

**Good Samaritan Episcopal Church  
Bishop's Committee Meeting Minutes  
Sunday, November 21, 2021**

The Bishop's Committee met via Zoom.

**Members Present:** Ellen Burton, Melinda Sowers, David Huang, Erin Tanner, Charlee Mitchell, Susan Burt, The Reverend Beth Scriven. Guests: Courtenay Murakowski

Mother Beth called the meeting to order at 1:37 PM. Committee members shared the joys and concerns in their lives.

**October Meeting Minutes:** The minutes from the October meeting were reviewed. With corrections, Ellen made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Erin seconded. Motion approved.

**Building trust between vicar and congregation:** Continuation of the conversation started with the bishop. Discussion ensued surrounding the layers of trust and how to build that between Beth and the congregation. 3 things to help: A survey of some kind. Anne will commit to a digital survey of a congregation to see what people want as we regather. BC agenda item: What do we want to report out and how? Beth and BC to look for opportunities to start conversations to build trust and camaraderie. As well as the BC and Beth talking with the congregation - We are here for you, and we are ready to hear you. Also, offer a night or two at Starbucks for "office hours".

**Treasurer's Report:** Melinda reviewed account activity from October. Current balances reflect in \$188,414.73 the checking account and \$120,484.18 in the savings account. Discussion about October's Treasurer's report and pledge entry and splits in Realm. Charlee made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Anne seconded. Motion approved.

**Stewardship Update:** Anne is discussing events moving forward beyond Celebration Sunday. Currently pledged at over \$100K so far this year.

**Budget:** Erin discussed the budget and all the various aspects of how we built it. Deficit of \$24K at this point. 1/2 of the pledge cards have been submitted. Several discussions about the deficit and how it could change between now and the Annual Meeting. BC will vote on the actual draft in December.

**Worship changes**

- Review plan – Livestreaming team met today. Will be ready to start Dec 5 to work out the details.
- Decide details – Does this start January 2<sup>nd</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup>? David moved we select January 9, 2022, as the day on which we change to a 10AM in person live service livestreamed publicly available and we stop the separate Zoom worship offering. Melinda second. Motion passes unanimously.
- Communications strategy – the change will be announced via the e-news. Discussion of cleaning of the wording about services. Also, conversation about Christmas communications.

**Nominating committee** – BC in executive session for slate for BC and Diocesan Delegates.

**Guidelines committee** – overview of guideline updates. Food and Drink are the substantial changes. Erin moves that new guidelines are accepted as adjusted. Ellen seconded. All approved

**Vicar's Report:**

*By the numbers...*

Measures and Benchmarks as of November 15, 2021

- Number of people in “base”: (members and regular participants): 252 (173 adults, 79 children/youth)
- Number of newcomers (people in the pipeline yet to go through Newcomer Initiation): 9 adults
- Rolling attendance last 4 weeks: (90, 90, 89, 97) avg. 92
- Year to date average Sunday attendance: Astrid and I are both up to our eyebrows at this point and Realm won't auto-calculate this now that we have two services a week. We promise to figure out how to get this back in the mix as soon as we clear some breathing space. **For real. There has not been breathing space yet but this can absolutely happen in January before BC & annual meeting.**
- Year to date average Sunday attendance last year at this time: 130.8
- 2021 amount pledged: 72 pledges for \$162,783
- 2021 amount given: \$128,268.69
- Vicar's community connections: October - 5 external, 4 internal, 1 Episcopal.  
External: Amos Mihanda (local pastor and counselor), Resident Academy (final), Leah Gunning-Francis (dean of Christian Theological Seminary and our October pub theo speaker), Chamber of Commerce, Trail & Treat
- We are starting to see newcomer connections pick up a tiny bit again, maybe, now that we are back regularly in person. It's a little early to call it a pattern, and we're not where we once were on it, but I'm gently encouraged in this area. We will definitely want to plan for a promotions boost in January once we have re-established a consistent 10 am schedule, and 2022 will be a year to get back to a strong promotions plan generally.
- External/internal/Episcopal balance was a yellow flag in September - in October and November so far this balance is looking better. It does not currently look like this is a pattern that needs intervention.

**Village Hub Update:** Contained in agenda. Any questions?

**Member on Duty signups:** Shared the link. Get us signed up

**Reports from Ministry Liaison Areas:** No reports for this meeting.

**Prayer Requests/Thank yous** – Thank you needs to be sent to Courteney. Wendy also needs to be thanked for her extra help for ministry work. Beth will ask Anne to work on these.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:48 pm.

Faithfully submitted,  
Susan Burt

**Bishop's Committee Agenda**  
**November 21, 2021 1:30 p.m.**

| <b>Agenda Item</b>   | <b>Who leads?</b>  | <b>Action Needed</b>               | <b>Suggested Time</b> |
|--|--------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Opening Prayer and Check-Ins   | Bishop's Committee |                                    | 5 minutes             |
| Approval of October meeting minutes<br>(attached)  | Bishop's Committee | Approval                           | 3 minutes             |
| Building trust between vicar and congregation  | Vicar and wardens  | Discussion                         | 30 minutes            |
| Treasurer's Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and approval of October reconciliation and financial reports</li> </ul> | Melinda            | Approval                           | 3 minutes             |
| Stewardship Update   | Anne               | Update                             | 7 minutes             |
| Budget   | Erin               | Presentation, discussion           | 25 minutes            |
| Personal needs break   |                    |                                    | 5 minutes             |
| Worship changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review plan</li> <li>Decide details</li> <li>Communications strategy</li> </ul>   | Beth               | Discuss, approve detailed plan     | 15 minutes            |
| Nominating committee   | Wardens            | Update, feedback                   | 7 minutes             |
| Guidelines committee   | David              | Update, possible feedback/approval | 10 minutes            |
| Written reports (below) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vicar's Report</li> <li>Village Hub update</li> </ul>                     | Beth               | Acceptance, clarification          | 3 minutes             |
| Member on Duty signups   | Bishop's Committee | Sign up                            | 5 minutes             |
| Reports from Ministry Liaisons   | Bishop's Committee | Feedback, concerns                 | 2 minutes             |
| What do we want to communicate, how, to whom?  | BC                 | Decision                           | 5 minutes             |
| Prayer Requests/Thank yous   | Bishop's Committee |                                    | 5 minutes             |

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|-------|--|--|-------------|
|       |  |  |             |
| TOTAL |  |  | 130 minutes |

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## Village Hub Update:

- Good Samaritan awarded a grant from Trinity Wall Street for \$150,000. Will be used to fund the design development process as much as possible.
- Rob is working to schedule a meeting for all the partners in the coming weeks to discuss next steps including: update on the process, funding opportunities (GS and from other partners), other potential partners to approach, general governance discussions
- Mary is working on the RFQ for the design process - release of the RFQ is one of the next steps.