of work done in preparation for Holy Week. Dawn Gordon is putting together the bulletins and Canon Durning and Deacon Cindy are working on the various liturgies.

#### **D. Building and Grounds**

- Dan Depies gave an update on the request of the Episcopal Church Women to locate the Little Thrift Shop to the Patio Room.
- The Building and Grounds Committee met recently and their report is found in Handout #2.
- Dan noted that there was a “spirited discussion” on the issue at the meeting and that a number of opinions were expressed by the members.
- B & G presented a number of things to consider in the proposal. They were not tasked with making a decision; the final decision will be made by the Vestry.
- Canon Durning recommended that a task force or ad hoc committee composed of persons with a broad representation be convened to report their findings and recommendations to the Vestry.
- The floor was opened for discussion. Among the items discussed were:
  - The Little Thrift Shop is an outreach for the women who work there.
  - Rev. Whitney should be allowed to become familiar with the parish before involving her into a debate over the Little Thrift Shop.
  - The financial issues involved in this decision.
  - If there are expenses they may be subject to the Diocesan Tithe.
  - The ministries that are currently using the Patio Room and the Library.
  - The importance of the Building and Grounds report.
  - Are there security issues to consider in moving groups to rooms on the second floor?
  - New ministries; i.e. Rev. Whitney forming a youth ministry which may need the Patio Room.
  - A temporary location for the LTS such as a trailer housed on the church campus.
  - Joining forces with the Methodist Church in a thrift store venture.
- Canon Durning noted two points:
- A: The Vestry should thank Building and Grounds for their work.
- B. 4 Parts
  - Vestry is committed to the idea of having a thrift shop with the parish.
  - Vestry will assemble a task force or ad committee.
  - Vestry will charge the task force or ad hoc committee to look at all the options.

- o Vestry will communicate the work of the committee and the Vestry to Rev. Whitney Burton.
- It was recommended that members of the Episcopal Church Women, Little Thrift Shop, Vestry and persons with expertise in this area be assembled for the task force or ad hoc committee.
- It was also noted that the leader of the group should be impartial and a leader “known, loved and trusted by everybody.”
- Canon Durning, Phil Beauchamp and Dan Depies will draft a proposal and send it to the Episcopal Church Women.

**E. Audit Committee update**

- Shirl Ahrens and Judy Warner are in charge of the Audit.
- It is anticipated that the audit will be completed by late April or early May.

**F. Emergency Response Team**

- Pat Cates reported that the Emergency Management Team is working on any updates needed to the Emergency Plan and expects to have the parish plan in place by the end of April, well before hurricane season begins.

**IV. Discuss/approve**

**A. February 22, 2021 Vestry Minutes**

- Motion to approve was made by Dan Depies; seconded by Phil Beauchamp.
- Approved

**B. February 28, 2021 Vestry Minutes**

- The approval does not require a second.
- It was noted that Deacon Cindy Roehl was not present and Rev. Allison Schultz name was misspelled
- Robin Megel made a motion to approve as amended.
- Approved

**V. Not to forget...**

**A. Milestone Calendar**

- Dan Depies reported that Vestry devotions have been completed through this meeting, but there is the need for persons to volunteer to give the devotion from April through August.
- There was a brief discussion on the day to hold Vestry meetings.
- It is currently being held on Monday to coincide with Canon Durning’s schedule.
- The next meeting will be April 26, 2021.
- It was consensus to hold meetings beginning in May on Wednesday.

- There was a brief discussion on the Memorial Service to be held for Ted Hughes on April 10, 2021. Becky Robbins-Penniman will perform the service.
- Canon Durning is looking for an organist for the service.

#### **B. Vestry Voices and Vibes**

- A brief discussion was held on the Vestry newsletter with some background given.
- A concern was expressed concerning the timely completion of news worthy articles.
- It was suggested that the newsletter be “put on hold” until the parish returns to a more “normal” state.
- Approved by consensus.

#### **C. Including the Class of 2024 on the website**

- Rhiannon Sharpe’s biography is needed for the website.
- It will be completed shortly and posted.

#### **D. Closing Devotions**

- No Closing Devotion was given.

#### **VI. FYI**

- Next Vestry meeting 6:30PM Monday April 26, 2021 (Zoom)

#### **VII. Adjourn**

- A motion to adjourn was made by Judy Warner and seconded by John Russotto.
- Canon Durning led the closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:55PM.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Pat Cates  
Clerk