

Christ Episcopal Church  
Annual Meeting  
April 24, 2022  
Murdoch Room

The meeting was called to order by Carol+ and opening prayer was given by Senior Warden, Emily Pearce. A quorum was declared by the Clerk of the Vestry and Bryant was appointed as clerk for the annual meeting. Specific topics covered during the meeting include:

**Recognition of Vestry and Representatives.**

Currently serving vestry members and Diocesan delegates were recognized for their service and contributions to Christ Church during a turbulent period in the church's history.

**Nominees for Office.**

Matthew Salter was elected to join the Vestry as Junior Warden.

Allison Roulier was elected the Vestry to finish Bola's term (2023) as Bola will be departing shortly.

Melene Glynn, Moss Kendrick and Jeremy Snider were elected to the Vestry class of 2025.

Bayo Laniyonou and Allison Roulier were elected as Diocesan representatives with Melissa Scales as an alternate.

**State of the Church.**

Carol+ noted that the majority of goals for 2021, as outlined in the meeting pamphlet were accomplished. Particular changes noted include:

- Continuation of streaming services into the foreseeable future.
- Departure of our long-serving youth program director and that a group of dedicated parents is now filling this role.
- The expanding use of virtual services for meetings.
- As COVID has relented, Brad Ingalls has revitalized the pastoral care program.
- There are new and increasing facility maintenance requirements.
- There have been significant changes to Christ Episcopal School as well as the Church/School relationship.

**Parish Goals for 2022.**

Meg+ discussed Parish goals as set forth in the meeting pamphlet with emphasis on the following:

- We will look for a new part-time director of Christian formation, we will start small with this program for two reasons – the first being financial constraints, the second being that we want to leave space for the new Rector to grow the program when that person is called.
- The website has been revitalized and will continue to be updated. Meg+ noted that the website will be the first place a new rector may interact with Christ Church.
- We will continue to grow the relationship between the Church and School.

**Property Concerns for 2022.**

Our newly elected Junior Warden noted that we have a significant real estate footprint with the Church, Parish House and Hillstrom and Thompson Houses. These are great assets, but we are responsible for caring for them appropriately. Matthew went on to discuss challenges with the HVAC system in the Church and School and the requirement for significant investment to correct the problems which have

been discovered. As he settles into the job, he will begin forming a long-range maintenance that will serve to prioritize resources and get ahead of maintenance problems.

It was noted that CES recently secured a \$20,000 grant for maintenance of aging schools that will be applied toward correcting HVAC problems.

#### **Finance Report.**

Gary Correll presented the state of the Church's finances because the treasurer was unable to attend. Gary stated by recognizing Peggy's heroic efforts on the financial front, noting several challenges which were overcome in 2021 related to both church finances as well as uncertainty associated with the future of the school. With the sale of the Jefferson Building (JB), the church is no longer losing money at the rate of \$1,000/day, and the JB swap is decreasing as interest rates rise. The Hillstrom and Thompson houses are no longer required as security for the JB. With sale of the JB, the church has been able to secure a \$300,000 reserve fund and is now in the best financial condition in the last six years. It was noted that there has been a loss of pledge income and that this situation can be rectified by increasing parishioners.

#### **Christ Episcopal School.**

Michelle Kang started by highlighting the efforts of several parent volunteers which enabled the church to hold Halloween festivities, the Christmas Pageant, and Easter egg hunt. Michelle went on to highlight the renewed relationship between the Church and School and gave recognition to Nicole Stone and Dave Scott for their efforts in this regard. Michelle invited Nicole to provide an update on the School.

Nicole started by noting that the school has been through a tumultuous time, two years ago the school was \$800,000 in debt and facing closure, now it is financially stable, enjoying an increasing student body and revitalized relationship with the Church. She went on to note the following:

- The School will end the school year on a slightly positive financial status.
- Enrollment is higher than anticipated.
- The CES gala raised more than the anticipated \$65,000.
- There are seven church families with students at CES, which is a number Nicole would like to see increase.
- Attrition has decreased as students have begun registering for next year, 91 students have registered for the 2022/23 school year, which is well ahead of anticipated enrollment.
- The school website has been improved.
- The year-round pre-school program is seen as largely successful.
- The gardening program will commence in earnest in the fall.
- We would like to update the playground area, this will require approximately \$30,000, \$27,000 of which has been pledged following the gala.
- The CES golf tournament is the final fund-raising event of the year and has been sold out.

#### **Report on Transition and Search Process.**

The transition shepherd gave an update on the transition and search process, he recognized Carol+ and Meg+ for their tireless work in support of CEC and CES. He went on to highlight the following:

- This is, by design, a long process, it has given us the opportunity to get the financial houses in order for CES and CEC, which will create opportunities for growth as a new Rector is called.
- The transition is a new process with the Vestry as a search committee instead of a separate group of parishioners.

- We have worked to understand CEC's culture, current status and future ambitions.
- Every parishioner should participate in the workshops to call a Rector, parishioners who are unable to participate in person are called to contact clergy or vestry members directly

**Claggett Barn Raising Campaign.**

Claggett Barn is a combined EDOW/MD conference center. The facility includes spaces for conferences and youth programs. Approximately \$3.5 million is needed to revitalize the facility, approximately 80 percent of which has been raised. Meg is involved in raising funds for Claggett Barn on behalf of the Diocese.

**Extraordinary Person of the Year Award.**

Charlotte Snider was recognized for her outstanding contributions to Children's Church and with the Youth Group.

**Closing.**

Carol recognized Jason West as the music director and drew note to the status of the music program as outlined in the meeting pamphlet.

The Senior Warden recognized outgoing vestry members and welcomed new members.

The closing prayer was given by our newly elected Junior Warden.