

"Building Relationships Through Love"

Christ Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting Minutes

September 22, 2026

7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Fr. Manny, George Toth, Ron Baran, David James, Sara Kirkpatrick, Ron Couch, Jim Berkson, Ed Chrzanowski, Diane Phillips LaGuerre, Jay Abbott, Katie Adams, Greg Schuckman, Denisa Abdallah

Members Present via Cyberspace: None

Members Absent: Drew Eaton

Special Guests:

Fr. Manny called the meeting to order at 6:55 pm with a quorum established. Jay led the devotion.

Afterwards, Fr. Manny led the "Dwelling in the Word" reading from Matthew 21:23-32. After the reading, Fr. Manny asked the Vestry to discuss three questions:

What captures my attention?

What questions do I have? What do I wonder?

Where might God's Spirit be nudging us? OR What is God calling you/us to do?

Members shared their thoughts and reflections on the above questions and a discussion was held.

Minutes

The vestry reviewed and provided feedback on the minutes from the August 2026 Vestry meeting.

Corrections: None.

Motion- To accept the minutes of the August 28, 2026 Vestry meeting was seconded and approved unanimously with no contrary minds. (Motion Passed)

Reports

- Youth Report: Ed provided an update on the Youth's activities. Sunday School has started and they are actively engaging in this year's curriculum. In addition, a number of the Youth volunteered at the flea market last weekend. A lock-in is planned for October 24th. Shreya was appointment for a second term as the Vestry Youth Liaison.
- Buildings & Grounds (Attached): George summarized this month's B&G committee activities, highlighting work associated with the sprinklers and cherry laurel bushes. Details are provided in the report.
- Stewardship: Greg provided a brief update on the committee's activities. The 2027 Stewardship Campaign kicked off this past weekend. Vestry members are asked to volunteer to address the congregation about the importance of stewardship. Currently, 80% of our pledges come from parishioners 60 and older. A brief discussion was held.

Treasurer's Report (Attached)

- Fr. Manny reviewed this month's treasurer's report and provided a few summary comments. Members asked a few questions and a discussion was held.

August Net Income was slightly negative. August is the last of the summer months so, it is reasonable to expect an improvement in starting in September.

Income for the month in-line with expectations, with the except for Facility Use which seems light. Facility Use on a year-to-date basis remains in-line with budget so, I'm comfortable that we're not in trouble there.

August expenses were below both budget and last year however on a year to date basis, we are ahead of budget. Problem areas are Salaries and Benefits and Office Operations. Fr Manny, the Wardens and the Treasurer are working to address these and expect to have solutions in place by the end of October.

Motion- To accept the August 2026 Treasurer's report was seconded and approved unanimously with no contrary minds or abstentions. (Motion passed).

Wardens' Report

- Denisa provided this month's Wardens report. Highlights for this month include a focus on the Vision/Strategy Committee, onboarding the new Associate Rector and working with the Rector and Treasurer on the budget.

Rector's Report

- Fr. Manny observed that this is the last Vestry meeting for the 2026 class and he wanted to thank everyone for their contribution and work over the past year.

Right of the Floor/What's on Our Minds

- Ed commented on the success of the recent partnership between the Women of Christ Church and the Men of Christ Church. In addition, he mentioned that the Theology on Tap ministry is continuing through December.
- Diane expressed concern about the process of appointing Youth Liaisons to the Vestry and a brief discussion was held.
- Greg thanked Jay of all of his work on the Vision and Strategy committee.

Old Business

- Sound System Update: The new equipment is planned for a late October (10/21) installation.
- Action on Historical Marker: The letter has been sent to the state and the church is awaiting a response.
- Playground Update: Nothing to report
- Update on the Land: The church is awaiting a response from the state attorney general on the status of the land. The aim is for the church to purchase the land at the next tax sale.
- Parish Festival: The Parish festival was well-attended and a big success.

- Cemetery Update: George provided an update on the changes to the rules and regulations for the administration of the cemetery and the plot pricing.

Motion- To accept the changes in the Cemetery Rules and Regulations and modification and updating of the CEC Cemetery Price List effective October 1 was seconded and approved unanimously with no contrary minds. (Motion Passed)

New Business

- Clergy Transition: Fr. Manny provided an update on our new Associate Rector Natalie Tinner. Mother Tinner has accepted the position at Christ Church effective October 1st. Her responsibilities will be the youth, children, and families. Members asked questions about Natalie's background and a brief discussion was held. A welcome activity is being held.
- 300 Year Anniversary: Fr. Manny updated the Vestry on the recent activities for the 300 Year Anniversary. Several bishops are being invited to speak at various times throughout the year.
- Parish Festival:
- Update on Vision/Strategy Committee: Jay updated the Vestry on the committee's activity. A draft vision and strategy document has been developed and will be shared with the congregation at the Annual Meeting on October 18th. Jay summarized the key points of the report. Fr. Manny would like to hold a meeting on 10/6 at 7pm to discuss the report.
- Credit Card Terminals: In an effort to give another medium for giving, due to a decrease in people carrying cash and online giving, we are working on getting credit card terminals to facilitate another form of giving. Further, due to the increase in online giving a new method for funding the Rector's Discretionary Fund needs to be developed.
- Annual Meeting: The annual meeting will be held on October 18th with a brief meeting of the Vestry to be held immediately afterwards.
- Auction 2026: The auction committee is asking the Vestry to donate an item to the auction. A brief discussion was held.

- Spiritual Life Commission: The SLC has met and decided on the theme for the new program year: "Bound to Christ in Love and Hope."
- October Vestry Social: A Vestry social will be held in November. The social will include former Vestry members. Tentatively November 14th.

Executive Session

- No Executive Session this month.

Close-Out

Fr. Manny closed the meeting with the prayer at 8:51 pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 27th, 2026

- **Dinner: -**
- **Devotion: -**
- **Vestry Table: -**

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Couch,
CEC Registrar

Attachments

1. Buildings and Grounds Report



BnGreport20269.pdf

2. Treasurer's Report



Monthly Budget



Special Designated



Special Designated

Report - 08312026.pdf Funds Activity - 08312Funds Balances - 0831

3. Rector's Report

No report provided

4. Cemetery Certificate Rules & Regulations



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026606.pdf 66.pdf



Action Items

Item	Description	Assigned By	Assigned To	Date Assigned	Status