

MINUTES

GOOD SHEPHERD EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vestry Retreat

February 8 & 9, 2024

Held at DaySpring, Parrish, FL

Thursday, February 9, 2024

The entire Vestry gathered at the Retreat House at DaySpring at 3 p.m. They received their room assignments and keys and settled in. We then assembled in the meeting area downstairs for a social time, beginning the process of getting to know each other and of bonding into the Vestry body.

At about 4:30 p.m. there was a short business meeting to cover necessary items not addressed at the Organizational Meeting the previous Sunday.

- Bob Sawyer requested a motion to approve a 5% increase for staff positions already occupied. The following positions are not included in the increase: Parish Administrator (temporary at this time), Bookkeeper (except for the current bookkeeper's remaining time), and Communication Director (not yet filled). This increase is already covered in the budget. Carole LaBate so moved; Ed Silva seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Fr. Joe updated the Vestry on the ongoing process of filling staff positions. Rusty Shelley has applied and been accepted as the new bookkeeper. We are still looking for a Parish Administrator. The approval for the Assistant Priest is still in the process.
- Four people have come forward to serve as delegates to the Diocesan Convention in October. Carole LaBate, Ed Silva, and Bob Sawyer will be delegates, and Elaine Hedrick will serve as alternate.
- Bob Sawyer requested a motion to approve the purchase of a new TV for the Parish Hall with a credenza to be in place beneath it in the amount of \$1853.98. The current TV will be placed in the Library. Megarie van Sickle put forward the motion; Don McKelvy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- Report was made of a letter from Bishop Doug Scharf to the congregation of Good Shepherd thanking the parish for their generosity for the \$2,000 donation to Ian relief.
- A brief update followed on the finishing touches being made to the church, e.g., blinds and closets.
- Bob also presented more information on the two sub-committees that will form the core of the Capital Campaign to raise \$250,000. The subcommittee

on communications will consist of Nancy Fees along with others. The subcommittee on finance will consist of Lynne Altimier along with others.

- Fr. Bob gave a brief overview of the three discussion areas for the retreat sessions to consist of focus on God's story, my story, and Good Shepherd's story.

Following the business meeting, Fr. Joe gave a quick overview of three discussion areas in the retreat sessions. Focus would be on spiritual journey: God's story, our own stories, and Good Shepherd's story.

After dinner and a summation of God's story, particularly the journey of God's people in exodus from Egypt, we moved on to sharing our own stories of our spiritual journeys. The evening ended with the Lexio Devina.

Friday, February 9

Following breakfast, we vacated the Retreat House and moved down to the New Meeting House. Fr. Joe began with Morning Prayer, which was followed by discussion of Good Shepherd's story. After a mid-morning break, we discussed the Spiritual Formation statement of "a journey into oneness with God." We ended the morning with discussion of the first of the six foundational beliefs which deals with the journey of spiritual transformation for which each of us is designed.

Having moved through the agenda, Fr. Joe was able to make arrangements for the chapel to be available an hour earlier than planned. The retreat ended at the chapel with a Eucharistic service.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Jarvis
Clerk of the Vestry