

6:30 pm – 6:55 pm Holy Eucharist, *High Altar*

**Annual Meeting Bethesda Episcopal Church
January 28, 2020
7:00 pm**

In attendance:

Priest-in-Charge; Senior Warden; Junior Warden
Parishioners (35) and one beagle

Opening Prayer & Greeting: Dean Vang 7:02pm

Sr. Warden D. Miller welcomed all in attendance. Dean Vang delivered the Invocation.
A. Bullock appointed Clerk of the Meeting.

Annual Election - Nominations: Sr. Warden Darren Miller:

Nominations:

Current Vestry identified. 2020 Class: C. Berheide, nominated for re-election as Jr Warden.

S. Manny, nominated for election as Treasurer

J. Van Der Veer nominated for election to continue term on Vestry; F. Horne and S. Rucker, nominated for re-election to new terms,

Nominees to new Vestry positions:

D. Wilder (one-year term)

K. Finkbeiner

Floor opened for one hour for further nominations

Interim Rector's Report: Dean Vang

1. Parochial report to be reported to national church.

Dean Vang noticed on his arrival that the Church attendance is affected by winter weather.

Report will show: 9764 worshippers in 2019

5723 Sunday worshipers

4041 attended weekdays

8356 received communion

101 Sunday eucharist

2 weddings; 11 funerals

1 ordination

11 baptisms

2. Bp Love Trial:

Trial to start April 2020. He is charged with violation of Canon Law B012 and will ultimately be tried by five bishops. Likely that he will be convicted at the end of the trial (however long that may be) and then the Diocese will have an interim Bishop. Following this, there will be a search for a new Bishop. Expect this will take up to eighteen months.

Prayers are asked for the Church: membership decline has affected the Diocese strongly and this church is no exception. Bethesda has future opportunities that will encourage growth.

Commented [AB1]:

Financial Reports & 2020 Budget: John Van Der Veer, Treasurer, & Sara Manny, Asst Treas. M Griffin invited to talk about the time and effort members of the church give voluntarily. He acknowledged the contributions of all with gratitude and invited further involvement.

Acknowledgment of bookkeeper, Elaine Leach and Admin, Barbara Latzko; as well as members and leadership of the Endowment Committee.

Audit completed and generally excellent.
\$4.3M in assets
\$321,562 P&P income total was higher than 2019 budget
\$292,275 in expenses well below 2019 budget

Net ordinary income \$29,286 included Proctor estate bequest of \$34000
Deficit of \$13,000 although the deficit continues to decrease year over year.

Proposed 2020 budget:
Income: \$253,409 P&P
Temporary restricted \$31,411
Other income projected
\$284,820 total budgeted 2020 income

Expenses

Payroll including interim rector is the largest single expense.
Total anticipated expense \$299,755. Project a deficit of about \$1000 BUT the start of a new priest in August will increase our expenses and the deficit will then increase to about \$16,000.
Current pledge units at 57: amount of pledge \$167,000 total. Continued pledge receipts encouraged and anticipated. May require additional pledge campaign upon announcement of incoming rector.

Diocesan assessment is based on 15% of unrestricted gifts. Jones Fund, eg, is not included in the calculation of assessment, so the assessment has been reduced considerably. We are nonetheless in the top third of parish assessments within the diocese.

Rector Search Report: Jr. Warden Catherine Berheide

Heard from candidate today (Jan 28, 2020): communication is challenging since he is abroad. The covenant is being completed presently. The expectation is an August 1 start date. We are keeping his identity confidential until the covenant is signed. A new rector will be much more expensive and will result in an increase in expenses. Parish will need to increase pledging.

New Parish House, Mercy House, Church Restoration Projects: Darren Miller & Gordon Boyd
Recap of Mercy House project. Sano-Rubin to be contractor. Construction contract is under negotiation and will be signed this week. Building permit to be issued with the expectation of breaking ground in Feb 2020.

Parish spaces on first floor and areas to be leased to other community groups as needed, Mercy House is the upper second through fourth floors of the parish house and will lease the space from the church on a fifty-year lease with extensions —to be sub-leased by Mercy House to community organizations, including Transitional Services, BEST, AIM and CREATE (art therapy) Letters of intent with sub-tenants are in progress now. Daytime café in the first floor in negotiation. Observed that the mission of Mercy House is supportive of the mission of Bethesda Church. (Matthew 25:40)

Rents expected to generate \$250,000 annually which will cover the expenses of Mercy House; further anticipated that the project will result in parish income.

Donor is still anonymous and still committed to providing all funds to construct MH. The cost is about \$11 million and there may be a bridge loan secured by the donor. Ongoing discussion to allow for bridge financing before the closing on the donor's business. Expect update on this within next weeks. We have \$2 million on hand now to begin the work.

Church restoration included in the MH project to allow for columbarium; church roof; chapel, etc. Assurance that capital fund donations restricted to church restoration will be used directed.

Church restoration:

Reredos has been restored, as have many of the brass pieces. The lectern is to be repaired next. The entry doors are being repaired and the center door replaced by a glass door, allowing view into the church.

Heating, ventilation and air conditioning in the church will be served eventually by those in the parish house. Can continue to use the systems in place now as they have life left in them. The result in this kind of thinking has allowed for about a million dollars in construction savings

Question: rectory is presently vacant as Dean Vang has moved in anticipation of new rector arrival.

(Note: repairs and renovations will be completed over the next months as required to ready the rectory for the new rector's arrival.)

Annual Election Results: Darren Miller

M. Griffin and S. Boyd moved the close nominations

Motion to approve the slate made by F. Horne, second G. Boyd. Approved by acclamation with congratulations to all.

Closing Remarks & Q/A Session (additional time available if necessary)

Questions concerning the new rector. Still confidential which all acknowledge is frustrating. There will be a period of two months between the end of Dean Vang's tenure (May) and the start of the new rector's term (August) Fr. Scott will serve as supply and Fr. Landon Moore may be able to serve occasionally. Hope that we will be able to conclude this within a couple of weeks and announce the new rector, assuming he has internet connection and can finalize covenant soon.

Parking not a City planning requirement of the parish house project. We create the development and the City provides parking. Once Ayco leaves the adjoining building, there will be parking there until new tenant(s) move in.

Reports on the health needs of several parishioners.

Dean Vang acknowledged with thanks the leadership of the Vestry, as well as the leadership of Mercy House

Blessing & Adjournment: Dean Vang

Motion to adjourn: M.Shartle; universally seconded.

Benediction by Dean Vang

Adjourned at 8:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,

A Bullock, Clerk