

**Christ Church in La Plata  
Port Tobacco Parish  
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
Sunday, February 2, 2020**

The Rev. Dr. Kate Heichler, Rector, called the 346<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Port Tobacco Parish to order at 12:30 p.m. and announced the presence of a quorum. Thirty-five (35) baptized members constitute a quorum, and more than that were present as qualified voters. Total attendance was 56. Rev. Heichler then offered a prayer for guidance.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of 2019 were approved as presented.

**VESTRY/DELEGATE NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF MEMBERS/DELEGATES**

Outgoing vestry members Neal Bankenstein and Deanna Kamienski were thanked for their service to the parish.

The following people were placed in nomination for election to the vestry with a motion by Rev. Heichler, seconded by Danielle Webber:

**Paul Guttenberg** (3-year term)

**Mike Jenkins** (first 3-year term, after completing another's term)

**Langston Wilkinson** (3-year relieved or assisted.erm)

**Bryan Simek** was renominated for Convention Delegate and **Danielle Webber** was nominated for Alternate Delegate. The motion was made by Kevin Buckner, seconded by Sharon Richardson.

Following a break for lunch, the proposed slate was elected by acclamation.

**REPORTS AND BUDGET**

A set of written reports on every aspect of the parish's ministry was provided to each person, entitled Annual Parish Reports. Brief oral reports were given as follows:

Deacon Steve Seeley – stated he will continue work on outreach with the school system and Lisa Akers on a ministry for foster children.

Convention Delegate Bryan Simek – stated that our church and diocese are healthy and doing well. We had an increase in giving to the diocese this year. He noted the inspiring sermon by Bishop Curry.

Junior Warden Steve Christofferson – spoke to the challenges of fellowship of buildings and thanked the congregation for allowing him to serve.

Senior Warden Barbara Palko – spoke to her deep commitment to goals from last year, baby shower and Mary and the Bishop's address.

Treasurer Paul Eldredge (Budget Presentation) – stated we are doing well and the following week he will be answering questions at coffee hour. He will continue to serve as treasurer, but would like to be relieved or assisted. He briefly mentioned the financing of the bell tower will be determined after we have more details on the repairs.

**RECTOR'S ADDRESS**

The complete Report of the Rector was included in the Annual Parish Reports. This is Rev. Heichler's second anniversary with the Christ Churches, and her 16<sup>th</sup> year since her ordination. She mentioned several items as highlights of the past year:

- ◆ The homeless memorial service
- ◆ Housing assistance as part of our community awareness

- ◆ Increase of membership (31 last fall/6 new families)
- ◆ Christ Church Alive
- ◆ Our mission statement: “Carrying God’s Contagious Love to the World”
- ◆ Her goal of having every member, at some point, included in a small group

### **STRATEGIC INITIATIVE PLANNING**

People were invited to join one of three discussion groups of their own choosing for 20 minutes to discuss three initiatives. Each group generated thoughts and initial action steps and reported back to the meeting. The following groups were formed and the results shown.

- ◆ Improving messaging geared to families/millennials – We need to work on different ways to get messages to people.
- ◆ Strengthening our greeting/newcomer experience – We need to have more definition of what to do for our greeters, including name tags for identification to be “welcoming” and accessible. Paul Eldredge will coordinate.
- ◆ Christ Church Casual – Discussion of projectors, food to be catered, set-up after the 11 a.m. service, and directional sandwich boards.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Dates were provided for the 2020 Year-At-A-Glance.

Feb 2	Annual Meeting	May 31	Feast of Pentecost
Feb 8	Vestry Retreat	June 7	Prayers at the Port (?)
Feb 23	Mardi Gras Party/Service Launch	Oct 4	Blessing of Animals
Feb 26	Ash Wednesday	Oct 17	Coffee House Concert (?)
Mar 7	Lenten Retreat Day	Nov 2	Election Eve Prayer Vigil
Apr 5	Palm Sunday Festival (?)	Nov 8	Undie Sunday (?)
Apr 9	Maundy Thursday	Nov 22	Kirking of the Tartans
Apr 10	Good Friday	Dec 3	Blue Christmas (?)
Apr 12	Easter Sunday	Dec 6	Gingerbread Extravaganza
May 2	Prom4All ShowRoom (?)	Dec 13	Baby Shower for Mary
May 17	Bishop Knudsen Visitation	Dec 21	Homeless Memorial Service
May 30	Coffee House Concert (?)	Dec 24	Christmas Eve

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Rev. Heichler gave a closing prayer and the meeting concluded at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bonnie Rafer, Vestry Member and Clerk to the Vestry