

## **MISSION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

### **December 8, 2024**

**In attendance:** Kevin Sangster, Andy Listman, Pat Schaffer, Al King, Denise King and Lillian Knott.

The meeting called to order at 11:07 a.m. with prayer said by all.

**Minutes:** Review of last month's minutes. No corrections were needed for last month's minutes, so a Motion was made by Andy Listman to accept the Minutes as corrected and seconded by Al King. All were in favor and the Motion passed.

#### **Correspondence and Announcements:**

Christmas Party Potluck, Dec 22, 2024, in the Fellowship Hall.

Annual Meeting & Elections- Sunday, January 26, 2025. All annual meeting reports are needed by January 19, 2025.

**Treasurer's Report:** Denise King mentioned that she failed to send the GIFT program their check in May of 2024. So, the GIFT program will get \$200 in December (instead of the normal \$100). That covers both the months of May 2024 & Dec 2024. The \$100 was already recorded on the Treasurer Report in May, so the correction will only need to be made on Realm and in the checkbook. Al King made a Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and corrected and was seconded by Pat Schaffer. All were in favor and the Motion passed.

**Senior Warden's Report:** GIFT Program: 115 dinners given away and church donated 100 boxes of stuffing mix. We are looking for free hams and turkeys for Christmas donations from our parishioners.

We collected \$250 from parishioners for Teach for Haiti, and we budgeted \$300 otherwise for this ministry, so a total of \$550 was sent.

Operations Christmas Child: We collected and donated 24 filled shoe boxes.

Deacon LOA: The Diocese is preparing a letter of agreement between Bruce Cecchini and The Church of the Good Shepherd for Bruce's appointment by the Bishop to serve as our Deacon. Although Deacons do not usually get paid, per diocesan guidelines, a small stipend is to be paid and mileage reimbursement for work done by the Deacon on behalf of the church. If the Deacon leads morning service by himself as opposed to serving alongside a priest, the Deacon is compensated for the service at the diocesan rate for supply clergy.

**Junior Warden's Report:** A representative from Atlantic City Electric is expected to come and give us an energy assessment. However, we need an assessment from South Jersey Gas. Al will contact South Jersey Gas to get an assessment from them.

We also need to look at re-programming the thermostat so that the heat does not come on when there is no one at church. Andy is going to look into this for us.

Al will check with Shipshape to make sure we no longer get charged for fall/spring clean-up as our sexton should be doing that work.

**Convention:** Attendees were Pat Schaffer, Al King, Cynthia & Fr Russell. Emphasis of the convention was saving money for the Diocese.

**Fundraising:** Last event to sell Christmas Raffle Tickets was at the Winter on the Avenue event held on Saturday, December 7, 2024. Our Christmas Raffle Ticket Drawing is on Sunday, December 15, 2024, at 11:00am here at the church.

### **Old/Unfinished Business:**

2025 Church Budget-The 2025 Budget was reviewed and passed by all. Outreach is specifically affected because of the reduction in the pledged amount received. Our monthly contribution to the GIFT program's operational expenses will be reduced from \$100 to \$50 per month; however, our support for the program otherwise will continue. The budgeted amounts for our other Outreach programs, such as Teach for Haiti and the Diocesan Golf Fundraiser, have also been reduced.

VEMs and Sick/Shut-ins: Pat Schaffer will now be the VEM for Dona Smith.

TD Bank Changes: Kevin and Denise will go to the bank on/around December 31, 2024, to make the changes to our bank accounts as previously approved by the Mission Committee.

### **New Business:**

Change to 2025/26 Pledge Form: Approved by the Mission Committee (all present voting in favor) to make it easier for the parishioners and so that the church can have the option of divvying up the allocations into the funds that are needed. Instead of pledges to the various dedicated funds, we will move to just one general pledge (Estimate of Giving), and a Capital Campaign Fund as necessary. Parishioners will still have the option to make a special pledge if they so desire.

Church Building Committee (Hall Expansion/Renovation): Committee members are Dcn. Bruce Cecchini, Jerry Rugletic, Andy Listman, Al King, and Kevin Sangster.

1<sup>st</sup> Phase of the hall expansion/renovation: Eric Hafer and Associates, architect, has been engaged and has provided a proposal/estimate (which will include drawings, documents &/or designs). Once the architectural drawings have been completed, a site engineer will be engaged to do the necessary site planning and will work with the borough to get all the necessary approvals done.

The fee of **\$3,560.00** for the architect was approved by all attending mission committee members.

**Outreach and Evangelism:** The members present suggested some ways in which we could shift our outreach and evangelism focus for 2025. An effort will be made to more closely engage our area schools (Berlin Borough, West Berlin, and Atco) so a better partnership can be developed for us to better engage parents and children in need. We could possibly look into awarding a scholarship for which students from the different schools would need to apply. An Outreach and Evangelism Committee will be established after our Annual Meeting to better plan for this new focus in 2025.

**Adjournment:** A Motion was made by Andy Listman to end the meeting and was seconded by Al King. All were in favor and the Motion passed.

The meeting ended at 1:09p.m. with prayer said by all.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise King

Acting Secretary,  
Mission Committee

Mission Comm Mtng – December 8,2024