

Minutes of the Annual Meeting for 2013 held on Sunday February 2nd, 2014
Christ Episcopal Church
Woodbury, Minnesota

The meeting was called to order and opened with a prayer at 10:55 am by Ernie Ashcroft.

Present: Rector Ernie Ashcroft; Senior Warden Phil Vander Haar; Junior Warden Shannon Erickson; Treasurer Dave Leick; Clerk Michelle Rebholz; elected vestry members Catherine Harrington, Jan Pereyra, Charlene Peterson, Kathryn Pratt, Dan Shoemaker, Greg Guffey; Parish Life Minister Dana Strande, and ~60 members of the congregation.

Minutes for the 2013 annual meeting: Catherine Jacobson moved that the minutes of the February 3, 2013 meeting be approved. Motion seconded and carried.

Report from the Nominating Committee: Shannon Erickson announced the following slate of nominees:

- For Senior Warden, Shannon Erickson
- For Junior Warden, Dan Shoemaker
- For three year terms as vestry members, Laura Niederhofler, Matt Stiles, and Jane Pederson
- For two year terms as vestry members, David Waletzko, Randy Pastorius
- For a one year term as a vestry member, Mary Lee Isely

Shannon also announced Dave Leick's appointment as Treasurer and Michelle Rebholz's appointment as Clerk, both effective in December 2013.

Financial Results for 2013: Dave Leick referred the congregation to the annual meeting booklets. \$307,000 was budgeted; actuals were \$305,000. Expenses: office and administrative expenses came in a little under, as did a few other items. Salaries came in where expected. Sunday morning came in over budget. In total, there was a \$1800 surplus for the year, with \$37,000 in liquid cash. \$40,000 of the capital campaign funding has not been spent.

The 2014 budget presented to the vestry included \$291,000 in pledges; \$316,000 in income is expected. Under expenses: buildings and grounds is up \$3,000. There will be savings in utilities expenses due to the new boiler, but the parking lot needs to be resealed, carpets need to be cleaned, and the sound system needs maintenance. Evangelism/Education/Outreach is going up because the line items are being restored to where they used to be. Some speakers are being brought in and Music/Sunday morning is going up. Diocesan Fair Share is now 13% since our budget is over \$300,000. Christ Church asked the Diocese to pay one-half the increase.

Stewardship: Blane Huppert reported that there are 101 families pledging for a total of \$287,000.

Capital Campaign: Blane reported that this campaign had a three year timeline. However, projects will be moved to spring 2015 due to weather. They have put a hold on spending, which is why they have extra projects.

Recognition of “50 Year” Members, and Members who died in 2013: Ernie asked those who were members for 50 years to stand up and be recognized. Four members also passed away in 2013: Bill Hunter, Cindy Stoll, Brian Sisley, and Eleanor Metzger-Johnson.

Rector’s Cup: Ernie presented the Rector’s Cup to Catherine Jacobson for her many years of service as Clerk to the Vestry and for her administration of the Acolyte program.

Preparing for the Future: Ernie stated that the parish’s focus for the next 18 months should be a two step process: first, data gathering on where Christ Church is today (Morale, struggles, successes, weaknesses, challenges, concerns). Second, the church must determine what it needs in a new rector. Christ Church is in a great position to recruit rector candidates, because the congregation is diverse and healthy, our building is in great shape, and we are financially secure. Many congregations make the mistake of waiting until the current rector is gone before going through the process and then must wait 18 months to 2 years before hiring a new rector. The first step can begin while Ernie is still here.

Two committees should be formed: first, the data gathering group; and second, the search committee. In response to a question, Ernie stated that the Vestry should be represented on each committee. In response to additional questions, Ernie stated that the congregation needs to be active and take control. The wardens should meet with the bishop to ensure Diocesan involvement, but also that the Christ Church takes the lead on decisions.

Adjournment: Ernie closed the meeting with prayer around noon.

Michelle Rebholz, Clerk