

# CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL VESTRY MINUTES AUGUST 15, 2019

Present were:

The Rev. Park Bodie, Interim Rector

Michael Thompson, Sr. Warden

Barbara Arthur

John Barnes

Ray Barney

Laura Eichenberger

Joel King

Seth Sizer

Jim Hatley, Treasurer

Danese Sizer, Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. in Fox Hall by Sr. Warden Michael Thompson. The meeting began with singing Hymn 26. Mr. Thompson introduced The Rev. Park Bodie who the vestry voted to hire, with the approval of Bishop Cole, as the Christ Church Interim Rector at the last meeting July 18<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Thompson announced that he and Fr. Bodie had met with Bishop Cole in the Diocesan office that morning to discuss details. He was pleased that Fr. Bodie had accepted the offer and Bishop Cole gave his approval. He stated that Fr. Bodie would be with us as Interim Rector to provide leadership, spiritual growth and to help further our ministries until a new rector is found.

Fr. Bodie spoke to the vestry and assured them of his happy acceptance and how much he cares for the parish. He told of his background as a priest in New York and his experience providing long term supply work. He promised to assist the vestry in their continued search for the right person to lead Christ Church and to continue and strengthen the deep Anglo Catholic heritage. He spoke candidly about wishing not to be just a place holder but a dedicated and involved member and participant. He feels God has called him to be here among us at this time and is thankful and committed to remain. He informed the vestry that he spoke with the Rev. Canon Michelle Bolt regarding additional ways she might search to find an Anglo Catholic priest and will speak to Fr. David Cobb at Sewanee Seminary about sending interested students. The vestry welcomed Fr. Bodie with a hearty round of applause. At this time the meeting was turned over to Fr. Bodie.

Fr. Bodie asked the vestry to review the Junior Warden's written report in the absence of Jr. Warden Nancy Poston. This report is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. There was a question raised regarding church parking in the evenings and on Sundays. Mr. Thompson assured the vestry there would not be policing of the lot after 5:30 in the evenings nor on weekends. Parking stickers are available from Johanna Miller but anyone not needing access to the lot during the day will not need one.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Hatley presented the July/August 2019 Treasurer's Report with accompanying detail reports, copies of which are attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. Mr. Hatley confirmed the balance of available funds in checking as of August 15<sup>th</sup> was \$55,382.75. There was a question regarding the reactivation of the second Sunday's plate cash going to the rector's discretionary fund. Mr. Hatley stated this would begin again in September. He will be working with Fr. Bodie on this and salary compensation. Ms. Sizer was asked to notify Kathlyn Wender to include the second Sunday discretionary fund practice in the next week's newsletter. Mr. Hatley left the meeting at this time.

Ms. Eichenberger reported she spoke with Children's Ministry Director, Betsy Bedwell, regarding the children's education program for the fall and plans for Rally Day. Ms. Bedwell will begin the new season of the children's education program beginning September 8<sup>th</sup>. She will be using materials from Brite Star and Value Tales as well as the Storybook Bible. She will also include lessons from Godly Play and is hoping to purchase duplicate items from other churches to accomplish this. Ms. Bedwell has ordered resources about death and grieving due to the recent loss of one of the children's parent. She hopes to have the children sponsor a special hospitality on St. Patrick's Day and to have an intergenerational project for the children. There is to be an article in each month's newsletter to keep the parish up to date on what the children are studying and working on. There was a question regarding the requirement of Protecting God's Children training for nursery worker, Kate. It was mentioned that every person who works with our children should have this training. Ms. Eichenberger will contact Jody Davis at the Diocese to arrange this. There was a final question regarding the status of purchasing shelving for the children's area. Ms. Poston will revisit this with Ms. Bedwell upon her return.

Mr. King reported that plans for Rally Day on September 8<sup>th</sup> continue. Invitation cards have been printed and will be mailed to all parishioners and friends of Christ Church announcing the Rally Day service and guest celebrant The Right Rev. Don Johnson. Ms. Sizer agreed to chair a committee to mail the cards. Mr. King stated there will be special exhibits by the Archive Committee of items of interest from the time Bishop Johnson was a priest at Christ Church. Brooke Montague is working on an art exhibit sponsored by the Hart Gallery. Mr. King reminded everyone that there would be only one service at 10:30 that day and a reception following.

Sr. Warden's Report: The Minutes from the July 18, 2019 vestry meeting and a special called meeting on July 23, 2019 were reviewed by the vestry. There being no changes or corrections, the Minutes were approved and are hereby attached and made a part of these minutes.

Mr. Thompson asked for reports on action items from the previous meeting. He began by stating that he had not yet discussed the reduction of the vestry with the Diocese, but would do so prior to the election of new vestry members in December. It was mentioned that the Church By-Laws would also need to be updated to reflect this change. He discussed plans for the UTC Canterbury student ministry kickoff scheduled for Sunday evening August 18<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Barney stated the parish had been generous in making side dishes to support the event. Set up will start at 3:00 p.m. and the event will begin at 5:30. He encouraged the vestry to attend.

Ms. Arthur stated she had reviewed the church's insurance policy and saw nothing that would prohibit or be a problem with the UTC parking lot lease. She will put the copy of the policy in the church office and instruct Ms. Wender to create a file for all insurance matters.

Ms. Sizer reported on the Congregational Care meeting held on August 8<sup>th</sup>. A copy of the minutes from this meeting are attached hereto. She stated the Rev. Betty Latham has volunteered to chair and reactivate the Welcome Committee. There is now a basket on the narthex table for visitor cards. Name tags for new members will soon be printed, and the Congregational Care Committee plans to put candy and an information and visitor card in the Christ Church mugs to be handed out to visitors each Sunday.

Mr. Thompson complimented the church on their various communication efforts. He thanked Oren Whightsel for the Instagram and Face Book presence for the church. He stated many visitors had found information on the church through an internet search and he is hoping to find someone to help us optimize the church's website.

There being no further business to come before the vestry, the meeting was adjourned by singing a final hymn. The next regular meeting of the vestry will be 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 19, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,  
Danese E. Sizer, Clerk