



## Minutes of the Annual Meeting

January 26, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 10:45 by our Rector, Drew Van Culin, who also offered the opening prayers.

**Opening Remarks:** Father Drew offered some opening reflections for the community which included: acknowledgment that we are all on a spiritual journey, not just our kids and youth. Father Drew highlighted the Vestry's focus on the spiritual journey this past year by spending time in study as a Vestry team, by focusing on worship and prayer both at Church but also at home. As a community, we are all on the spiritual journey, and we want to focus our expansion on the 9 a.m. family service. Working critically to connect not only with those of us who are here, but those who are not, in order that families through the Grosse Pointe, and even beyond, can know the grace of God and the care of this community that we experience here.

Father Drew highlighted the ministry teams that he hopes to expand, and install in the coming year to help our spiritual journey as a community. Amongst those are: Christ Church Bakers, Christ Church Cooks, Driver Ministry, Take a meal Ministry, and Circle Groups. Father Drew shared how Circle Groups would work. The highlights include:

- Circle groups will be randomly formed from among our members . . . and new members will simply be added as they join our community
- Circle Group is meant to last a life time even . . . you don't join or quit a Circle Group, you're simply included – participation, of course is up to you!
- Circle Groups will offer Easter House Masses
- Circle Groups will offer Summer BBQs
- Circle Groups will offer Harvest Home Suppers
- Circle Groups will have a Vestry representative on the group – there as a Vestry member. Yet, Vestry Members will be members of their own group where they are not the Vestry representative.

Father Drew closed by stating he would roll out the Circle Groups once he had aligned all those who agreed to help shepherd a Circle Group. And his hope was to have them place by end of March.

Father Drew then highlighted that the reduction of the budget and staffing will impact our worship schedule as we go forward. Father Drew provided the new worship schedule would be 8 a.m., 9 a.m., and Evensong which will now be at 3:00 p.m. Father Drew provided the rationale for the change, and acknowledge the change was a sense of loss for some. While change is hard, by having the community all together in fewer services he hoped would generate more connections and relationships.

**Appointment of Secretary:** Father Van Culin appointed Mike Hix as Secretary of the 2018 Annual Meeting.

**Approval of Minutes: Annual Meeting 2017**

A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of these minutes. A motion was made and seconded to approve these minutes. Both motions were approved.

### **Appointment of Head Teller:**

Father Drew asked Karen Kienbaum if he could appoint Erica Davis to be the Head Teller for both the by-laws count as well as the Election Count should one be held. Karen approved, Erica Davis was appointed Head Teller.

### **Temporary Amendment to By-laws**

David Gaskin, Chancellor of Christ Church Grosse Pointe, introduced the required amendment which addresses the two components of the by-laws not met which will allow the vote to move forward. (See Attachment for amendment) The amendment was presented, Karen Kienbaum moved to accept the amendment, and Betsy Creedon seconded the amendment.

The floor was opened to questions for clarification on the amendment.

There were comments offered from the floor but none that modified the motion.

A member requested the question be called to vote on the by-laws amendment. The motion was seconded by many, and placed to the community if the discussion should close and move to the motion at hand. The motion to close discussion was passed.

Father Drew requested Erica Davis to pass out the by-laws amendment ballot. The Ballots were collected, a subset of Tellers was assigned to count the ballots and return the results when completed.

Head Teller returned after the presentation of the Outreach Highlight presentation. The by-laws amendment was passed with more than 2/3<sup>rd</sup> approving the amendment.

### **Recognition of Written Reports**

Father Drew thanked all involved in Ministry and recognized the written reports in the annual report. Father Drew highlighted that all the work of the church can only be done with support of the volunteer work that supports each Ministry.

### **Celebration of Outreach**

Hearts for Home was the named recipient of the fundraising receipts from our Gifts and Greens program. Richard Canon spoke to the mission and need Hearts for Homes was addressing and how the gift would be used. He thanked he community for their generosity.

### **Vestry Candidate Votes**

Betsy Creedon acknowledge Erica Davis as Head Teller for the Vestry election and introduced the seven candidates for this year's Vestry election:

- Mike Bamford
- Polly Ledyard

- Paula Labadie
- Helen Santiz
- John Snyder
- Amie Sweeney
- Cheryl Wesen

Betsy reviewed the eligibility rules and requirements for voting, the ballots were marked and collected by the tellers who retired to do their tallies. A note of gratitude was shared that this year we have our youth serving as tellers for the second year.

### **Senior Warden Comments**

Karen Kienbaum shared her comments with the community. Karen thanked Father Drew for his leadership, and most importantly as our Spiritual Leader. Karen noted, that the Vestry agenda format established by Father Drew has included study time of God's word together. By starting with a focus on God, it has improved our cohesiveness as a Vestry. Karen noted that she personally has felt it has improved our work as a Vestry. Karen highlighted the work the Vestry has taken on around stewardship and important it is for us to connect our stewardship to our spiritual journey.

### **Treasurer Report**

Dan Skedel, Treasurer of Christ Church Grosse Pointe, then presented the financials for 2017. Dan started the presentation by addressing erroneous concerns about the state of our investment and endowment portfolio. Dan emphasized the differences between endowment investments, and investments that were either temporary restricted or vestry designated investments. In summary, Endowment Investments have grown in value over the last three years by 23% or 1.3 million dollars. Funds used to support our operations over the last three years has remained relative flat with a slight decline in value of 64k. or 2%. When combined, our investments have increased by 1.24 million dollars and 13%. Dan hoped this would provide comfort to the parish that the finance committee and Vestry have been good stewards of our resources.

Dan then proceeded to highlight status of our stewardship, performance to budget for 2017, and budget for 2018. Dan Highlighted, the tough decision the Vestry made to reduce the budget of the church in 2018 by 300k which resulted in the reduction of staffing. However, we continue to have giving shortfall of 150k and Dan encouraged everyone to reflect on their ability to support the God's ministry and their sacrificial giving.

The full financial report is available in the Annual Meeting Report.

**Vestry Election Results**

The following candidates were elected:

- Mike Bamford
- Paula Labadie
- John Snyder
- Amie Sweeney
- Cheryl Wesen

**Recognition and Appreciations**

Father Drew and Karen Kienbaum then gave heartfelt thanks to outgoing Vestry Members for their service to Christ Church as Vestry Members for the past three years.

Father Drew then recognized exemplary service by two parish members: George and Nancy Nicholson.

**Adjournment of Meeting**

Father Drew thanked all seven members who had stood for election at this meeting.

A motion was then made and seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

Father Drew offered closing prayers.

Respectfully submitted by,



Diane E. Ward  
Associate for Finance and Administration

Approved by:



Mike Hix  
Secretary