

**Good Samaritan Episcopal Church  
Bishop's Committee Meeting Minutes**

March 1, 2019

**Members Present:** The Rev. Dr. Gray Lesesne, Jason Addis, Ellen Burton, David Huang, Kevin Samples, Erin Tanner, Denise Young, The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows

**Regrets:** Melinda Sowers

Father Gray called the meeting to order at 12:19 p.m. after a worship service presided over by Bishop Baskerville-Burrows as part of her Episcopal visitation.

**Check-ins:** Bishop's Committee members spent a few minutes offering joys and concerns from our own lives.

**Vicar's Report:** In the last Bishop's Committee Meeting, Father Gray requested feedback from the Committee in regard to the information to be included in his Vicar's Report. He compiled the list and distributed it as follows:

Measures and Benchmarks as of February 25, 2020

- Number of people in "base": (completed Good Sam's 101 and considered solid): 176 (117, adults, 59 children/youth)
- Number of newcomers (people in the pipeline yet to go through Newcomer Initiation): 33 (22 adults, 11 children/youth)
- Rolling attendance last 4 weeks: 120 (136, 117, 91, 134)
- Year to date (YTD) attendance average Sunday attendance: 123.5
- At this time last year, our YTD average Sunday attendance was: 103
- 2020 amount pledged: \$152,834 in 67 pledges
- 2020 amount given: \$23,473 (as of February 9, 2020)
- Since last time: Gray's meetings with community leaders: Chris Paulsen (exec director, Indiana Youth Group); The Rev. Sharon Washington-Williams (pastor, Bethel United Methodist Church); Annette Johnson (Pike Township Trustee); Austin Greene (retired development director, Christian Theological Seminary)

The meeting continued with a conversation with Bishop Baskerville-Burrows, sharing areas of joy and concern about the congregation's health and vitality. Significant portions of the conversation focused on strategic planning, the relationship between the Diocese and Good Samaritan as a mission, and Good Samaritan's gratitude for ongoing support of the Vicar's salary as part of a larger use of resources to focus on our continued growth. At the conclusion of the conversation, the Bishop thanked the Committee and departed.

The Committee resumed with its normal agenda.

**February Meeting Minutes:** The minutes were reviewed and no amendments were necessary. Erin made a motion to approve the February Meeting Minutes. Ellen seconded the motion. February Meeting Minutes approved.

**Financial Report:** In Melinda's absence, the committee briefly reviewed the financial report ending January 30, 2020. Father Gray indicated that more discussion would occur at the next meeting when Melinda was present. Approval of the financial report was deferred until the next meeting.

**Mission Statement:** Father Gray invited conversation surrounding the mission statement that was crafted during the strategic planning meeting in January. Members offered suggestions on editing and fine-tuning the statement. The Committee unanimously adopted the revised mission statement:

*Good Samaritan Episcopal Church is a growing community of open-minded Christians who strive to do what Jesus teaches: to love, serve, and include all people without exception. We are building a joyful, courageous, diverse, and creative fellowship that puts faith into action. We gather to celebrate together, to grow in faith, and to go beyond our walls to connect with and serve our neighbors.*

**Strategic Planning Update:** Erin Tanner updated the Committee on issues the Strategic Planning teams have been working on. She has spoken with Robert Miller from Charitable Allies, a nonprofit agency that specializes in working with other nonprofits, about helping us to craft a 501c3 organization when we have partners ready. Ellen Burton noted that her group working to identify nonprofit partners has targeted possible organizations to talk with and will gauge their interest in participating in the new building utilization.

The meeting concluded with Prayer Requests and Thanksgivings.

With no further business, the Committee adjourned at 1:37pm.

Faithfully submitted,

Denise Young