

Advance Draft of Minutes for Approval

“To love others as Christ loves us”

Christ Church Episcopal Vestry Minutes McLeod Residence Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Attending: Harrison McLeod (Rector), Nancy Kennedy (Senior Warden), Chan Boyd (Junior Warden), , Chris Klasing (Treasurer), Wade Kolb III (Chancellor), Wes Clarke, Betty Parker Ellis, Jane Harrison Fisher, Norma Givens, Martha Louise Lewis, Smyth McKissick IV, Mary Holt Murphy, Dorothy Nicholson, Phil Peterson, Angelle Reichert, John Wood.

Minutes Taken by: Wes Clarke.

Attending by Phone: None.

Not in Attendance: Nelson Arrington III (Asst. Treasurer).

Guests: Derek Lewis, James McKissick, Margot Stewart, and Bud Thomas.

Welcome & Prayer:

The Reverend Dr. Harrison McLeod (Rector) opened the meeting in prayer at 5:47pm.

Rector’s Report – Harrison McLeod:

Harrison requested a motion to offer seat and voice to the four members-elect of the Vestry in attendance: Derek Lewis, James McKissick, Margot Stewart, and Bud Thomas. Smyth so moved and John seconded. With no discussion, all voted in favor and none were opposed.

Harrison thanked outgoing Vestry members Betty Parker Ellis, Norma Givens, and Martha Louise Lewis, for their service. He also thanked Chris Klasing, who is retiring as Treasurer after 13 years, and the Vestry echoed their gratitude.

Upon his own retirement, Harrison stated what a great pleasure his service as Rector of our parish has been for him and for Jennifer. The members of the Vestry expressed gratitude to Harrison for his impact, ministry, and service, as well as for Jennifer’s.

Senior Warden’s Report – Nancy Kennedy:

Nancy shared that she is working to solidify a date for the Vestry retreat in January, and will be in touch. She hopes to see many Vestry members on 12/28 for the service that will send Harrison into retirement, and on 1/4 for the meeting that Canon Stephen Rhoades will lead, beginning at 9am, regarding the transition.

Junior Warden’s Report – Chan Boyd:

Chan reported that efforts to locate the water leak will continue when the Pre-school is dismissed for the holiday break. In addition, a high gas bill has indicated a potential gas leak. The gas company is coming to investigate, but Chan does not yet have a date for that to occur.

Treasurer's Report – Nelson Arrington & Chris Klasing:

Chris shared that the financial news was not good for November, including a ~\$152k (43%) shortfall in revenue, and correspondingly, in pledge giving. Still, total revenue year-to-date of ~\$2.85million is only ~\$81k (2.8%) below budget. Spending controls remain solid, as year-to-date expenses were ~\$176k (5.9%) below budget. For budget year 2025, net results are currently a gain of ~\$15k, ~\$95k better than the budgeted loss.

In response to a question as to whether December is typically a strong month for the church financially, Chris responded with an enthusiastic affirmative. In response to a question about annual giving for 2026, it was reported that ~500 pledges had been received to date, totalling ~\$2.4million.

Approval of Minutes from November 18, 2025:

After some minor adjustments suggested by Betty Parker, Smyth, and Martha Louise, Smyth moved to approve the November minutes, and John seconded the motion. All voted in favor, with none opposed.

New Business:

None.

Committee/Team Reports:

Upon concluding her Vestry term, Betty Parker shared her joy and pride for the work of the Welcoming and Communications Ministry teams. In continuing her role as Registrar, she is grateful that solid processes have been established for documenting changes in the parish membership. Harrison shared that Director of Marketing and Communications Angela Shultz had been baptized during a staff service the previous Tuesday, alongside her two children.

The service featuring the performance of the Christmas portion of the Messiah was beautiful, with more than 400 people in attendance.

Other Business:

Harrison introduced a proposal to approve the housing allowances for Lindy and Scott. The IRS tax code allows clergy to exclude these amounts, as requested by Lindy and Scott and approved by the Vestry, from their income taxes. Nancy moved to approve Scott's allowance, and Smyth seconded the motion. With no discussion, all voted in favor. Nancy then moved to approve Lindy's allowance, and Mary Holt seconded. All again voted in favor, with none opposed.

Next, Chris introduced a resolution required by the church's banking partner to change the list of people authorized to sign checks on behalf of the church. The resolution confers that authority upon Nelson as continuing Treasurer, Benjamin Black as incoming co-Treasurer, Nancy as Senior Warden, and Suzanne Mize as Parish Administrator. Martha Louise moved to approve the resolution, and Phil seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed.

Wade then presented for Vestry approval a new lease agreement for Canterbury Counseling Center, principles of which were previously discussed by the Vestry a few months prior. The significant changes from the current lease include:

- Aligning the expiration on 10/31/29 with that of the church's other tenant in the adjoining building;
- Transferring responsibility for payment of utilities and certain routine interior maintenance or repair costs to Canterbury Counseling Center as tenant; and
- Allowing either party to terminate the lease with 90 days notice.

The lease has not yet been presented to Gary Eichelberger as representative of Canterbury Counseling Center, and so it was suggested that the Vestry approve it with allowance for Nancy to reasonably modify it as she sees fit, in consultation with Wade. Chan so moved, and Norma seconded. All voted in favor, with none opposed.

Harrison thanked Wade for the significant amount of work he has conducted on behalf of the church of late. He also advised that while much of that work is pro bono, the church may see some billing from his firm, Wyche, such as when other attorneys are consulted by Wade.

Finally, Nancy presented a Christmas gift to Harrison on behalf of the Vestry, and again thanked him for his service to the parish.

Harrison offered a closing prayer, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:09pm in order to proceed to the Vestry Christmas party.