

Bishop's Committee Minutes
Good Samaritan Episcopal Church
January 21, 2018

Present: Jason Addis, Lara Dreyer, Tim Kerstein, The Rev. Gray Lesesne, Wendy Meaden, The Rev. Erin Hougland, Kevin Samples (via conference call) Melinda Sowers

Regrets/Absent: None.

The Bishop's Committee convened at 11:45 a.m.. Gray presented the proposed agenda for the meeting and the group approved.

After lunch and an exercise in Dwelling in the Word, a reflection upon scripture, the Committee reviewed the minutes of the December 2017 meeting, and Melinda moved and Wendy seconded their acceptance. The group approved them without amendment.

Treasurer's Report

Melinda Sowers reported that, as of January 1, 2018, we have now begun to make deposits of collected donations into our own account at Indiana Members Credit Union. Once we receive a year-end reconciliation report from the Diocese of Indianapolis, they will write us checks to transfer monies they have been holding in trust for us over to our accounts. This will likely occur in February 2018. Lara noted that we have also rerouted Vanco electronic contributions from Diocese of Indianapolis account to our Good Samaritan account at IMCU.

Now that we are responsible for weekly deposits, Melinda proposed that the Bishop's Committee adopt a Collection Deposit Information process (see Appendix 1), outlining the procedures by which ushers count and Bishop's Committee members deposit the collections on a weekly basis. Wendy made a motion to adopt the process, and Tim seconded. The Bishop's Committee approved unanimously. Melinda will bring laminated versions of the process to use on Sundays.

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.

Lara introduced Bishop's Committee Resolution 2018-1 (see Appendix 2), a Group 501(c)(3) Resolution, requesting that the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis include us in their group exemption under the IRS Group 501(c)(3) code. The resolution was seconded by Jason, and the Bishop's Committee approved unanimously.

Vicar's Report

Measures and Benchmarks as of January 15, 2017

- Number of people in "base": (completed Good Sam's 101 and considered solid): 149
- Number of newcomers (people in the pipeline yet to go through Good Sam's 101): 10
- Our average Sunday attendance has moved from 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) to 81.6 (as of December 30).
- Average rolling monthly attendance (last 4 weeks): 93 (93--Jan 13, 133-Baptism of our Lord/Annual Meeting, 35--New Years Eve, 111--Christmas Eve
- 2017 Recorded Giving from Good Samaritan people: \$65,178
- 2017 Unrecorded Giving from Good Samaritan people (Cash in Plate): \$4,929

- 2017 Nonmember Giving: \$8,035.00

Bishop's Committee Orientation

The Bishop's Committee spent approximately an hour in orientation, discussing the role of the Bishop's Committee, responsibilities and expectations, and reviewing documents from Episcopal Church Canons, Diocese of Indianapolis canons, Good Samaritan's by-laws, etc. The group then agreed upon the following:

- Our 2018 meetings will continue on the third Sunday of the month, following worship (except in July).
- A Bishop's Committee member will serve each week as Bishop's Committee member on duty, with obligations to arrive at 9:00 a.m., assist with setup, greet guests, help the staff with troubleshooting, and then to assist the ushers with the count and take the deposit to the bank. Gray will send out a schedule to the Bishop's Committee to ask them to sign up for dates between now and next month and bring a sign-up sheet to the February meeting for the remainder of 2018.
- The Bishop's Committee agreed that Lara Dreyer would serve well as Vicar's Warden, and Gray, in his duties as Vicar, appointed Lara to that one-year term (expiring at next year's Annual Meeting).
- The Bishop's Committee agreed that Melinda Sowers would continue to serve as Treasurer and appointed her to a one-year term (expiring at next year's Annual Meeting).
- The Bishop's Committee agreed to think about who among us would serve well as People's Warden; Jason, Kevin, and Tim all expressed availability to serve. We will make this decision at our next meeting in February.
- The Bishop's Committee also agreed to return to February's meeting with nominations for the position of Clerk.

2017 Goals Review and 2018 Strategic Plan Implementation

The Bishop's Committee briefly reviewed the 2017 goals the Committee set for itself, and then spent approximately 30 minutes discussing the 2018 Strategic Plan, which we adopted in November. The Committee agreed that the goals as currently written in the 2018 are not able to be measured or quantified.

As a next step, Bishop's Committee member agreed to oversee and coordinate a particular area of the Strategic Plan for 2018, noting that the individual leaders would not be responsible for the achievement of all goals, but that we would work together with other Bishop's Committee members and our lay leaders to achieve these goals. We also agreed to come to the February meeting with a draft of how the outcomes in our particular areas could be quantifiable so that we can measure our progress and achievement in 2018. Bishop's Committee members adopted the following areas:

- Our Regional Presence and Growing Diversity: Lara
- Children and Youth Ministry: Gray (which seems natural, as he supervises Barbie and Erina)
- Serving our Community: Tim
- Spiritual Development: Melinda and Wendy
- Congregational & Community Culture: Kevin and Jason

2018 Bishop's Committee Goals

Gray suggested we defer the review of these goals until our February 2018 meeting, when we would have drafts of quantifiable outcomes available that might inform us of how to shape our 2018 goals. The Committee agreed and deferred this item until February.

2018 Generosity Campaign

Gray reviewed the steps in place for the Generosity Campaign, noting that all invitations for Consistent Giving Cards had been mailed to every household, and that he would personally email a follow-up note with each household in the coming week in anticipation of our Ingathering Sunday on January 28, 2018. The Bishop's Committee encouraged Gray in these emails to use language around sustainability and to remind our members that part of this "ask" includes the fact that we will now not ask members to buy materials for service projects so often.

Pathways to Vitality Update

Pathways members Jason Addis and Kevin Samples reviewed the work that the team is doing, which is focusing on helping us find healthy structures and processes to take our growth to the next level. They hope to come back to the Bishop's Committee in the spring with a suggested model for adoption.

Worship Space Move

Gray briefly discussed that plans for moving to the gymnasium at Harris as a more permanent worship location are still underway. He needs to work with Wendy Meaden on set up and "set design" and with Kendall on ensuring the sound system is not so bouncy in the space. He is hoping to move in March or April.

With no further business, the Committee signed thank you letters accompanying 2017 giving statements, approved expenses and check authorizations and adjourned at 2:15 p.m.