

## St. Barnabas Episcopal Church Highlights of November 2025 Vestry Meeting

Our vestry meeting this month kicked off with a spotlight on the work of the Outreach Committee to apply for a Global Mission Grant from the Diocese of Olympia. George Robertson, our grant writer extraordinaire, filled us in on the details of our support for Our Little Roses in Honduras and our hopes to expand that support through this grant. Our Little Roses was established to better the treatment of young girls who are less valued by their culture by providing housing, food and education. We currently sponsor an 11 year old girl and the grant proposal will allow us to sponsor two additional girls. The vestry approved the grant application. If approved, this grant will be applied for on a yearly basis.

Rev. Dianne led us in a spiritual reflection that asked us to consider how to resolve painful situations when parishioners don't feel heard. The goal of this reflection was to open the conversation and we will hear more on this topic in the future.

Our treasurer, Kirk Eichenberger, brought us up to date on our income and expenditures for the year. Currently our income exceeds our expenditures, but the expenses are rapidly catching up. Kirk also reviewed the status of our investments. Our yearly gains now exceed the distributions we've taken this year, including the \$75,000 distribution to Helpline House!

The vestry thanked Rev Dianne for the commissioning service she prepared on Saturday, November 17. This delightful service commissioned all Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Acolytes, Ushers, Altar Guild, Bread Bakers, and Greeters and was followed by opportunities to discuss what we love about our work and how to improve it.

The parish chancellor, Kathy Bolles, presented a new Endowment policy that was revised to keep us in compliance with state law, as well as a new donor endowment gift agreement. The vestry approved both the policy and the agreement.

The Profile Committee shared the results of the all parish survey and is working hard toward completing the Parish Profile in early January.

Barb Bolles reported on the status of the annual appeal. 87 households have pledged for a total of about \$410,000 which is short of the goal of 125 households and \$570,000. The finance committee is currently working on the budget for the coming year based on the projected income. Pledges made before the end of the year can still help inform our budget for the coming year.