



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

114 West Boscawen St. Winchester, Virginia 22601-4116

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May 30, 2024

Dear members of Christ Church,

This past year, Christ Church received a house from a parishioner estate. Given the location and condition of the house, as well as the Vestry not wanting Christ Church to be the landlord of the property, the Vestry has recommended selling the house. The Vestry has also decided that the proceeds from the sale will go into our unrestricted endowment as is the practice of Christ Church with unrestricted bequests.

In order for the sale of this church property to occur, the Canons of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia require congregational approval. Per Canon 15 Section 2:

No part of the real property of a Church, except abandoned property, shall be alienated, sold, exchanged, encumbered or otherwise transferred for any purpose without the consent of the congregation in a meeting called for that purpose pursuant to the provisions of Section 13 of Canon 11...

Therefore, the Vestry is calling for a congregational meeting solely for the purpose of seeking consent from the congregation. Section 11 stipulates:

...At such meetings only those persons shall be entitled to vote who are qualified to vote for Vestry members and such meetings shall be conducted in the same manner as meetings held for the election of Vestries, except that voting by ballot need not be required...

As with an annual meeting:

Canon 11, Section 5. All adult communicants in good standing, registered in the particular Church in which they offer to vote, shall be entitled to vote at the election of Vestry members. The voting shall be by ballot in person and, unless otherwise provided by the meeting, a majority of the votes cast shall be necessary to a choice. There shall be no voting by proxy. But no election shall be valid unless the participating qualified votes number at least ten per cent of the number of active communicants qualified to vote reported for the previous year.

Therefore, we need to have roughly 40 such adults in good standing for the meeting to proceed. The meeting will be on Sunday, June 16, between the services at 9:30 am. We will gather in the Tilford Room. The sole item on the agenda is approval to proceed with the sale of the house. Coffee will be provided. We hope to see you there.

Faithfully,

The Rev. Webster Gibson, Rector

Dr. William Major, Sr. Warden

To know Christ and to make Christ known

The Rev. Webster S. Gibson, Rector