

Christ Church Vestry Meeting
December 17, 2024
In-Person & Zoom

Attendance

Clergy: Rev. Noelle York-Simmons & Rev. Robbie Laughton

Others: Julie Simonton, Anne Richardson, Dave Rees*, Chris McMurray*, & John Weaver

2025: Jack Hutcheson, Andrea McNicholas, Betsy Powell & Susan Magill*

2026: Steve Reed, Cornelia Horner, Ken Knapp* & Jay Purcell Manchester

2027: Kathleen Hickman, Chris Thompson*, Nan Lawson & Wendy Montes de Oca

* attended via Zoom

Absent: None

Call to Order & Opening Prayer

The Rev. Noelle York-Simmons called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

Opening Prayer was led by Steve Reed.

Consent Agenda - Steve Reed

It was moved and seconded to accept the November vestry meeting minutes as edited. The motion carried with one abstention.

Stewardship Report - Julie Simonton

- 2024 pledges received one more this month and are currently at 98% of our goal.
- there are often 10 - 12 that come in at the end of December

- 2025 giving is at 83% of our goal
- We are over \$1.3M in pledges with an average increase of 6.6%
- Running ahead of this time last year

Treasurer's Report – Dave Rees

- Projections have us coming in with a deficit of approximately \$9K for 2024, which is better than the budgeted deficit of \$11K
- November income picked up, however, we are still behind budget
- A significant donation of \$24K has come in and will be reflected in December's income
- Most of the categories of expenses are coming in very close to budget, but that there are notable exceptions, particularly with regard to certain admin/office expenses, which were unfortunately underestimated.
- Areas that have gone over budget will be corrected in the 2025 budget to be more realistic
- Financial reviews will continue into 2025

- There was a question about why December is so much higher for income, and it was explained that many people pay in a lump sum at the end of the year because of such things as required minimum distributions from retirement accounts, etc.
- November Revenue: \$276K
- November Expenses: \$215K

2025 Budget - Anne Richardson

The finance committee recommends the budget be approved tonight to allow for ease of transfer from one year to the next with the idea we will review our numbers in March.

- There was a question on whether the financial reviews can be paid for by the reserve fund since they are not really 2025 expenses. This amount would allow for the budget to show it being balanced for the year. This is something the vestry can vote on.
 - The discussion focused on our accounting model being cash basis and thus should we include this expense that will likely be paid in 2025 however the expenses should have been incurred when originally budgeted, so this could be a vestry authorized expense to be paid by reserves.
- There is also a likely income of \$25K undesignated that is close to being finalized and there was discussion about whether this is something to be added to the non-pledged giving line.

It was moved and seconded the motion to authorize the payment for the financial reviews from the reserve fund. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved and seconded to pass the 2025 budget as amended to reflect a surplus of \$1,616. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session

It was moved and seconded that the vestry go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously, and executive session began at 8:00 pm

Executive session returned at 8:54 pm

News & Notes

- Come to the pageant!
- There was a great outing with teenagers to a Christmas market
- 9 middle schoolers participated in the overnight
- Young adults are 5x trivia champions
- The music programs have been exceptional - over 100 people came to the last Monday concert

Rector's Report - Rev. Noelle York-Simmons

- Reminder that surgery is January 2nd, and she will be out for at least two weeks

- Christmas Eve - it is offered to the vestry to do the Christmas welcome at one of the services. Please let Noelle know if you'd like to do that. There will be a script – Wendy Montes de Oca - 6 pm, Andrea McNicholas - 9 pm and Kathleen Hickman - 2 pm volunteered.
- We have sent a contract to Alfred Street Baptist Church to rent 5 offices

Warden's Report - Steve Reed

- Nothing to report

Announcements & Upcoming Events

- The pageant will be this Sunday at 5:00 pm
- The Refugee ministry will be on NPR

Closing Prayer

Noelle offered the Closing Prayer.

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 pm.