

Good Shepherd Episcopal Church

Vestry Meeting

February 16, 2020

Attendees: Tim, Judy, Martha, Richard, Cindy, Lois, Josette

Begin 12:03 p.m.

Tim led the meeting

Parochial Report

Tim said we need updates so Cindy and Lois can sign off on it. He said he would email them the log-in info so they could check things and do the electronic signature if it looks good. When all signatures good, he'll file it. It's due to the diocese in March, but not due to the national church until May or June.

Budget Update

Cindy said she's waiting on info from last year. The church is nearly \$15K ahead (net) because the Scott Grant and another recent grant haven't been accounted for in the 2020 Budget. These are the actuals from January

Discussing the cost of utilities, Cindy said the cost seems high because it doesn't include heating. However, she said a refund is coming on propane. Tim said \$682 isn't so high for utilities and that after only one month, it's too early to decide if the utility bill is high.

Facility Maintenance

There was little discussion on facility maintenance since John wasn't there. During the service, Lois announced the church received a \$10K check.

A bid received from a painter was about \$7,700, but a second bid was twice as much: \$19,000 or so. It was suggested hiring Juarez would be probable.

A discussion on whether to paint the outside wall and remove moss growing on top received mixed opinions. Tim suggested John decide and that if the wall is painted, then moss removal should work.

Regular church cleaning:

Regular cleaning started this week, and the upstairs will be cleaned once a month—\$100 a month to clean the church and the upstairs room, and \$50 a week to clean the downstairs. Tim said that amounts to \$3,800 for cleaning, though the church budgeted \$3K for cleaning. He suggested the church think about asking the Saturday night AA group to pay more to cover cleaning costs.

Search Committee

Richard talked about notes he took at the Search Committee meeting on Feb. 2. He said we need to get it into a format to send to the diocese. There were questions about who would type up Richard's notes and put them into bullet point format, reordering things to give examples like the church's welcoming atmosphere. Tim suggested sending the notes to Sarah with Mary copied in the email. Someone suggested including more of what we do: having Michael Sie preach, accepting visiting bishops, hosting funerals.

Richard said the notes don't answer all questions from the meeting, such as where we want to be 3-5 years from now. Judy thought the answers were good but need more description. Cindy said the church's accomplishments should be more specific. She said she thinks the community is going through a lot of change. Richard agreed that we didn't answer the first part of No. 3.

Richard would like to see more active parishioners—30, for example. Judy wants us to find spiritual leadership in a priest and said language like “preserve and enhance this historic small, rural mission church” is the kind of thing to say on the first part.

Josette suggested asking Rev. Kate in Markham how they get so many people to come out each week. Josette said she would ask Kate for details.

Richard said he will seek someone to get this organized.

Interim clergy support

Judy wondered if having supply priests do a working interview at our church would be useful, saying we’re in a vacuum right now, and that having new preachers will give an idea of what we like.

The church pays Ralph \$150 per service plus mileage, which is not the going rate. Previously we were paying \$185. Judy suggested having supply priests on Morning Prayer weeks; Tim suggested doing it on fifth Sundays. He will contact Sarah about that.

Event planning

Judy brought up Shrove Tuesday on Feb. 25, but Lois said we haven’t been doing that. Ash Wednesday was scheduled for Feb. 26 with a suggestion of a capella music, since Hailey would not be there. A Lenten program was suggested—Tim proposed Thursdays

Holy week –

- Palm Sunday in Berryville.
- Maundy Thursday
- Good Friday

Richard suggested we have either Maundy Thursday or Good Friday, and everyone picked Good Friday. Judy wondered if we’ll have communion for Good Friday, and Tim said we can use reserve from a previous Sunday. Cindy wondered about getting a supply priest during Holy Week. Tim said that might inspire a few more people to come that evening. Josette asked about collecting palms to burn for ashes, and Judy said the church had palms in the basement that should be burned the following Sunday.

Lois said the Celtics have asked to have a wedding here in June—the 19th maybe. Martha and Tim urged her to follow up and ask.

Tim mentioned the upcoming 110th anniversary. Lois said Kelly wants to help out but not necessarily lead the effort. Tim suggested it be a fundraiser; Josette thought it should include a free-will offering instead. Judy suggested advertising for the event. It was decided to host the anniversary event on a Sunday, so it can be a homecoming.

Outreach & Mission

Tim and Judy thought the church has good opportunities for outreach.

Tim reminded about the suggestion of reaching out to a senior assistance facility. Cindy will get on this and suggested a van to transport people. This might be a once-a-month transport to start. Richard suggested running the van on a Communion Sunday. Tim also wondered if anyone from FISH needs a ride to church.

Shrine Mont Work Weekend is the weekend of Palm Sunday.

Adjournment: 1:05 p.m.