

Bishop's Committee Minutes
Good Samaritan Episcopal Church
March 19, 2017

Present: The Rev. Gray Lesesne, Lara Dreyer, Wendy Meaden, Erin Hougland, Lucy Karam

Regrets: None.

Absent: Tom Gibbs

The Bishop's Committee convened at 11:50 a.m. Gray presented the proposed agenda for the meeting, and the group approved.

Lara Dreyer noted a correction to the proposed Minutes of the February 19, 2017 Meeting, and the amended Minutes were adopted without objection.

Lara Dreyer presented a Treasurer's Report, which is attached to these minutes. The Bishop's Committee asked a few clarifying questions regarding categories and lines, and accepted the report.

Priest-in-Charge Update

Gray noted that our application for a Lilly Pathways Curacy Grant was likely to be accepted by the Diocese, and that he would work with Bishop Waynick's staff to seek to be the first placement for the new Curate (Erin Hougland) starting in June 2017.

Safeguarding God's People Requirements

Gray emphasized the importance of each Bishop's Committee member and lay leader with any contact with children completing the required online training for Safeguarding God's People and Safeguarding God's Children. The Bishop's Committee agreed to complete all training for ourselves by May 30, 2017.

2016 Parochial Report

Gray presented the completed 2016 Parochial Report, and the Bishop's Committee received the report and authorized its transmittal to the Diocese of Indianapolis and to the Episcopal Church Center.

By-Laws First Draft

Gray presented a template for the first draft of By-Laws of Good Samaritan Church. This template is commonly used by the Diocese of Indianapolis congregations. The Bishop's Committee reviewed the template and agreed to discuss edits and changes in April, with the intention of adopting the By-Laws in May 2017.

Consultation with Outreach Leader Lucy Karam

Lucy Karam presented the Bishop's Committee with both an overview of Good Samaritan's Outreach Ministry plans for 2017 and a spending plan for the Outreach Budget. (Since the 2017 budget is already approved, there is no need for the Bishop's Committee to reauthorize this line.) Focus areas include emergency assistance to families in need, projects at Harris Academy and Brownsburg High School, quarterly group projects, Sheltering Wings, and twice monthly hands-on service projects after worship. The Bishop's Committee spent time discussing these existing areas of focus and felt it was too early in our ministry to narrow the focus; instead, we encouraged Lucy and her outreach team to continue exploring and experimenting. Lara noted the possibility of adding a community engagement line to the budget for 2018 as a way of partnering with existing external agencies for social change.

The Committee thanked Lucy and her team for their service to the congregation.

2017 Disbursement Requests

The Bishop's Committee approved disbursement requests, including the reimbursement of the clergy's monthly business expenses.

The Committee adjourned at 12:45 p.m.



GOOD SAMARITAN

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

2017 Congregational Goals

Bishop's Committee:

1. We will continue to develop a **supportive and advisory relationship** with the priest-in-charge, moving toward a model of eventual shared governance and accountability. At the last meeting of each quarter (March, June, September, December), we will check in about strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges in our pastoral and governance relationship.
2. **We will focus the bulk of our meetings on developing the five key strategic processes** (see below), and we will partner with the priest-in-charge and staff to identify and recruit leaders for them.
3. We will adopt a set of **congregational by-laws and governing documents** by May 30, 2017.
4. We will plan a **budget and income strategy for 2018** by October 31, 2017 and adopt it by December 31, 2017.
5. We will **create and oversee an engagement plan** that challenges every member of Good Samaritan to be a part of some aspect of our ministry/formation/etc., with a goal of **80% participation of our base members active in something** by October 31, 2017.

Staff:

1. We will assist the Bishop's Committee and our lay leaders in **developing the five key strategic processes** (see below).
2. We will create at least four opportunities (one per quarter) to **thank and nourish the souls of our lay leaders** by the end of December 31, 2017.
3. We will focus our energies on **developing and mentoring our lay leaders**, building their capacity for ministry, helping each of them to build a support team around them by December 31, 2017.
4. We will **model leadership of evangelism** by making two intentional, ongoing connections with people in groups or organizations outside of Good Samaritan in the local community by December 31, 2017.

Ministry Leaders:

1. **We will build teams for our ministries**, focusing on mentoring and developing the next class of leaders to whom we will transition our ministries in 2018.
2. We will assist the Bishop's Committee and staff in **developing the five key strategic processes** (see below).

Processes:

1. We will develop a lay-led **evangelism and community connections** process to continue to meet new people in our community.
2. We will form a crystal clear process to **integrate newcomers** (open the front door) and to **keep and engage the members we have** (close the back door).
3. We will identify and recruit Good Samaritans who are good at influencing others and train them in basics of **stewardship**.
4. We will develop a **bookkeeping process or hire a financial secretary/service** to be ready for 2018, when we will take over our own books.
5. We will form the nucleus of a **pastoral care team** to help our members begin taking care of their fellow members.

Priest-in-Charge:

1. I will be a resource and provide oversight for Bishop's Committee, staff, and lay leaders to help us **develop and implement the five key strategic processes** (see above).
2. I will **oversee, encourage, and help Bishop's Committee members** achieve their goals by meeting individually with them once a quarter for mentoring/coaching, by connecting them with outside resources, and by checking in with them on their goals progress at the last meeting of every quarter (March, June, September, December).
3. I will **oversee, encourage, and help staff members** achieve their goals by one-to-one meetings with them every two weeks, by connecting them with outside resources, by focusing and guiding our staff meetings, and by encouraging them with regular surprises of joy (e.g. birthday cards, thank-you notes, etc.).
4. **I will hold Good Samaritan's vision of service, inclusion, and formation at the core of our ministry.**
5. I will **pursue one grant per quarter and develop database and giving of outside donors by 20% this year** while helping the Bishop's Committee to begin the process of **developing stewardship leaders**.
6. **I will model good self-care practices, spiritual health, and good boundaries** by keeping my Sabbath day (Fridays), by taking all of my vacation, by keeping my personal anniversaries, by having friends outside the congregation, and by encouraging staff members to do the same.
7. **I will invest in my own professional development and ongoing continuing education by completing the church planter coach training by December 31, 2017.**
8. Working with our evangelism and connections team, **I will develop a long-range internal/external communications plan** for Good Samaritan by July 30, 2017.