

Bishop's Committee Minutes
Good Samaritan Episcopal Church
December 10, 2017

Present: The Rev. Gray Lesesne, Lara Dreyer, Tim Kerstein, Wendy Meaden, The Rev. Erin Hougland, Melinda Sowers, Barbie Russell

Regrets: Tom Gibbs

The Bishop's Committee convened at 12:30 p.m. Gray presented the proposed agenda for the meeting and the group approved.

The Committee reviewed the minutes of the November 2017 meeting and the group approved them without amendment.

Treasurer's Report

Melinda Sowers reported that the bank account at Indiana Members Credit Union has now been opened. Lara and Melinda continue to work on mechanics in preparation for our taking on responsibility for our own accounts in January. Gray presented a proposal from Kim Christopher, who currently keeps our books as part of her responsibilities at the diocesan office; she is willing to serve as a contract bookkeeper once we are on our own in January 2018 for \$200 per month. At the request of Lara and Melinda, the Bishop's Committee agreed to defer consideration of this proposal until January or February 2018 once other details/logistics have been arranged.

Updated financial figures from the Diocese of Indianapolis for October and November were not available prior to this meeting. We anticipate having those for the January 2018 meeting.

Vicar's Report

Measures and Benchmarks as of December 4, 2017

- Number of people in "base": (completed Good Sam's 101 and considered solid): 145
- Number of newcomers (people in the pipeline yet to go through Good Sam's 101): 7
- Our average Sunday attendance has moved from 51.9 (as of week of September 18, 2016, after the launch) to 62.1 (as of week of January 12, 2017) to 73.5 (as of April 26, 2017) to 76.8 (as of June 12) to 76.1 (as of June 26) to 75.3 (as of August 21) to 76.4 (as of September 11) to 76.2 (as of September 25) to 77 (as of October 10) to 76.7 (as of October 17) to 76.4 (as of October 24) to 78.2 (as of November 21) to **78.7** (as of December 4).
- Average rolling monthly attendance (last 4 weeks): 87 (95, 89, 76, 88)
- 2017 Recorded Giving from Good Samaritan people (as of November 26): \$59,261. If current pattern were to continue, annual projected recorded giving would be approximately \$65,565 for 2017. This is an increase of \$30,565 from our 2017 projected giving of \$35,000.
- 2017 Unrecorded Giving from Good Samaritan people (Cash in Plate) to Date: \$4,331.00
- 2017 Nonmember Giving: \$5,410.00

Debriefing Visioning Process

The Bishop's Committee spent a few minutes debriefing the fall Visioning Process, mainly focusing on congregation members' reactions to our presentations. Overall, the energy and feedback has been very positive. The sentiment among committee members is that we would engage in a similar process in the future.

2018 Draft Budget

Lara presented an updated 2018 draft budget. Of note is that \$90,000 is now confirmed available in matching gifts from our sister congregations of Christ Church Cathedral, St. Paul's, and Trinity Indianapolis for all pledged and fulfilled gifts in 2018. Gray will announce the matching grant opportunity at the annual meeting in January and invite parishioners to make a pledge. Several final corrections were made to the draft budget, and Lara moved its adoption. Tim seconded the motion. The Bishop's Committee approved provisional adoption of the 2018 Draft Budget and agreed to revisit the figures in February once we have confirmed pledge numbers in hand.

2018 Generosity Campaign

Gray presented a draft Consistent Giving Card and a draft letter to go the congregation announcing the matching grant opportunity for 2018. The letters invite members of Good Samaritan to make a consistent gift commitment (pledge) and explain the challenge grant opportunity. The Bishop's Committee made several edits to the letters and approved sending them out in our names.

Position Descriptions for Director of Children's Formation and Administrator

Gray submitted job descriptions for Director of Children's Formation (10 hours per week) and Administrator (8 hours per week). The Bishop's Committee made minor edits and approved them.

Authorization to employ Barbie Russell as Director of Children's Formation

As required by by-law and diocesan canon, Gray submitted a formal request to employ Barbara Jean Russell as our Director of Children's Formation, effective January 1, 2018. The Bishop's Committee approved and expressed their support for Barbie's ministry.

Authorization to employ Erina Ludwig as Administrator

As required by by-law and diocesan canon, Gray submitted a formal request to employ Erina Ludwig as our Administrator, effective January 15, 2018. The Bishop's Committee approved and expressed their support for Erina's ministry.

Executive Session

The Bishop's Committee convened in Executive Session to discuss and approve year-end bonuses to program staff (Erin, Kendall, Erina, Barbie, nursery workers), for the janitorial staff at Harris Academy, and for Ann Lovko and Tim Grino, who volunteer for our music ministry. The Diocese is responsible for the Vicar's bonus, if any.

With no further business, the Committee approved expenses and check authorizations and adjourned at 2:00 p.m.