*Report to the 2024 Annual Meeting of The Church of the Good Shepherd/El Buen Pastor*

*The Rev. Canon Mary June Nestler, Interim Priest*

It has been my great privilege to serve Good Shepherd/El Buen Pastor through 2023 and to make this, my second annual report, to the Annual Meeting. I am pleased to say that GS/EBP is vibrant, healthy, and eager to begin its work with the Rector-elect, Pastor Lisa Mensinger.

During this year my half-time work naturally focused on supporting the congregation during the search and transition process. I conducted liturgy and preached, and officiated at the following pastoral offices:

 Baptisms: 2 Marriages: 1 Funeral/burials: 5

 In addition, I made approximately 15 in-home or hospital visits to the sick and welcomed 5 persons for 9 sessions of in-office pastoral counseling. Visitors at our church door needing food or other assistance remained high in the year, and I was grateful to the resources of the parish to be able, along with my colleagues, to help them.

The work of the office was challenging as we lost Linda Harden to retirement in May and were without permanent assistance until September. Ms. Jan Lyons was hired as Parish Administrator and has proven invaluable to the smooth running of office matters and the support of clergy and wardens. I thank the many volunteers who filled in the gap.

Another employee change was initiated this year, the addition of a second organist to job-share with DeeAnn Brinkerhoff. Ms. Debra Bush joined the music team in January, 2024.

I met with the clergy and wardens nearly every Tuesday to go over parish operations and highlight needs, note successes and joys, and plan for the future. These meetings were essential to parish wellbeing between vestry meetings.

I attended vestry meetings each second Thursday night of the month and accomplished follow-up tasks that flowed from the meetings. I feel privileged to have had such a hard-working vestry whose members are heart-deep in the life and ministries of GS/ELP.

The bishop requires all clergy heads of congregations to meet via zoom on Thursdays. It was helpful and delightful for me to have this time of conversation and learning with my colleagues and our bishop.

The Diocesan Convention was held in Price in April, 2023, and I attended with the delegation of clergy and laity from GS/ELP. We were proud to see that the Shepherd’s Fold, our linen ministry, was featured in a film shown to the convention.

I am deeply grateful to the vestry and congregation for having allowed The Rev. Patti Sanchez, The Rev. Isabel Gonzalez, and myself to travel as pilgrims (and I as leader) to St. George’s College in Jerusalem. Our two weeks there over Holy Week and Easter was profound and will influence our future ministries life-long.

Parish life flourished this past year, with many newcomers joining both language communities. I worked to welcome them and was pleased to see them join in parish activities, from the spring and fall picnics to the twining of the greens to grounds cleanup days to the blessings of the animals. Social hours after worship on Sundays gathered a large percentage of worshippers each week, indicating the desire of so many to join in fellowship and get to know one another.

The new kitchen and dining room downstairs, dedicated in January, 2023, has been well used across the year. El Buen Pastor’s post-worship lunches were held there, along with a special Thanksgiving Day dinner for anyone in the congregation (48 attended!). The Wednesday lunch preparations group makes some 200 bag lunches for distribution to three locales, including GS/EBP, each week.

I proposed to the vestry some building use changes, and these changes have been implemented. The rector’s office and The Attic were reversed. The Adult Forum was moved into a newly-arranged Atrium I so it could have a dedicated space and allow Tuttle Hall to remain a room free for traffic flow on Sunday mornings. Sunday school materials were pulled out of the many rooms they were stored in and sorted and stored for easy access. New desks were purchased and assembled by Rick Sanchez for Madre Isabel’s and Deacon Patti’s offices, improving the usable space in those offices greatly. The new rector’s office looking out on the front courtyard has now been painted and new carpet will be laid in the near future. Deacon Patti arranged for younger volunteers to assist over many weeks with these moving projects, which saved many a parishioner’s back! Finally, the Shepherd’s Fold linen ministry has three newly-painted rooms to store the linens.

I marvel always at the number of parishioners who quietly supply things or work at GS/EBP. Toiletries and food for the homeless are brought, chair “feet” are ordered and installed, the kitchen is overseen and kept up to date, vestments are cared for, poinsettias are bought and watered—and other things too numerous to mention. There is a sense that people view this historic campus as their home, as is right and good!

All of my work has been supported by amazing parish leadership. My clergy colleagues are each very devoted and skilled in their ministries. Deacon Patti is indeed linking the church to the world and the world to the church, and the one example of a successful blood drive weeks ago showed her dedication to our community. Madre Isabel is a faithful pastor and a dedicated evangelist. Her hard work has grown the El Buen Pastor community greatly, with 117 in attendance at the bishop’s visitation in January, 2023. I am grateful for their collegial spirit and help to me.

No parish on the planet can claim such a Senior Warden and Junior Warden as we have been lucky enough to have. Dan Johnston and Jean Norman will be warmly recognized and thanked by me at this meeting for the amazing amount of work they have done to raise up this congregation. I cannot thank them enough. And I thank their spouses and families who have supported them in this work.

My final Sunday at GS/EBP will be February 11th. I have tears in my eyes as I write this, for these 18 months have been a great gift to me. I will miss each of you dearly, and will keep you always in my prayers. Thank you for each act of kindness and for the richness of your presence in my life. In late February I will be moving to Washington, D.C., where I’ll be near one daughter there and another in New York City. I will take with me such deep memories as I retire (again!). Thank you, thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Cn. Mary June Nestler January 24, 2024

**El Buen Pastor**

**2023 Annual Report**

During the 2023 year we were blessed to have the honor to continually grow our existing relationships with our brothers and sisters of Good Shepherd (as members of El Buen Pastor).

Throughout the year our Sunday school has been able to combine adequately and successfully with the children of Good Shepherd; which in turn has allowed one of our (El Buen Pastor) members to volunteer as a Sunday school teacher. Thus, helping our congregations strengthen our relationship on a continual level, which has provided the children in both congregation’s numerous opportunities to participate in events within the year.

On Shove Tuesday both congregations gathered for sausages and pancake dinner. We had a lot of fun talking and laughing, this generally occurs before the start of lent. On another occasions, we celebrate a few Masses together, some of which are the celebration of the Lady of Guadalupe and las Posadas. These traditions help us to express our hospitality, while at the same time allowing for members of our congregations to get to know each other.

In the summer we were able to have our annual retreat to Camp Tuttle. We had many people that participated. The members have mentioned that they enjoy being in the wilderness and away from the stresses of their daily lives, while at the same time having the ability to learn more about our savior and being with their loved ones.

Last year we had 7 Confirmation, 10 Baptisms, 12 First Communions, 3 Quinceaneras, 2 three years presentations, and many other celebrations that have strengthened our relationship as members of El been Pastor with our brother and sisters of Good Shephard.

I believe it is important for me to continue with the Bible Studies and have done so on Sunday at 9:00 am. This helps members expresses our spiritual connection with others, members and well as provides them with learning atmosphere in which they can ask questions and the tools they need in order to research on their own or learn from one another. Additionally, I visited individuals in the hospital and even in their homes, and provided communion for these individuals that were unable to attend for one reason or another.

Rev. Isabel Gonzalez

El Buen Pastor Episcopal Church

**Annual Meeting - Rev. Dcn. Patti Sanchez January/2024**

**Adult Education (Adult Forum and Bible Study)**

 Adult Forum - Dr. Mark Letourneau

Annual Meeting28 January 2024ADULT FORUM REPORT FOR 2023CurriculumSpring Semesterspirituality: Barbara Brown Taylor, An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith stewardship: Rhonda Gill Lenten series: Jon M. Sweeney, (ed.), Jesus Wasn’t Killed by the JewsBible study: exegesis of Micah based on the Hebrew text Fall Semester pictures of Jerusalem: Revs. Mary June Nestler and Patricia Sanchez Anglican Identity (Iona curriculum from the Seminary of the Southwest) Biblical Overview (Iona curriculum from the Seminary of the Southwest) Bible study: The Three Eschatological Parables in Matthew 25 Advent: The Way of Love in Advent Grateful Achievements stable weekly attendance averaging six persons: thanks to all who attended participation in facilitating sessions: thanks to Bonnie Taylor and Rhonda Gill  move to classroom in the education wing: thanks to Mary June and the Vestry  publication of Adult Forum in The Call: thanks to Jean Norman, editor tech support for Zoom and videos: thanks to Steve Bauter annual budget ($100) to purchase video series: thanks to the Vestry  clergy support: thanks to the Rev. Patti Sanchez Goals for 2024 execute curriculum for Spring 2024 increase attendance by 50% by September 2024 (three more regular attendees) recruit two additional facilitators and one new member to the Adult Forum Committee work with our rector-elect on new directions for Adult Forum education

Mark S. LeTourneau Chair, Adult Forum Committee Chair

Committee Members:

 Steve Bauter, member; and Rev. Patti Sanchez, Adult Education Chair.

 Bible Study - Rev. Dcn. Patti

Weekly Bible Study was offered throughout the year. The studying of "All the Women of the Bible" was completed. This study was begun during Lent of 2023. Began studying "An Introduction to the New Testament" with an emphasis on the Gospel of John. This study will continue throughout 2024.

**Community of Hope**

The Utah Chapter of the Community of Hope conducted a training for new pastoral visitors and Rev. Dcn. completed this course offering. The community continues to meet monthly to discuss pastoral concerns and study "The Rule of St. Benedict."

**Miriam's Chapter of the Order of the Daughters of the King**

Submitted by Beth Clemenger, President

Annual activities for the DOK Miriam Chapter include:

* Monthly meetings September to June
* Service Projects

 Hygiene packs

 Advent Giving Tree

 DOK Prayer cards for the church pews.

* Published additional DOK Prayer Pamphlets for the homebound, delivered by the EV when making Eucharistic visits.
* Nov. 1 - Rev. Dcn. Patti Sanchez conducted an Icon Study with a guest speaker via ZOOM, the entire congregation was invited
* All Saints Day (Nov 5) - Held a church wide celebration for the Order of the Daughters of the King
* Dec 5 - Rev. Dcn. Patti Sanchez discussed her Israel trip and shared pictures She also "gifted" the Chapter with an Advent study “Living Well through Advent”
* The Chapter continues the ongoing prayer chain via text and through the pew cards of the Daughters of the King which are held in strict confidence
* The Chapter added a new member Abigail Bowes and had one member (Kat Warren) resigned

**Eucharistic Visitors (EV)**

The Eucharistic Visitors made weekly visits to our homebound congregation members for a total of 63 visits for 2023. The DOK prayer booklets were distributed to each homebound member by the EV.

Beginning 2024, the EV are using corporals when placing the consecrated elements on bedside tables and other appropriate surfaces.

**Interfaith Works!**

Interfaith Works! is a group of community leaders and social service agencies whose mission is to end hunger and help to resolve the unsheltered folks in our community. As the chair of this group, Rev. Dcn. Patti Sanchez conducts the monthly meetings and arranges presenters. Members of the Faith Community, as well as community leaders, attorneys and interested parties attend the meetings. The LDS church is active in this group and has been a great help in attracting speakers.

**Security Committee**

The committee met quarterly in 2023. The Security Committee completed it's review in 2021. Now that a Rector been called, we will meet monthly and report to the Vestry with updates.

**Shepherd's Bowl**

The weekly Wednesday Lunch Sack Lunch program continued in 2023. The Shepherd's Bowl Committee met in early 2023 and decided to continue with the sack lunch program which was provided pre COVID. Prior to COVID a sit down lunch was served; however, the Congregation would not support this type of outreach post COVID.

The sack lunch program provided up to 200 lunches 52 weeks of the year for an estimated total for 2023 of 10,400 lunches. Most of the volunteers are from the Just Serve Volunteer organization. There is a small budget provided by Good Shepherd; however, the major contributors are from the Bishop's Storehouse and volunteer donations from Just Serve.

**Shepherd's Fold**

The weekly offering of linens is offered to individuals coming out of being unsheltered and moving into their first permeant living situation. Shepherd's Fold helped 71 individuals in 2023.

A pillow contest was conducted in February and over 100 pillows were donated. The winners of the contest were treated to a Puerto Rican dinner hosted by Rev. Dcn. Patti Sanchez. although all the congregation were ultimately invited.

Pillow donations continue through Just Serve.

The Linen Pantry was showcased at the Utah Convention in 2023. A video interview with pictures of the Linen Pantry. Comments from Rev. Dcn. Patti Sanchez, Rev. Mary June Nestler+ and the Bishop Phyllis+ were included . The video was produced by the Diocese.

A flood occurred in the downstairs linen pantry late last summer. Consequently, everything had to be removed and the room was dried out and painted.

Thanks to the efforts of Jon and Ronda Gill, the panting was arranged and completed on December 5, 2023. Immediately afterwards, volunteers from the congregation helped to begin restoring the Linen Pantry to its previous splendor. On December 14, 2023, Interfaith Works! toured both linen pantries and enjoyed a soup and salad luncheon.

**Sister Berrett - Elder Volunteers**

These young men and women began assisting Good Shepherd in September. They removed furniture from the Deacon and Assistant Rector offices and delivered the furniture in Atrium 1 to help set up for Adult Forum and EFM.

In addition, the volunteers were able to assist Beth Clemenger and organized, and sorted through the Children's Sunday School items located throughout the Parish to consolidate everything into Atrium 2 (Children's Sunday School classroom).

The volunteers also helped remove linen racks and all the linens due to the flood, and once the pantry was painted, they restored the bulk of the linens in the downstairs linen pantry, and we were once again able to assist our unserved members in the community.

The volunteers will continue to serve Good Shepherd weekly and will be involved in organizing and sorting Shepherd's Fold items in Atrium 3, putting together items for the kitchen and cleaning the columbarium, which may entail sweeping, shoveling and leaf clearing.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Dcn. Patti Sanchez

Senior Warden Report 2023

 Good Shepherd had a very eventful year in 2023. The Rev. Cannon Mary June Nestler continued as our Interim Minister for the whole year. We have enjoyed having her serve at Services and her pastoral care. She will be missed after February.

 The Vestry held a spring retreat to make so basic plans for the year. They continued to meet at least once a month and did a great job of caring to the business of Good Shepherd. The Vestry with the assistance of the Search Committee were able the complete the search for our new Rector. Rev. Lisa Mensinger will start as Clergy in Charge March 1. We are very excited to have her as Shepherd of our flock.

 A Search Committee worked hard on the process of selecting our new minister. They met almost weekly for most of the year. Thank you so very, very much for your hard work.

 The combined attendance at both services is usually over 100. Sunday School and Adult Forum are going strong. The Morning and Evening Prayer meetings are meeting weekly.

Shepherd’s Bowl and Shepherd’s Fold are continuing their ministries.

It has been a pleasure to serve as Senor Warden for the past two years. May we have a success 2024.

 Dan Johnston

Annual Meeting 2024

**Buildings & Grounds Committee Report**

**Submitted by Jean Norman, Junior Warden**

2023 was a busy year, as details from the kitchen renovation were attended to and spaces that had been used for storage were reclaimed and repurposed. Some changes in building use:

* The Youth Room downstairs has been reclaimed and is ready for use.
* Atrium III has been converted to locked storage for Shepherd’s Bowl and Godly Play children’s storytelling materials.
* Atrium I was converted into an adult education room and is greatly appreciated by both Adult Forum and Education for Ministry.
* Atrium II remains the children’s education room. The children’s chapel downstairs also has been reclaimed, and the children gather in Atrium II upstairs, go downstairs for lessons and then the Latino children return to Atrium II and the English-speaking children go to 10:30 a.m. worship with their adults.
* The downstairs Shepherd’s Fold linen pantry was inspected, found sound and painted.

In addition, office spaces were repurposed to provide more privacy for the Clergy. This project is still ongoing, but it nearing completion.

* The Rector’s office was moved to the space occupied by the Attic, next to the Parish Administrator’s office. This gives the Rector a clear view of those who are coming into the courtyard to visit the church during the week. The office is being painted this week to prepare for the new Rector-elect, and carpeting should be installed before the new Rector-elect arrives.
* The Attic is now situated in the old Rector’s office and is thriving there.
* The Deacon remains in the office next to the current Attic space.
* New desks were purchased for the Deacon and Madre Isabel of El Buen Pastor. They had been using tables.
* All of the offices will receive upgrades in lighting.

The Vestry also applied for a national Sacred Places grant to help with restoration that needs to be done on the Memorial Chapel, which was built in 1874. We did not receive the grant, but the Narthex restoration is urgent because the entry into the Memorial Chapel has structural damage. The Vestry has voted to seek support from the Diocese of Utah to help pay for the restoration. The Good Shepherd Foundation has also pledged support to ensure this project is completed.

Two workdays were completed this year, cleaning the outdoors and indoors. Mulch in the back area was replaced with Bishop’s Mantle.

The wrought iron fence around the eastern lawn is showing wear. The Vestry has accepted a bid to repair it and create a gate from a section that has come loose. This should be done this spring.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve this year.

Jean Norman

Altar Guild Report 2023

Good Shepherd has been in Ogden 150+ years and the Altar Guild ministry also has a long history of serving the people of our church. An early record of our Altar Guild is dated in 1940. The Directress, Phyllis Rosevear, at that time writes, “the altar was prepared for services each Sunday for Holy Communion services.”

Many of the same customs and traditions continue today in the way the Altar Guild prepares and tends to the altar as we set our Lord’s table for Eucharist. We work as a team and “behind the scenes” to have the Eucharist set up on the altar table and our chapel set up for worship. We work in advance so everything is done before a service.

Duties we perform are:

Housekeeping - dusting the sanctuary, straightening the pews and kneelers, changing the hangings according to the church calendar and events, changing the hymnal and liturgical calendar boards, changing the sanctuary lamp and filling the candles, caring for the altar flowers, polishing and washing the vessels, and caring for and setting out the priest’s vestments.

Setting the table – preparing the bread, wine, vessels and linens for Eucharist. We care for the many vessels that are a legacy of gifts given as memorials for past clergy and parishioners.

Following a service, we clean up and put everything away. We take the used linens home to wash and iron.

We assist the clergy with the set up and clean up of baptisms, funerals and weddings.

We have two fund raisers each year – Easter lilies at Easter and poinsettias at Christmas. The funds allow us to purchase supplies such as the wine, wafers, oil for the candles, flowers to honor past altar guild members, linens and any other supplies as needed.

We currently have 10 active members: Anita Brooks, Rhonda Gill, Delores Ottley, Lucy Stretch, SueAnn Thomas, Billie Wilson and me. We welcomed three new members: Linda Hern, Marie Kawaguchi and Gena Trimble. Emeritus members are: Melanie Beckstead, Donna Kimball, Diane Lowe and Darlene Nelson. Sadly, we lost two Emeritus members this year: Barbara Anderson and Jackie Bergstrom.

We are always looking for new members. If you feel Altar Guild might be a ministry for you, talk to Mary June, Deacon Patti, any Altar Guild member or me. Altar Guild is not exclusive to women, men can join too.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Arnett, Altar Guild Directress

**The Attic Gift Shop**

**Church of the Good Shepherd**

**2023**

The Attic had a relatively good year for 2023. We had a moving sale before The Attic moved into Mary June’s office that took down a bloated inventory and brought in some much-needed cash.

The move into Mary June’s office went well and even though it still needs some tweaks, is working well.

After donating $600 in 2023 to church support, The Attic still wound up with almost $2,000 in profits. We so appreciate everyone who shops at The Attic.

We will donate $800 to church support for updating the sign on the Grant side of the church, we will also donate $300 to Shepherd’s Fold and $300 to Youth Impact for outreach. That will leave approximately $500 for inventory and expenses.

Before the pandemic, The Attic had an active committee. We have lost track of that committee and many are no longer at Good Shepherd. If you would like to be on The Attic committee, please let us know. We also need more helpers on Sunday or when Lee is out of town. Lila will not attend this winter on snowy mornings, which leaves us short staffed.

Thank you so much for your patronage and help. We will be limiting donations in merchandise to The Attic due to storage limitations. However, if you would like us to order something for you, please let Lee know.

The Attic Gift Shop,

Lee Hardy & Lila Small

ECW (Episcopal Church Women) Annual Report 2023

The following ECW Board members agreed to remain in their positions

President-Billie Wilson

Vice President – open

Treasurer- Belle Schwarzenbach

Secretary- open

Members-at-large- SueAnn Thomas, Karen Poggemeyer, Marie Kawaguchi, Rhonda Gill

The ECW held their annual meeting on April 24, 2023. We opened with prayer and then enjoyed a Salad Bar luncheon. We voted to disburse the money we raised with the 2022 Bazaar. $875 was given to the Vestry of Good Shepherd for lawn care and snow removal. We donated $1320 for outreach which was split equally between Youth Futures, Youth Impact, Zambia Scholarship Fund and Noor Society for People with Disabilities. We still have a carry-over amount of $1311.00 for an in-reach program.

We voted to hold a Bazaar on Nov 11, 2023 from 10 to 3 pm.

We had several members for our ECW who attended the Provence IIIV meeting at the Episcopal Center in SLC June 23-25, 2023.

We held an ice cream social on August 12,2023 at 6pm at Good Shepherd.

We held a successful Bazaar on November 11,2023 and a mini-Bazaar after Church on Dec 10, 2023. We Raised $4457.30. The disbursement of these funds will be voted on at the 2024 ECW annual meeting.

Our Secret Sister program continues in 2023.

We hope to increase participation in ECW in 2024.

Respectfully submitted

Billie Wilson

Education for Ministry (EFM) Report 2023

Education for Ministry (EFM) started this year in September 2023 with six students and three mentors. I am pleased to highlight the enriching experiences and meaningful discussions that have characterized this academic year.

Throughout the year, participants engaged in insightful conversations centered around the prescribed readings, fostering a sense of community and spiritual growth. An integral part of our journey involved sharing personal spiritual autobiographies, contributing to the deepening connections among the group. Notably, this year brought a unique dimension as participants shared visual representations as part of their spiritual narratives.

In addition to the regular curriculum, each participant takes turns leading Theological Reflections (TRs) this winter, often creating a moving prayer known as Colics. These reflections have added a profound and spiritual layer to our collective learning experience.

We are excited to welcome new students for the upcoming academic year starting in the Fall of 2024. Anyone interested in exploring EFM is encouraged to attend a class to get a feel for the program. For more information, feel free to contact any of the mentors, Bonnie Taylor, Cynthia Hudgens, or Steve Bauter, as well as current or past students.

The current year's participants are Sam and Mary Kate MaGoon-More, Anna Flandro, Beth Clemenger, Jeff Woolston, and Emma Tucker. EFM classes run from September to the end of May, meeting on Monday nights from 6:30 pm – 9 pm at the Good Shepherd.

EFM, a theological education program at a distance, originated at the University of the South School of Theology. For those seeking additional information, the program can be explored on the official website: [EFM at the School of Theology](https://theology.sewanee.edu/education-for-ministry/).

Furthermore, a video featuring insights from Bonnie Taylor and Steve Bauter is available on the Diocese website, presented by Craig Worth: [EFM Video on the Diocese Website](https://www.episcopal-ut.org/?s=efm).

Steve Bauter

Mentor

**The Good Shepherd Foundation**

Report to the 2024 Annual Meeting

The Good Shepherd Foundation was established as a trust in 1983 for the exclusive benefit of the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in the protection and maintenance of the properties of the church. Property is defined as real property with buildings, landscaping and church furnishings and fixtures used by the church in accomplishing its religious purposes. Five trustees of the fund are appointed by the Rector with confirmation by the vestry.

80% of the annual income from the trust fund may be spent or disbursed at the discretion of the vestry to accomplish the purposes outlined above. The remaining 20% of annual income is retained in the trust fund to assure an ever-increasing principal fund. Income from the fund may accumulate within the trust at the discretion of the vestry for use with major projects. Trust funds are perpetual.

The value of the Foundation has increased over the years with memorial contributions, columbarium sales and bequests from members of the congregation.

At yearend 2023 the value of the fund was $509,169.04, an increase of $59,432 from yearend 2022. This increase is primarily the result of a strong financial market in 2023.

Total income from the fund in 2023 was $19,235, with $15,388 available to the vestry as outlined above.

The foundation covered $3,852 in needed expenses during the year. Those expenses were primarily for HVAC, electrical and other maintenance issues. These types of expenses underscore the importance of maintaining an adequate reserve within the foundation.

As you establish or review your estate plans please remember that a bequest to the Foundation as part of your estate planning will help to maintain this beautiful church property in perpetuity.

Richard Bauter

Trustee

**Search Committee Final Report, January 2024**

With the retirement of Vanessa Cato+ at the end of July, the Church of the Good Shepherd and the arrival of Interim Rector Cannon Mary June Nestler+, the vestry was given the OK to request/solicit volunteers to be on the Search Committee for a new Rector. This process resulted in a committee of ten parishioners

Matt Dillon (Original Chair), Clay Dyer (Centering), Cynthia Hudgens, Marie Kawaguchi (Co-Chair), Sam McGoon-Moore, Karen Poggemeyer (Chaplain), Nannette Rich (Parish Profile), Jay Stretch (Co-Chair throughout), Pedro Salgado (El Buen Pastor Rep), Sue Ann Thomas (Secretary)

Their task was to prepare and submit the necessary documents, work with the Diocese and national Office of Transitional Ministries (OTM), accept and review applications, then select applicants for interview, conduct interviews, and make a recommendation to the Vestry for the call to a new rector

The committee’s first meeting was held on 8 November 2022, with Mary June+ providing insight and advice from her time as Cannon to Ordinary for the Diocese. From then, through the holidays, we began searching for required documentation and examples from previous calls to Good Shepherd and other churches. In mid-December, the Diocese published the revised *Policy on Calling a Priest* that was used for guidance throughout the remainder of the search process. `

At the beginning of 2023 the committee decided that their task was important and personal enough to warrant weekly, in-person meetings throughout the process. Work on the Parish Profile and OTM Portfolio was begun in earnest and as the necessary first steps. Discussions were held about what the committee members sought in a new rector, and surveys were developed and presented to gather the same information from parishioners. The surveys were distributed in person during worship services and available on-line so that ‘shut-ins’ could participate. The results of those surveys were tabulated and prioritized for use in developing questionnaires for potential candidates and proved very useful in the ~~down-~~selections and final callings.

At the end of February, Matt announced that he had been offered and accepted a new job out of state and would be leaving. That left Jay as the Chair, and he recommended that the committee elect Marie as co-chair. After Marie was so selected, the two co-chairs decided to split the responsibilities of those positions: Marie to be responsible for all matters pertaining to the committee itself and Jay to take care of working with outside agencies and communications with the applicants. Neither one worked in isolation and this division of labor proved very useful for the remainder of our work. It was also decided that as the members of the committee represented a wide range of interests and experience, it would be a good idea to introduce a centering time at the beginning of each meeting to put aside all differences and the cares of the day to stay truly focused on our challenging task—an idea that was helpful to each of us throughout.

We began transitioning to a more cohesive group with an offsite gathering held at Youth Impact on the first of April. Subsequently, we all discussed and offered edits and refinements to both the Portfolio and the Parish Profile. The latter was nearly unique in its appearance and format as Nannette created a PowerPoint presentation which allowed the use of a variety of eye-catching photos. It was shortly after this that Nannette resigned from the committee due to health concerns.

The two documents most important to our call, the Portfolio and Parish Profile, were approved and published by mid-April. The OTM portfolio’s submission and publication led to the call for Rector to go ‘public’ and announce that we were accepting applications. Overall, we received eight formal applications by mid-summer. Two of those applicants were interviewed at the church and seriously considered. One withdrew his application prior to our final decision process, and one was unanimously approved for recommendation/submission to the Vestry. They approved the application, but before their decision could be forwarded to the Bishop, the applicant informed the committee that she, too, had accepted another call.

And so, we had to start things over from mid-process. We developed and circulated a detailed process flowchart, approved by the Bishop and transition officer. It was very useful in re-starting the search. Karen’s meeting prayers for a bit of divine intervention must have helped, too, because, during their trip together to Price, the Bishop of the Lutheran Synod and Bishop Phyllis discussed the possible call of one of his pastors who was serving both Lutheran and Episcopal congregations in Nebraska and looking forward to returning to her family and home in Utah.

We contacted the Reverend Lisa Mensinger at the end of November to ask her to apply for the position at Good Shepherd. She quickly replied in the affirmative and we got through her qualifications, submissions, and background, then interviewed her both telephonically and in person. The entire committee was Impressed with her responses, experiences, and warm personality. After voting unanimously to move forward with her Candidacy, we recommended her to the Vestry, who in turn forwarded her name to the Bishop for approval, which was readily given. That decision was made in early December, but Lisa+ did not want to announce her departure during the Christmas season. Thus, we and the vestry were appropriately constrained from announcing her name and background to our congregation until her then-current congregations were ~~so~~ notified. That happened in mid-January and we are very much looking forward to her arrival on the first of March and subsequent installation as Rector.

The Search Committee wishes to thank all of those who participated in so many different ways to our successful calling.

**Sunday School Report 2023**

1/3/2024

Submitted by Beth Clemenger and Jean Norman

Beginning in the Fall of 2023, we had a major change in the children’s education. Beth Clemenger began presenting the Illustrated Ministry curriculum during the 10 a.m. morning slot for the children’s Sunday school program. This children’s sermon serves about 8-17 children from both Good Shepherd and El Buen Pastor Congregations. Ages range from 2 to high school.

The children gather from 9:30 until 10 in Atrium II upstairs for coloring and snacks. The ones who will acolyte go vest before 10. All the children then head to the children’s chapel in downstairs for the Illustrated Ministry lesson. Afterward, children from El Buen Pastor go to Atrium II for activities and then join worship for the Eucharist. Children from Good Shepherd go acolyte and join their adults for the 10:30 a.m. service in English. The nursery is still available for parents who wish to watch the livestream and participate in the Eucharist.

We appreciated the extra hands in the Fall effort to organize and clean up the Sunday school room. We used volunteers and several members of the congregation helped in this effort.

**Good Shepherd Technical Support Team Report 2023**

Did you know that the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd has a dedicated Technical Support Team? Our team plays a crucial role in enhancing your overall experience by supporting various technological aspects of our church activities.

Currently, our Technical Support Team is actively involved in facilitating Zoom meetings for events such as the Hybrid Adult Forum, live streaming church services and special events, managing the sound system when needed, and screening content on our big screen TV. Since March 2021, we have been live-streaming church services, weddings, funerals, and other significant events on YouTube. This initiative has allowed us to extend our reach to individuals who cannot physically attend.

Jean Norman and Steve Bauter are the current members of our Technical Support Team, providing invaluable assistance for these events. However, as the demand for our live-streaming services continues to grow, we are reaching out to you for support in expanding our team.

We would like to thank Sam Magoon, who recently stepped in to assist while Jean and Steve were out of town. This highlights the importance of having a reliable and capable team.

The Live Stream of the Church Service typically takes place from 10:20 am until the conclusion of the service, and the Adult Forum is held from 9:15 am to 10:15 am every Sunday. To maintain the high standard of technical support we strive for, we seek individuals who can step in and contribute to our team, especially when Jean and Steve are unavailable.

If you are passionate about technology and want to join our Technical Support Team, we encourage you to contact Jean Norman or Steve Bauter. Your involvement will support the smooth operation of our technological infrastructure and contribute to the broader goal of fostering a connected and inclusive community.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to welcoming new members to our Technical Support Team.

**GOOD SHEPHERD USHERS**

Report to the 2024 Annual Meeting

Ushers are the welcomers to people coming into the church. This is where visitors or newcomers get their first glimpse of Good Shepherd, the memorial chapel, the congregation, the church staff, the choir, and the service in general. Ushering is a very important and rewarding assignment.

Two volunteer ushers have been “holding down the fort” throughout the days of Covid and are continuing to do so today. We need a group of volunteer ushers to share the assignment.

Here are some usher guidelines:>

* The ushers and the altar guild are responsible for the congregation during the service.
* 2 ushers are required for each service. Signing up as pairs; individuals, or couples, is preferred. Many in our congregation have been ushers over the years. Anyone can do it and we encourage everyone to consider being an usher: old or young, adults or teens, new to the parish or here forever, women and men.
* When we have an usher group it is hoped that the usher duty would be about every 4-6 weeks.
* A typical usher day begins 45 minutes before the service and ends shortly after the service is over.

We need ushers and, if you are interested, please contact Rich Bauter at 801-643-1217 or Deacon Patti Sanchez at 801-725-2907. A training session will be scheduled.

Rich Bauter and Rick Sanchez

**Necrology**

**Sharon Peterson Morgan 15 January 2023**

**William Eldon Graham 11 February 2023**

**Jacquelyn Leone Bergstrom 15 June 2023**

**Brent Coleman Richards 26 August 2023**

**Barbara Blanche Brain Greiner Anderson 15 December 2023**