

# Christ Church

Vestry Meeting Minutes  
Special Meeting of the Vestry  
Sunday, January 5, 2014, 12 p.m.

**Present:** Rector Joanna P. Hollis; People's Warden Donald Edwards  
Vestrymembers Kelly Bogan, David Burns (via telephone), Gerri Callahan, Robert Chant, Peter Clarke, Andrea Cunnell, Carole Forsythe, Judith Kuldinow, Effie Lamptey, Melisande Skillicorn. Julia Smout,

**Also present:** Jonathan Gloster, Treasurer

**Absent:** Rector's Warden Paul Ambos, Vestrymember Catherine Hunt

Rector Joanna P. Hollis called the meeting to order at 12:22 p.m. with prayer.

The meeting is a single item, non-action meeting to discuss the 2014 budget prior to a vote at the January 14, 2014 meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to ask questions and discuss the 2014 budget to help inform the Vestry's ultimate decision. Rev. Hollis noted that Parish's vision with her as Rector will be reflected in the 2015 budget.

Rev. Hollis distributed a 2014 expenses and income worksheet which reflected the Finance Committee's work. Rev. Hollis noted that the majority of the expenses are in personnel and building/maintenance so normally that is where to look for savings. She stated that bookkeeping expenses can be reduced because the Church will be moving to a new system that will reduce the bookkeeper's hours and allow the Parish Administrator to perform some of the tasks.

People's Warden and Stewardship Committee Co-Chair Donald Edwards reported that the Committee has received 120 pledges, with the top 10 percent of pledges totaling \$97,000.

The Vestry engaged in discussion regarding various income and expense items. In response to a question, Finance Committee Chair Carole Forsythe and Treasurer Jonathan Gloster advised that personnel expense increases are due to increased medical benefits premiums. Rev. Hollis noted that the seminarian expense is included in the budget since she will be applying for a seminarian to help, which is especially needed with Deacon Peter Cornell's leave. Rev. Hollis and Mr. Gloster explained the music program costs and organ maintenance costs. Rev. Hollis advised the Vestry of her discussions with Music Director John Sheridan regarding the music program and answered the Vestry's various questions.

Rev. Hollis discussed the Diocesan pledge and Mr. Gloster helped explain how it is calculated. The Diocese fair share pledge asking is \$70,072. In response to

Vestrymember Burns' question, Mr. Gloster said he would forward an explanation of how the fair share pledge is calculated. The Vestry discussed the pledge.

Property Committee Chair Kelly Bogan discussed property costs and, in response to questions, advised that he will prepare a list of maintenance projects and needs. Vestrymember Julia Smout asked about fundraising as a means to help with the budget. Finance Committee Chair Carole Forsythe noted that there is \$7,000 allocated for fundraising, but the parish did not raise that last year. The Vestry discussed the need for fundraising.

Everyone present was given an opportunity to speak through mutual invitation. All acknowledged the financial difficulties facing the parish and recognized that the investment fund will be depleted in the not too distant future if the draw down continues at the present rate.

Rev. Hollis adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted  
Gerri Callahan  
Clerk of the Vestry