

Good Samaritan Episcopal Church
Bishop's Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 19, 2023

The Bishop's Committee met at the Reverend Jim Said's home in Brownsburg.

Members Present: Fr. Jim Said, Susan Burt, Tim Grino, Mike Kennedy, Katy Hilts, Anne Davis, Charlee Mitchell, Treasurer Melinda Sowers, and Clerk Tina Lamb.

Father Jim called the meeting to order, opening with prayer at approximately 7:15 p.m.

Locations of future meetings were discussed, as were their dates. Generally, meetings are the third Wednesday of each month. The homes of Jim, Tim, Susan, Mike, Charlee, and Tina were offered; other suggestions included the Brownsburg Library, Best Friends Coffee and Bagel, and Arbuckle Park. May 17th will be the next meeting and will be at Tim's house.

Approval of March Meeting Minutes and Consent Agenda: Anne moved to approve the minutes and Susan seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. Charlee moved to approve the consent agenda and Katy seconded; all were in favor.

Treasurer's Update:

- Checking: \$130,903.52
- Savings: \$120,793.20

Melinda had not yet shifted the funds as discussed at the March meeting but planned to do so in April, as part of April's reconciliation. Credit cards were obtained for Barbie, Bri and Jim. An audit is scheduled for May 17th.

New Business:

● **Contingency Plans for losing some of our space at Good Sam's:** Harris is taking over some vocational programming for Ben Davis as early as fall 2023, and we will lose the nursery space, possibly the stage area, and maybe even the storage space. This will present logistical problems we must be thinking about. Tim suggested asking for a list of high-priority spaces to start vacating, one of which will probably be the nursery. Anne suggested that we take an inventory of what is stored where, and then talk about where else we might store things. Mike offered to talk with Reagan of Brownsburg Schools to gather the information. Jim will send an email to Reagan to give her a heads-up that Mike is our point person. Melinda noted we need an updated inventory anyway, for insurance purposes, but also due to a need for additional equipment. The potential use of a box truck for storage was discussed. Jim noted there's another nursery at Harris that could possibly be used. An inventory was taken by Cal Brandenburg pre-Covid, but it needs to be updated. Jim will talk with Mary Kay Copeland, of the Admin Committee.

- **Village Hub - Next Steps:** Charlee learned that some Good Samaritan members had felt confused by a recent letter regarding the Village Hub. The Bishop's Committee discussed: renewing the project; contacting remaining members of the original Hub committee; inviting new committee members; and choosing a team manager—ideally within two weeks. Charlee agreed to have an outreach draft ready the following week.

- **Ratification of Resolution 2 (Antiracism Statement):** Tim moved to approve the resolution; Susan seconded. All were in favor. An online form will be completed.

- **Ministry Treasures:** A spreadsheet does exist and was shared with the committee by Charlee. This data is based on this year's pledge cards. Bishop's Committee members will reach out to all those on the spreadsheet, via their ministry leaders.

Old Business:

- **Status update on "Lost Sheep"** Jim reached out to individuals; some Good Sam's attendees are watching services online and are not "lost." He recommended an invitation campaign; maybe the first Sunday of the month can be "Bring a Friend to Church Day," perhaps coordinated with back-to-school time. Anne noted it's important to consider the schedule of service activities. Katy recommended reengaging our partners, e.g., Family Promise. Anne suggested that now that we are past the worst of Covid, we can encourage the Connections Committee to reach out in some of these ways. Nancy Slagle has mentioned she wants to focus more on helping new people settle into Good Sam's. Tim offered to touch base with Nancy. Discussion ensued.

- **Good Sam's Policy on Vicar's Discretionary Account and spending limits:** Policy around the Vicar's Discretionary Fund was developed and discussed by the Committee. Jim will arrange for Bri to be taught how to make necessary changes in Realm. Charlee moved to approve the creation of a Vicar's Discretionary fund and to remove the previous Pastoral Care Fund from the outreach budget per the policy document. Susan seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Ministry Liaison Reports:

Charlee reported that three established members of the church expressed interest in being involved in the Discernment Committee, but there are hopes for a couple more. This would be a committee to develop our parish profile. Anne suggested seeking newer member involvement also. Discussion ensued.

Mike reviewed an extensive list of Outreach Committee activities held thus far in 2023. He will talk with Beth Hannon Penney about boosting involvement on the committee.

Katy will begin planning for membership on the Stewardship Committee, and will talk directly about this with Anne, who's handled it in the past.

Tim mentioned that Nancy Slagle provided an update on the many efforts she's been making, e.g., with welcoming newcomers. She would like someone to handle a meal train ministry and would also like some members of the greeter team who would greet people as they enter the building. One person could staff the welcome table, and one can handle tasks such as checking in with visitors after service. Nancy would like someone to take over community events, e.g., movies in the park. She was recently contacted by Brownsburg Magazine about running an ad for Good Sam's. Seeking potential candidates to help Nancy with these projects was discussed.

Updates to the church website were discussed, along with who in the congregation might handle them. Charlee and Ben Mitchell are willing to handle some tasks, but there is a budget for marketing. Discussion ensued.

Susan stated there were no updates for the Budget Committee.

Jim mentioned that he had sent a message to Canon Brendan O'Sullivan Hale regarding marketing but was waiting to hear back. Jim also shared that he was the preacher at St. Richard's School that day, and it was a wonderful experience.

Vicar's Report: Measures and Benchmarks as of April 16, 2023

- Number of people in "base": (members and regular participants): 323 (223 adults, 100 children/youth)
- Number of newcomers (people in the pipeline yet to go through Newcomer Initiation): 5
- Rolling attendance last 6 weeks: (94, 95, 83, 121, 199, 126)
- Year to date average Sunday attendance: 107
- 2022 Total Average Attendance: 86.6
- 2022 Previous year given: \$151,616.16 2022 Number of Pledges: 56
- 2023 Amount pledged: \$163,658.12 2023 Number of Pledges: 57
- 2023 Amount given YTD: \$37,414.90
- Vicar's newcomer connections: 2 (Noah Cash and Dan Dippold).

Meeting Adjourned: 8:57 p.m.