

The History
Of
Christ Church
Pottstown, Penna.

by
WILLIAM HERBERT PRICE



1939

Revised January 14, 1940

. . Preface . .

On Tuesday night, March 7th, 1939, at the second meeting of "Institute of International Understanding," Mr. William E. Mills, Rector's Warden of Christ Church, told the writer he had been chosen by the Vestry on the previous Monday night meeting to write the history of Christ Church. The matter was brought before the Vestry by a request of the Diocese for a copy of Christ Church Charter of Incorporation, there being no record of same in the diocesan records. It was then decided to prepare the history of Christ Church. The writer has access to the Parish Records, and to the minutes of the Vestry. A copy of the Charter of Incorporation was supplied by Mr. Richard Sands. The writer is grateful to the Rector, Wardens and Vestry for this opportunity to serve his native Parish.

W. H. PRICE

MARCH 12, 1939

CHARTER OF INCORPORATION
OF CHRIST CHURCH IN THE BOROUGH OF POTTSTOWN IN
MONTGOMERY COUNTY IN THE STATE OF
PENNSYLVANIA

WHEREAS the following named citizens of this Commonwealth, viz: Robert E. Hobart. Charles W. Jolly, Clement S. Rutter, Furman S. Cook, Henry Potts, Robert E. Hobart. Jr., John Thomson, John Pearce, Thomas Child, Jacob Hubley, Francis Hubley, Charles H. Clay, James May, Thomas M. Brooke, Robert May, David Rutter, have together with other citizens, associated for the purpose of worshipping Almighty God, according to the faith and discipline of The Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States of America, and have for that purpose formed a congregation at Pottstown in Montgomery County and are now desirous to be incorporated agreeably to the provisions of the Act of the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, entitled “An Act, to confer on certain associations of the citizens of this Commonwealth, the powers and immunities of corporation of bodies politic in law.” They therefore declare the following to be the objects, articles, and conditions of their said association, agreeably to which they desire to be incorporated, viz:

FIRST. The name of the Corporation shall be “The Rector, Church Wardens, and Vestrymen of Christ Church in the Borough of Pottstown.”

SECOND. This Church acknowledges itself to be a member of and to belong to the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Pennsylvania, and the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America. As such, it accedes to, recognizes, and adopts the Constitution of that Church, and acknowledges its authority accordingly. Any member of this Church or Corporation who shall disclaim or refuse conformity to the said authority, shall cease to be a member of this incorporation and shall not be elected or vote in the election for Vestrymen, or exercise any office or function in, concerning, or connected with the said Church or Corporation.

THIRD. The rents and revenues of this Corporation shall be from time to time applied for the maintenance and support of the Rector., Ministers, and Officers of the said Church, and in the erection and necessary repairs of the church and church-yard, and parsonage house and other houses which now do, or hereafter shall belong to the said Corporation, and to no other use or purpose whatsoever.

FOURTH. The said Corporation shall not by deed, fine or recovery, or by any other means, without the assent of the convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of Pennsylvania, or of the Standing Committee of the diocese, previously had and obtained, grant, alien, or otherwise dispose of any lands, messuages, tenements or hereditaments in them vested, nor charge, nor encumber the same to any person or persons whomsoever.

FIFTH. The Rector of this Church shall be elected by the Church Wardens and Vestrymen, in such manner as the Statutes and by-laws shall ordain. The Vestry of the said Church shall consist of five persons, members of the said Church, who shall continue in office for one year and until others be chosen, and the election of such Vestry shall be made every year on Easter Monday, by a majority of such members of the said Church as shall appear by the Vestry books to have paid

two successive years immediately preceding the time of such election for a pew or sitting in the said Church, provided, that until the next Easter Monday after the expiration of five years from the date of this Charter, members of the said Church who shall in any way have contributed to the erection of the church, or to the support of the Rector or ministers thereof, shall be entitled to vote at the election of vestrymen. And provided that in case of the failure to elect vestrymen on that day, the corporation shall not on that account be dissolved, but the election shall be holden on some other day, in such manner as the by-laws may prescribe.

SIXTH. No person shall be the Rector or Assistant Minister of this Church unless he shall have had Episcopal ordination, and unless he be in full standing with the Protestant Episcopal Church of the State of Pennsylvania and of the United States and recognized as such by the Bishop of this Diocese, or in case of a vacancy, by the Standing Committee of the same.

SEVENTH. The said Vestry shall have full power to choose their own officers: and they shall annually, at their first meeting after their election choose one of their on number to be Church Warden, and the Rector for the time being shall elect another of the said Vestrymen to be the other Church Warden of the said Church. In case of vacancy in the office of Rector, at the time of election the other Church Warden shall also be chosen by the Vestry, to remain until the election of a Rector, or a new election of the Vestry. And during such vacancy the Church Warden for the time being and Vestrymen shall have the same powers and authorities relating to the disposition of the rents and revenues of the said Corporation as are hereby vested in the Rector, Church Wardens, and Vestrymen. Provided always that it shall be the duty of the said Church Wardens and Vestrymen to elect another Rector to supply the vacancy as soon as conveniently may be.

EIGHTH. The seven following named persons to be the Church Wardens and Vestrymen to continue in office until the election on Easter Monday next, and until others be chosen, viz. Jacob Hubley, Robert E. Hobart, Church Wardens, Thomas Childs, Henry Potts, Furman S. Cook, David Rutter and Charles H. Clay.

NINTH. In case of the dissolution of this Corporation for any cause whatsoever, the lands, tenements, and other estate real and personal belonging thereto shall vest in the Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in whose Diocese this Church may at the time be, and his successors to be by him and them held in trust for the benefit of a future congregation of members of the Protestant Episcopal Church, which may be formed in the same neighborhood, and upon the same principles as the present Church and this Corporation.

R. E. HOBART
CHARLES W. JOLLY
CLEM S. RUTTER
FURMAN S. COOK
HENRY POTTS
ROBERT E. HOBART, JR.
JOHN THOMSON
JOHN PEARCE

THOMAES CHILD
JACOB HUBLEY
FRANCIS HUBLEY
CHARLES H. CLAY
JAMES MAY
ROBERT MAY
THOMAS M. BROOKE
D. RUTTER

I, the subscriber, Attorney-General for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do certify that I have perused and examined the above instrument, and am of opinion, that the objects, articles and conditions therein set forth and contained, are lawful.

Reading, April the 30th, A.D. 1825.

FRED K. SMITH

We, the subscribers, Judges of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, do hereby certify, and that we have perused and examined the above instrument, and we concur with the Attorney-General in his opinion, that the objects, articles, and conditions therein set forth are lawful.

Philadelphia, December the 15, 1825.

WM. TILGHMAN

JOHN B. GIBSON

THOS. DUNCAN

Pennsylvania. ss.

In the name and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, J. Andrew Shulze, Governor of said Commonwealth, to Isaac D. Barnard, Esqr., Secretary of said Commonwealth, Greeting:

I, Andrew Shulze, Whereas it has been duly certified to me by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, that they have respectively perused and examined the above instrument for the incorporation of "The Rector, Church Wardens and Vestrymen of Christ Church in the Borough of Pottstown." And that they concur in the opinion, that the objects, articles, and conditions therein set forth and contained are lawful: Now know ye, that in persuance of an Act of the General Assembly of this Commonwealth, passed on the sixth day of April, A.D. 1791, entitled, "An act to confer on certain associations of the citizens of this Commonwealth, the powers and immunities of corporations or bodies politic in Law" I have transmitted the said instrument of incorporation unto you, hereby requiring you to enroll the same at the expense of the applicants.

To the intent that, according to the objects, articles, and conditions therein set forth and contained, the parties may become and be a corporation and body politic in law, and in fact; to have continuance by the name, style, and title in the said instrument provided and declared.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the stat., at Harrisburg, this first day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six.

By the Governor,

I. D. BARNARD

Secy. of Comth.

Enrolled in the office of the secretary of the commonwealth in book No. 4 page 39 which contains a record of acts incorporating diverse religious, charitable, and literary societies under the authority of the act aforesaid.

Witness my hand and the lesser seal of the state, at Harrisburgh, this first day of February in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six.

I. D. BARNARD

Secy. of Comth.

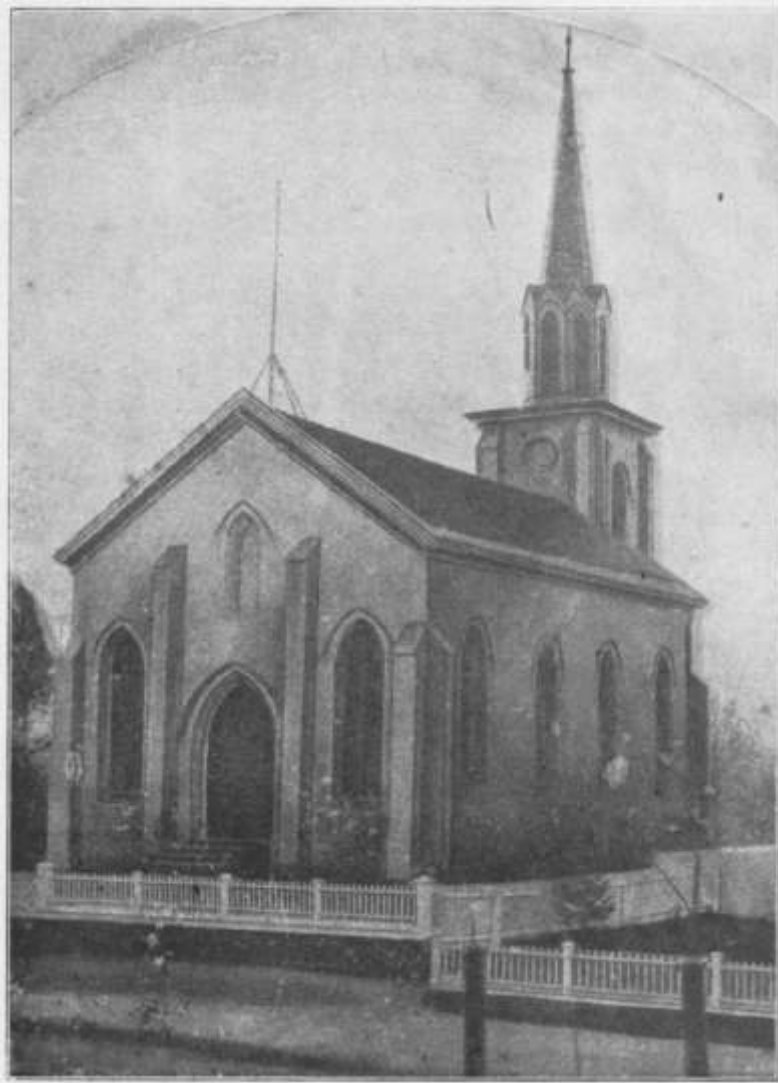
Pennsylvania Eastern District

I, Joshua Raybold, Esquire, Prothonotary of the Supreme Court, for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, do certify that the foregoing Charter of Incorporation was presented to the Justices of the Supreme Court, and duly allowed as above set forth.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the said Court to be affixed, at Philadelphia, this Fifteenth Day of December A.D. 1825.

JOSHUA RAYBOLD

Chapter I



“FOR SOME YEARS before the organization of a Parish in this place (Pottstown) occasional services were held by the clergymen, visiting or having charge of neighboring Parishes.

“Such occasional services were generally held in the Lutheran and Reformed Houses of Worship.

“Among the clergy who thus officiated were the Rev. Levi Bull, D.D. and the Rev. George Mintzer, the latter of whom had charge of the Parish for about six months after its inception.

“The Rev. Dr. Whitehouse then Rector of Christ Church, Reading, and subsequently Bishop of Illinois, also interested himself in supplying services and in the erection of the first church edifice.

“This building which stood at the corner of Hanover Street and the (Reading) Railroad and facing the river was erected on the foundation walls of what was formerly known as the “Old Brew House.”

“After various difficulties and interruptions at the good work, the Church was finished and

consecrated by the Rt. Rev. H. U. Onderdonk, D.D.,¹ on the 18th of January. 1833.

“The history of the Church as an organization body dates a few years previous to the consecration of the first house of worship, say the year 1828² or 1829 as it was in 1829 that Christ Church, Pottstown, was received into union with the Convention.

¹ Rt. Rev. H. U. Onderdonk was consecrated October 25, 1827, as Assistant Bishop, to care for remoter portions of the Diocese. Bishop White continued Diocesan, and exercised his office in and about Philadelphia.

“The following Clergymen were successively Pastors of this Church, viz., from 1829 to 1844:

Rev. George Mintzer

Rev. John Reynolds

Rev. William Housman

Rev. Henry Whitesides

Rev. George Burker

Rev. Oliver Shaw

Rev. Edward P. Jones

“No one of these remained in charge for more than twelve months, except Rev. Burker, who continued in the Rectorship for the space of two years.

“Rev. Edmund Leaf became Pastor in 1844, taking charge also of St. Gabriel’s, Morlatton (Douglassville). His ministry here extended to the year 1858, say 14 years.

“A new Church Building³ on the main street was finished and consecrated by the Rt. Rev. Alonzo Potter, D. D., on the 24th of November, 1846.⁴ Cost of the Building and lot say \$4000, towards which amount was contributed in the vicinity, and in the City \$2400 (Phila.?). The balance of \$1600 was received in the sale of the old Church lot and building for \$1100 and the sale of a bond of the Reading Railroad received for damages, \$500.

“Daniel H. Beecher’s name appears as donor of matting for the new church (Oct., 1846). A wooden fence was erected on High Street in front of church, 1847. C. H. Clay gave posts for side fences.

“After the Rev. Edmund Leaf resigned, the Rev. Aaron Christman was called to this Parish. He entered upon his duties as Rector the first Sunday in March, 1855. He had been assistant in the Parish previously from March, 1854, until October of the same year. He was ordained Priest in Christ Church, Pottstown, the 4th of June of said year. He was in charge of the Church as Rector fifteen months and resigned to accept a call to the Church of the Redeemer (Seaman’s Mission), Philadelphia. During the months of June, July, and August, 1859, the Parish was without a Rector.

“Rev. Aaron Christman selected as assistant minister entered upon his duties March 1, 1854, and on the morning of Whitsunday, 1854, June 4th, was admitted to the Holy Order of Priests by the Rt. Rev. A. Potter in Christ Church, Pottstown. The Rev. E. Leaf presented and the Rev. P. Russell assisted in the service, and united in the laying on of hands.

“Rev. Samuel Edwards, M.A., became Rector September 1, 1859.

“Rev. George A. Latimer became Rector on the first of March, 1863. “Rev. S. H. S. Galladet became Rector on May 1st, 1868, and resigned March 1st, 1870.

“Rev. B. McGann was called to the Rectorship of this Parish in June, 1870, and entered upon his duties the same month.

“The Church Building on High Street being badly in want of repairs and too small to accommodate the increasing Congregation, in the spring of 1872, steps were taken for the erection of a larger and more modern structure on the same site. On the 10th of May, 1872, the

²See Charter, also data furnished by Wm. I. Rutter, Jr. (July 2, 1939).

³This new Church Building was completed in 1846. Records are not clear where the first High Street Church Building stood. In the record of Vestry meeting January, 1846, it seems this building was sold to Patrick O’Reilly. It also appears that the present Parish buildings are not on ground on which first High Street Church stood. The old original High Street Church was entirely of white pine construction, excellently put together, and well preserved at the time it was torn down. The old Altar from it, is today (May 14, 1939) standing in front of the rostrum in the Church School. Patrick O’Reilly was builder of High Street first stone Church. Pews were rented in new church. Pews ceased to be rented about 1919-’23. W. I. R., Jr.

⁴Copy of Receipt—Rec’d Pottstown, March 18, 1846, of Charles H. Clay, a Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Bond for five hundred dollars, it being five hundred dollars on account for the building of the new Episcopal Church.

cornerstone was laid by the Bishop of the diocese and on the 20th of December following, Divine Service was held in the new Church (which was entirely completed) for the first time, Bishop Stevens preaching the sermon. The cost of this structure, exclusive of furniture, was \$13,000. Built of Chester County sandstone with slate roof.

(Insert by Rev. John Doyle or Rev. Frederick C. Jewell).

“The Rev. Byron McGann, while rector of the Parish, died March 12, 1877.

“The Rev. Daniel F. Warren, D.D., became Rector in 1877 to 1884.

“The Rev. A. J. Arnold became Rector in 1884, and resigned, on account of continued ill health in 1889.

“A newspaper clipping, probably during Rev. Jewell’s time, pasted on the title page of Parish Register No. 1, without date, bears the following interesting information:

‘In the reference which was made some time ago to the means by which the Reading Railway was induced to locate its headquarters in Pottstown, it was said that pressure was brought to bear upon John Osborne, its first president, by means of the Protestant Episcopal faith, and that their efforts were successful. In the early building of Pottstown, the members of Christ Church Parish played no small part, and the names of the first Vestrymen in 1825, Jacob Huble, R. E. Hobart, Thomas Childs, Henry Potts, Furman Cook, David Rutter and Charles Clay are those men who were prominent in the early history of Pottstown.’

“Very little can be found about the above men in Parish records. We find a note written by late Mr. H. S. Campbell as follows:

“Robert Enoch Hobart, son of Captain Enoch and Hannah (Pratt) Hobart, born in Philadelphia. April 25, 1768, died in Harrisburg, March 17, 1826.

“ ‘Married, January 14, 1790, to Sarah May Potts, daughter of Samuel and Joanna (Holland) Potts, granddaughter of John Potts, founder of Pottsgrove (Potts town), and Ruth Savage, his wife, the granddaughter of Thomas and Rebekah (Staples) Rutter.

“R. E. Hobart was brother of Rt. Rev. John Henry Hobart, Third Bishop of New York, founder of Geneva, now Hobart Colleges.’

“The Charter of the Parish was granted in 1825 under the Pennsylvania Constitution of 1790. The Parish was admitted to the Diocese of Pennsylvania in 1829, being the twenty-seventh parish to be admitted to the Diocese, over which Rt. Rev. H. U. Onderdonk, D.D., was the Bishop⁵. The first Church Building was a frame structure, and stood at the corner of Hanover Street and the railroad. The work on the church was interrupted several times, and it was not until 1833 that it was consecrated.

“The old building was subsequently destroyed by fire about 1848, after a new church had been erected on High Street. (During construction of the High Street Church) the congregation worshipped in the Old Academy building on Chestnut Street, near Penn Street. At that time, Re. Edmund Leaf was Rector. Rev. Mr. Leaf was well known to many of the older residents of the borough, who will readily recall the genial, kindly clergyman.

“The present handsome stone edifice was erected in 1872, and remodeled in 1891.”

⁵ See footnote No. 1.

Chapter II

REV. CHARLES L. COODER

ON NOVEMBER 2, 1889, the Rev. Charles Lowell Cooder began the duties of the Rector of the Parish.



Sunday, October 18, 1891, the new and enlarged Chancel was used for the first time. Exclusive of the cost of memorials the improvements cost about \$1500. The Baptismal Font dedicated at this time was a memorial to Samuel and Elizabeth Wells, the gift of their children, Samuel W. Wells, Frances Wells McCamant, and Anna Mary Wells. At the time of the Morning Prayer the Chancel was set apart by a short service of blessing by the Rector, assisted by Lay Reader, R. J. Morris. The Altar, not being removed from the Church while the improvements were being made, this form of blessing by the Rector, instead of the rite of Consecration by the Bishop, was used. The Chancel and Baptistry were designed by the Rector.

On Sunday, October 16, 1892, the vested choir of boys and men appeared in the Church for the first time. There were present twelve boys and six men. The male choir was completely vested. The vestments were given by Holy Cross M. E. Church, North Fifth Street, Reading. Procession cross

was given by St. Luke's Church, Lebanon, Pa.

The organ was before this in the nave of the Church, near the present Baptistry, and the Choir Stall was enclosed in a railing just in front of the organ. At first a mixed quartet formed the choir under Dr. Arnold. A

male choir was begun and continued through Rev. Cooder's administration.

On Sunday, December 25, 1892 the revised Prayer Book, authorized by the General Convention of 1892, was introduced into the Parish.

The Girls' Friendly Society was organized January 25, 1895, with twenty-two members.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew organized in 1891, with twelve members. Mr. Richard J. Morris was elected Director.

Sewing School for Poor Girls started November, 1896, with over one hundred and seventy-five names on the roll, and nine teachers.

Junior Girls' Friendly Society organized October 10th, 1898, with twenty-one members and three adult directors.

The High Street Mission opened on April 15, 1895, Miss Annie Engel and the Kings Daughters in charge.

The Rev Charles L. Cooder resigned the Rectorship in 1900. **Chapter III**

REV. FREDERICK CHAPIN JEWELL, S.T.B.

THE REV. JEWELL was called to the Rectorship on April, 1900, and assumed the Rectorship and entered into residence on St. John Baptist Day, June 24, 1900.

On the Festival of Transfiguration, August 6, 1900, a pair of Eucharistic Candlesticks—a thanks offering of the Rector were blessed and used for the first time. On Christmas, 1900, the new Altar, given by the parish in memory of Miss Ellen G. Hobart, was blessed and used for the first time at the early celebration. Easter, 1901, a handsome Bible, given by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bailey, in memory of Katherine C. (Shewell) Price, Edith Dudley Meigs, Katherine Rodman Patterson, and Helen Mary Breck, was blessed and placed on the Lectern. In August, 1901, the contract for the Guild House was awarded to Messrs. Jocum Bros., for \$1425.00. Christmas, 1902, a Litany Desk, given by some parishioners, in memory of Charlotte Neiman Altenderfer, was blessed and placed in position outside the Chancel.

On February 6, 1902, the new Guild House having been completed at a cost of nearly \$3000 was accepted by the Vestry and used for the first time at a parish reception. In August, 1902, Miss Mary A. Potts left a legacy of \$1500 to the Sunday School for its work and maintenance.

The Sunday School was using a building entirely of white pine construction that stood at the back of the Church building and to the East of the Guild House.

It was very old in appearance even in 1892, but well preserved. The School met there at 2 P. M., Sundays.

Christmas, 1903, a pair of Vesper Candelabra, given by Miss Elizabeth Mintzer, and since made a memorial to her, were blessed and placed on the Altar.

In February, 1904, the nave of the Church was redecorated and the hardwood floor laid.

On Easter, 1905, a pair of massive brass Altar Vases, given through the birthday offerings of Sunday School, were blessed and placed on the Altar.

In January, 1909, the organ was rebuilt and a new stop added at a cost of nearly \$400. On Easter, 1910, the new Baptistry Windows given by Mrs. George H. Burnham,⁶ of Boston, Mass., in memory of Virginia S. Bosworth, were unveiled. Mrs. Burnham at the same time donated sufficient funds to repair and decorate the Sacristy and the corridor, completed May 14, 1910.

July 20, 1912, the Rev. Jewell tendered his resignation to take effect September 16, 1912.

1 Mrs. Burnham was Miss Caroline Bosworth, a niece of Miss Virginia Bosworth, who conducted a private school west of Warren Street on High Street.

⁶ Mrs. Burnham was Miss Caroline Bosworth, a niece of Miss Virginia Bosworth, who conducted a private school west of Warren Street on High Street.

Chapter IV

REV. STANLEY RAPHAEL WEST, B.D.

THE REV. WEST was called to the Rectorship, April 4th, 1913, and accepted April 11, 1913. He entered into residence in Pottstown, June 20, 1913, and held his first services June 22, 1913, which consisted of Holy Communion, 7:30 A. M., Sunday School, 9:45 A. M., Morning Prayer and Sermon, 11:00 A. M., and Evening Prayer and Sermon, 7:30 P. M.

At a meeting of the Vestry, September 2, 1913, a resolution was made thanking Mr. Joseph Hartshorne and Mr. Benton Cadwalader for their services rendered during the vacancy in the Rectorship, after the resignation of Rev. F. C. Jewell. At this same meeting an electric motor and blower were ordered installed for Church organ, at a cost of \$210.00.

The terrace lights, a gift of Mr. H. G. Williams, were used for the first time Sunday, September 7, 1913.

The Parish Chapter of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew was revived September 17, 1913 with eleven members. The Chancel was recarpeted and the floors of the nave were refinished March, 1914, by the "ladies of the Church" at a cost of \$150.

A very successful gathering and supper for the men of the Parish was held in the Sunday School building, Thursday evening, May 28, 1914, with sixty men present. Addresses were made by Rev. Charles C. Pierce, D.D., L. I. Loveland, and Luther W. Turner. The committee in charge consisted of Allen D. Hoffer, Charles Beamish, and William E. Mills.

From the very successful bazaar of November, 1914, \$200 was set aside as a Permanent Parish Building Fund.

The Chancel and the walls of the Nave of the Church were redecorated in March, 1915, at a cost of \$129.10. Two ladies of the Church gave the money for this work.

The Missionary apportionment for the year 1914-1915, amounting to \$435.82, an increase of over \$200.00 over the previous apportionment was met in full.

In August, 1915, the lighting and wiring of the Church were renovated at a cost of \$335.00. This was a gift by a member of the Parish. A connecting corridor between the Guild Room and Chapel was erected in October, 1915, at a cost of \$90.00, and paid for by the Woman's Guild.

The Parish Bazaar of November 19, 1915 was the most successful ever held, and netted \$560, to be used for the Building Fund and Music.

The Church organ was rebuilt, on contract of January 26, 1916, to Austin Organ Co., of Hartford, for \$2500, to be a memorial to Mr. Herman Van Loan Meigs, the gift of Mrs. H. V. L. Meigs. Dedication was made April 16, 1916.

The Guild Room, Girls' Room and Sacristy were remodeled on contract to Harry B. Wolf, Jr., for \$2104.45, and contract for supplying new velour cushions and kneelers for the Church to Oskemoor and Co., for \$850.00, was made March, 1916.

The new Guild Room was finished in the Fall, 1916, and officially opened by a Parish reception, November 14, 1916. The total amount spent for betterments this year was \$4500—\$1500 of which was raised by subscriptions, \$500 by Parish Bazaar, leaving \$2500 to be borrowed from bank.

New memorial windows, those nearest the pulpit were viewed for the first time, Sunday, March 4, 1917. These were a gift by Mr. Robert McGann, of Chicago, Ill., in memory of his parents, the Rev. Byron McGann and his wife, Mary E. McGann. These windows were dedicated on Sunday, May 6, 1917, the donor being present.

Mr. Ellis Mills willed \$2000 to the Church. Miss Annie E. Richards willed \$1000 and the Vestry appropriated \$2500 for extinguishing the debt and \$500 to the treasury, to be used as a reserve fund for current expenses.

Mrs. H. M. Merrick donated a green silk veil for the Communion service, March, 1917. Two cruets for the Communion service were given by Miss Clara Stratton, and Mrs. Harry Cunningham. October 21, 1917. Memorial windows in memory of Alice S. Mills were given by the children, November 1. 1917. These windows are in west side of Church. Clergy desk and sedelia, in memory of J. J. H. Bassett, were given by their children and dedicated May 26, 1918. Two vestibule memorial windows were given by Mrs. Ellis Mills and her children. These were dedicated at Convocation of Norristown meeting, June 6. 1918.

Sgt. Clarence Kupp, First U. S. Engineers, was the first member of the Parish to give his life in the World War. He died July 20. 1918 of wounds received in the Battle of the Marne, July 15. 1918. Corp. William Quinter, Co. A., 111 Inf., a former Sunday School member, was killed in action, near Fismes, France, August 20. 1918.

The Parish Service contains twenty-four names of members who served in the World War, April, 1917 to November, 1918.

A sedelia was given by Miss Margaret E. Eagleton, and dedicated on St. Michael and All Saints' Day, 1919.

The late Mrs. Mary E. Ancona left \$500, the income of which was to be presented annually at Easter for the benefit of the Music Fund.

At Christmas Service, 1919, the offering amounted to \$1380, \$500 of which was from the children of Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Mills, with the result that all debts were extinguished.

The Parish paper appeared first on December 1919, and was called "Christ Church Chronicle."

On January 29, 1920, the first annual Parish meeting to be held at this time of the year took the form of a supper and ninety people attended. Enthusiastic reports were submitted.

On Easter, 1920, a bequest of 100 from the estate of Marielle R. Rutter to the Altar Guild was received.

Just before Palm Sunday, March 28. 1920, the Men's Club presented the "Notice Board" on the terrace in front of the Church. Cost - \$150.

A Paten, in memory of Mrs. Elizabeth Wills Hobart and a Chalice, in memory of Miss Marielle Ryerson Rutter, were given by their family, May 30, 1920. Also the Altar Guild gave white Altar and Chancel hangings in memory of Miss Rutter.

The late Martha S. Neide bequeathed \$1000, which was received December 31, 1920.

On April 15, 1921, the children of Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Mills presented the Parish \$5000 for a new Sunday School and Parish House building fund.

July 3, 1921, Miss Joanna Evans gave two vases and Mrs. Elizabeth Rutter gave a candle lighter and extinguisher, which were consecrated this day.

The first meeting of the Parish Council, composed of twenty-five members, was held September 15, 1921. This Council represented every move of Parish Activity, and on December 2, 1921, the Junior Service League, composed of boys and girls under twelve years, met for the first time.

The will of Mrs. Carrie M. Wingard left the Parish a fund of \$600, the income of which was to be used for the music of the Church.

The organ chimes, a set of twenty notes, valued at \$1000 were dedicated in connection with the Christmas Cantata, December 29, 1922. They were the posthumous gift of Charles P. Ancona and Emma Tucker Ancona.

The carved Lectern was dedicated October 21, 1923, the gift of Mrs. Joseph Hartshorne and her children. in memory of her husband and their father.

On June 24, 1923, the Rector celebrated his tenth anniversary of assuming the Rectorship of Christ Church, Pottstown. There were one hundred present at the early service. At the close of the evening service, a reception was held in the Guild Room, at which a silver water pitcher and a purse were presented to the Rector and Mrs. West.

On January 13, 1924, Rev. S. R. West resigned to accept a call to become Rector of Calvary Church, Conshohocken, Pennsylvania.

Chapter V

REV. JOHN DOYLE

ON SUNDAY, MAY 14, 1924. Rev. John D. Doyle conducted his first services as Rector.

On December 24, 1924, a memorial window, the gift of the children of Ellis Mills, was dedicated in the afternoon. It is a memorial to Mr. Ellis Mills, who had been a Vestryman for thirty-three years.

In January, 1925, extensive repairs and improvements were made. Additional steam radiators were installed. The roof and walls of the Church were repaired. The total cost was \$2400.

On Palm Sunday, 1925, three new stops to the organ, the gift of Mrs. Helena E. Meig, donor of extensive previous organ improvements, were dedicated. These stops completed the organ. a memorial to Herman Van Loan Meigs.

September, 1925—By the will of Mrs. Helena Meigs, the Church received three pieces of jewelry, to be disposed of by the Rev. Stanley R. West, and the proceeds to be used as a fund for the upkeep of the organ.

May, 1926—This month was observed as a Centennial Anniversary of Christ Church.

On the first Sunday of the month the Rector preached a historical sermon. On Sunday, May 16, Rev. West preached, the Rector supplying his Parish at Conshohocken. The eighteenth of May, a Centennial Dinner was given. Former parishioners were invited and Mr. William E. Mills presided. The Rev. Dr. Toop, Rector of the Church of the Holy Apostles, Philadelphia was the speaker of the evening. The Rev. C. Pierie Warner, pastor of the First Baptist Church. Pottstown, and president of the Ministerial Association, brought the greetings of the latter body. The Rev. West spoke and various laymen of the Parish were called upon. There was a large and enthusiastic attendance signifying the strength of the Parish upon the beginning of its second century of life.

On Whitsunday, Bishop Garland confirmed the largest Confirmation Class presented in the history of Christ Church, there being twenty-three confirmed. This was another witness to the strength of the Parish at this time.

On Sunday, May 30, 1926, Memorial Day, veterans of three wars were invited to the services. Members of the Grand Army of the Republic, Spanish War Veterans, and the American Legion were present. Rev. Dr. Henry A. F. Hoyt, Rector Emeritus of St. John's Church, Cynwyd, and veteran of all three wars, preached. Rev. Dr. Hoyt had enlisted in the Civil War, was Chaplain in the Spanish War, and was recruiting officer in the World War. The Rector, Rev. John Doyle, at this time was Chaplain of Post 47, American Legion.

In connection with the Centennial, the Rector was commissioned by the Vestry to write and have printed a History of the Parish.

The will of Margaret E. Eagleton left \$2000, upon the death of certain heirs, to Christ Church.

On Sunday, September 26, 1926, the Rev. Doyle preached his last sermon as rector of Christ Church. The congregation surprised the Rector and Mrs. Doyle by holding a reception in the Parish House, following the evening service. A very generous purse was presented. Mr. Benton Cadwalader, Rector's Warden, made the presentation.

This surprised the Rector, who said he was too moved to say what he would have liked to say.

The writer of this history would like to say now that he has always regretted the leaving of Christ Church's Rector, Rev. John Doyle. He was young, democratic, and very appreciative of everything and anything any of his parishioners did to help him in serving this Parish. He had

that “warm heart” characteristic of Irishmen. He was bright in his sermons, and had that way of conducting his services in the Parish, which seems to be what Christ Church congregation in general likes. He had been an aviator in the World War.

On September 30, 1926, the Rev. John Doyle relinquished his duties as Rector, to assume those as Rector of St. Philip’s Church, 42nd Street and Baltimore Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa.

NOTE:— Nearly all that has been written until this time has been taken from records written by the Rectors in the Parish Registers. At this date, Easter, 1930, no further records of the general Parish history have been found, and all that follows will be taken directly from the minutes of the Vestry meetings. W. H. P

Chapter VI

REV. CALEB CRESSON

AT A MEETING, September 5, 1926, Rev. Caleb Cresson, of Oaks, Pa., offered his services at Locum tenens to serve after Rev. John Doyle left Christ Church as Rector. Rev. Cresson's proposal was accepted, and he began his service October 1, 1926.

About this time considerable difficulty had been experienced during very wet weather by high water on the basement floors. This on several occasions put out the fire in the new heating plant. The Order of Moose complained also of similar trouble, believing the drain pipes for the Church roof had been stopped up. The property committee, after considerable difficulty, reported the drain pipe, near the heating pipe, stopped up with growing roots of trees. A new drain pipe was run from the rear of basement to sewer on High Street, and this corrected this vexing rain water drainage problem. This work was not completed until May, 1927.

On December 12, 1926, Rev. Caleb Cresson was elected Rector of Christ Church, Pottstown, but he did not occupy the Rectory until Autumn. It was rented to Mr. Percy Williamson while not used by the Rector.

During the summer of 1927, the Eagles Home Association building was erected. In excavating this building considerable damage was done Christ Church, as heavy thunderstorms thoroughly wet the ground of the Church property and cave-ins threatened at last to crack the Church masonry.

The rain water and sewerage drain pipe were again stopped up, due to Eagles Home excavation.

After considerable work on the part of the property committee, and with the assistance of an attorney-at-law, Mr. Eli Wismer, and of that of an architect, Frederick Muhlenberg, the matter was satisfactorily settled. The "Eagles" during this time always showed their willingness to assist the Parish in having Contractor Wiand properly protect the Church property, and to correct any damage to it resulting from his work.

The Wm. E. Mills family was given authority, December 6, 1927, to install memorial windows in the west side of the Church, next to that of their mother, in memory of their sister, Miss Ellen S. Mills.

During the Autumn, 1927, a Mission was held for one week, but very little record of this Mission can be found, except in the Treasurer's bi-monthly report of November 7, to December 31, 1927.

A gift of \$2500 from Ellen S. Mills, to be known as Alice Stanney Mills endowment, was received June 15, 1927.

On August 13, 1928, the two steam heating boilers were ordered replaced by one new Peerless steam boiler, to be placed under kitchen of Guild Room. Also additional steam radiators were ordered installed in the Church. A new brick chimney, running vertically through the Guild Room, 55 feet high, with inside dimensions of 18 by 18 inches, was ordered installed.

On October 1, 1928, a committee from the Men's Club, consisting of Mr. George E. Buxton and Dr. J. W. Armstrong, offered suggestions for a three years campaign for raising funds for paying the cost of the heating betterment just completed, and for building a new Church School.

For some time the need of a new Sunday School building had been felt. There was very little progress made in this work at this time, however. A committee, consisting of Mr. H. Ancona,

Miss Elizabeth Bassett, Mr. Lees, Mr. Price, and Mr. Strador, was appointed by Rev. Cresson, October 14, 1928, to have architectural plans of new Church School prepared. Some work was done on the general outlining of these plans, but the committee was later advised by Rev. Caleb Cresson to delay action. Again on October 28, 1928, a special meeting of the Vestry was held to confer with a committee of Men's Club, (Mr. George E. Buxton, and Mr. E. Pierson) relative to plans for congregational campaign for raising funds. Mr. Buxton presented a form of pledge card.

On January 6, 1929, Mr. Henry Ancona presented preliminary plans for new Church School, but some revisions would be made, before asking for their acceptance.

The Vestry was holding many special meetings during 1927 and 1928, but their regular meetings were bi-monthly and it was often discussed at their meetings about this time whether regular meetings should not be held monthly.

On September 16, Mr. Newton R. Turner reported to the Vestry for the Property Committee that the new sidewalk in front of the Church on High Street had been completed at a cost of \$285.00.

On January 13, 1930, Mr. N. R. Turner, Accounting Warden, read his memorial organ financial report, an interest balance on hand of \$55.25, and his Church School Building Fund report showing a balance on hand of \$9318.56. Also he reported the Mary A. Potts Church School Library Trust Fund, showing \$1000 invested. Mr. A. C. Mack, Superintendent of the Church School, was present. Mr. Turner asked what was to be done with birthday offerings. He was directed to apply these to Church School Building Fund.

Mr. Cresson asked that a parish meeting be held during February to plan for building new Church School, and this meeting was held, a supper being furnished at 50c per plate.

Also on January 13th, 1930, the New Hymnals were adopted.

On April 28, 1930, Rev. Caleb Cresson tendered his resignation to take effect not later than May 31st, 1930.

The Rev. Cresson made many lasting friends in Pottstown, both in and out of the Parish. He worked with unusual zeal among all the parishioners, particularly among those of few talents, which is really Christian work. During his service as Rector, the Church School showed growing interest in the Church's work, and reverence in its services. Rev. Cresson is an Authority on the history of the Protestant Episcopal Church and that of the Church of England.

On June 2, 1930, a committee of three, Messrs. Campbell, Turner and Price was appointed by Mr. Cadwalader, Rector's Warden, to invite Bishop Taite to preach at an eleven o'clock Sunday morning service. The Bishop accepted the invitation of the committee, and preached at the eleven o'clock Communion service, July 6, 1930. A large congregation attended.

The Vestry consisted at this time of seven members. On November 3, 1930, the following parishioners sat with the Vestry meeting, Messrs. Wm. Cunningham, John Kupp, Isaac Thomas, and A. C. Mack. The matter of having the charter amended to provide eleven members was discussed, and at a special parish meeting November 10, 1930, the following parishioners were chosen to sit and confer with the Vestry.

Messrs. Isaac Thomas, Arthur Cooley, Richard Sands, and Ralph Guest. These men were to continue this service until the charter amendment be made.

There was no confirmation class during the year 1930.

After Rev. Caleb Cresson ceased to be Rector, the Bishop's secretary, Rev. Richard Morris, provided supply ministers. Lay-reader, Mr. B. Cadwalader, also conducted services. Rev. Albert Holt was one of the supply ministers. At a special meeting of the Vestry, December 29, 1930, Rev. Holt stated that he would act as Rector for the next two or three months. His proposal was accepted.

The matter of amending the Parish Charter was further taken up at a special meeting of the Vestry, February 3, and Clause 5 was desired changed to provide eleven members. The Vestry ordered the change made at this meeting. Also the authority to borrow \$15,000, which, with the \$10,000 (approx.) Church School fund, was to be used to provide a new Church School, was made by the Vestry. This authority was again made at a Vestry meeting, July 6, 1931.

At the annual meeting of the Parish, April 6th, it was unanimously decided to call Rev. Albert H. Holt as Rector of Christ Church.

At a meeting, July 6th, of the Vestry, the estimated cost of new Church School was read to be \$17,500. Architect E. Kaye Hunter drew up the plans for the new building and he with the Building Committee was to close contract. Contractor Zern received the contract.

Richard Sands was elected assistant treasurer by Vestry, October 6, 1931.

Rev. Holt appointed the following members June 1, 1931, at a special Vestry meeting: Messrs. Ancona, Bullens, and Campbell to act with Mr. A. C. Mack, Sunday School Superintendent, and Mr. Max Rutter as a Building Committee.

The annual parish meeting was held March 28, 1932.

Rev. Holt reported the new Church School completely finished, and half paid.

At a special meeting of Vestry March 28, 1932, Mr. Henry Ancona was elected Accounting Warden, Richard Sands, Treasurer.

The following were reported given at Vestry meeting July 11, 1932, for the new Parish Building:

Credence Table, by Altar Guild.

Cash contributions, (\$105) by the Misses C. and E. Bassett, Mrs. H. Hammer, and one parishioner.

Victrola and Radio, by F. W. Ancona.

Steel Cabinets by Miss Elizabeth Bassett.

The property committee reported at Vestry meeting January 9, 1933, the installation of Amplifying System in connection with organ chimes, a gift by Mrs. P. D. Hanley. This gift included broadcasting equipment in the belfry, a splendid addition for sounding music into the streets of Pottstown. This equipment improved the attendance in special Sunday evening services.

The Parish meeting of April 19, 1933, changed the time of its annual meeting to as early in January as convenient.

The Vestry decided at a meeting May 1, 1933, to secure photographs of deceased vestrymen and hang these photographs on the walls of the Parish House.

The Vestry decided to meet monthly instead of bimonthly January 8, 1934.

The country's financial and business depression was giving the Rector and Vestry considerable difficulty at this time. However, the Congregation in numbers contributing was increasing although the total amounts contributed were falling.

The Presbyterian Church joined with Christ Church on Palm Sunday night service in 1934.

From this time on the Presbyterians and Episcopalians more or less frequently held joint evening services alternately in their respective Churches.

Christ Church also in 1934 was used daily for Holy Week denominational services for the entire Pottstown community. These services have continued to be held in Christ Church during Holy Week.

The Pottstown Male Chorus began using the Parish House for their concerts at this time.

Master James Shelly was granted use of the Church Organ for practice by Vestry July 2, 1934. Mrs. J. Vanderslice also was granted similar permission.

The Century Club was granted permission to use the Parish House for Children's Christmas party, September 7, 1934.

The music committee reported at a Vestry meeting January 7, 1935, that it was agreed in the congregation that Christmas Cantata, 1934, was the best in the history of the Parish. Too much cannot be said in praise of Christ Church Choir, under the leadership of Mr. H. Ancona, not only for their special musical offerings, but in their augmenting the regular Church Services as this is written today, (April 30, 1939), their singing of Sullivan's "Lost Chord" as an anthem during Morning

Prayer Service was very beautiful. In visiting Episcopal Churches, in Philadelphia, and those within fifty miles of Pottstown, one can hardly find a better choir.

Rev. Holt reported at the annual Parish meeting January 29, 1935, the following gains in Parish membership:

Communicants, 91 increase, 10 years, 1915-1924; 79 increase from 1931 to 1934, inclusive.

On September 24, 1934, at regular monthly meeting of the Vestry it was unanimously agreed to use the Parish House for Community Activities.

In reporting for the Men's Bible Class, Parish meeting, February, 25, 1936, Mr. Isaac Thomas, teacher, stated that four guest teachers would substitute for him during the balance of this season's Bible Class Sunday morning meetings.

Mr. Henry S. Campbell's death was brought before the Vestry meeting of April 4, 1935, and Mr. Isaac Thomas was directed to prepare a resolution to be acted upon at a later meeting. Mr. Campbell had served Christ Church faithfully for 18 years as Vestryman, most of which time he was secretary of the Vestry.

It was the unanimous opinion of the members of the Men's Class that there was no one could take Mr. Thomas place in this work, as well as he could at any time, in the Sunday School.

Mr. Isaac Thomas reported at Parish meeting February 25, 1936, the following guest teachers of Men's Bible Class:

Messrs. H. L. Williams, P. Z. Hoffman, Carroll Rutter, and J. H. Longaker.

Mr. H. Kupp, who had served as Sunday School Treasurer for many years, submitted a very complete financial report for Christ Church Sunday School at this meeting. Also at this meeting, Mr. George C. Lees reported in the Every Member Campaign more persons had accepted envelopes than for several years. He stated that the Parish had been for the past several years gaining its financial support by liquidating its capital investment, which had been nearly exhausted. He made an appeal for the devoted support of the entire membership of the Parish.

Mr. Gustav Schade was appointed chairman of Committee of Men's Bible Class to hold a festival on June 12, 1936, on the grounds of Church and Order of Moose, adjoining, for raising money to alleviate the financial stress of the Parish. 132 Joash Chests were reported distributed among Parishioners at Vestry meeting, August 3, 1936, by Mr. George C. Lees, and amounts

then received from them, and from special gifts was \$385. Mr. Schade reported the Festival of June 12 a financial success, the net amount received being \$152.74.

Rev. Holt presided at the regular monthly Vestry meeting, October 8, 1936.

The Vestry met in special session, October 14, 1938, at the office of Bishop Taite in the Church House, Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia, for the purpose of planning procedure in the Parish during the illness of the Rev. Holt. It was decided to remove Rev. Mr. Holt from Pottstown Hospital to Episcopal Hospital, in Philadelphia, where private rooms and service are furnished free to the Rectors of the Diocese.

Rev. George A. Lineker began his services in Christ Church the first Sunday after Christmas, 1936. The author of this history was then Superintendent of the Sunday School. He never before saw the splendid interest the Rev. Lineker aroused in the School. Immediately Rev. Lineker stirred up a spirit, both in the Sunday School and in the Parish, which was never known before,—at least as far back as 1892, when the author began attending regularly both in the Sunday School and in Church services. No doubt Rev. Lineker's success lies in his own tremendous interest in Church work.

Mr. Henry Ancona in reporting for the choir at Annual Parish meeting, February 9, 1937, that he had served for twenty-five years as organist and choirmaster, and that there were several members of the choir then serving from twenty to thirty years.

Mr. Lees reported the finances of the Parish were improving, and that the parishioners were showing growing interest in Parish work.

A gift of \$100 from Mr. W. Bassett, former Sunday School Superintendent, was received. (Mr. Wm. Bassett was in charge when the author began regular attendance in 1892).

At a special meeting, February 21, 1937, it was decided to accept the recommendations of Bishop Taite and have Rev. George A. Lineker assume charge of Parish services and activities until Rev. Holt's return as Rector. Rev. Lineker accepted this responsibility.

A resolution was read by Mr. Isaac Thomas at a Vestry meeting, April 25, 1937, expressing the sorrow of the members of the Vestry for the death of the secretary, Mr. Russell Shelly.

Rev. Holt had recovered his health sufficiently to attend the regular monthly Vestry meeting June 7, 1937, at summer residence of Mr. H. Ancona at Ringing Rocks Park. He asked that Rev. Lineker continue as his assistant until recovery of his health.

At the regular Vestry meeting June 6, 1938, it was decided that the Vestry would be acceptable to a Community Fund to carry out a proposed Memorial Fund for Miss Chrissie Bassett who had served as a Sunday School teacher for over fifty years.

Rev. Holt presented a certificate stating Mr. Clarence E. Tobias, Jr., is a suitable person qualified to be admitted a candidate for Holy Orders, at a regular meeting of the Vestry, May 2, 1938. This certificate was signed by a majority of the Vestry. Rev. George A. Lineker had previously resigned his Assistant Rectorship, to accept duties in Baltimore, Md.

A bequest of \$300 from Mr. C. R. Campbell, his mother, and his sister, as a memorial to Harry S. Campbell, was reported made to the Parish, by Mr. H. K. Ancona at Vestry meeting December 5, 1938. Also \$100 from Mrs. Martin Brown Cookerow was reported at this meeting.

Rev. Holt reported Rev. Tobias was ordained Deacon December 22, 1938, and that Rev. Tobias was appointed by Bishop Taite, Christ Church assistant to the Rector. This was at January 2, 1939 regular monthly meeting of the Vestry.

Mr. H. K. Ancona, Vestryman, Accounting Warden, Organist, and Choirmaster, was reported ill at annual Parish meeting, January 18, 1939. The entire congregation feels a deep interest and

appreciation for him. May he speedily recover his health so that he may continue his work at the Console of the Church Organ, which he loves so much to do. His work has helped Christ Church more than anything else during the past decade of years.

Mrs. Isabella P. (Davies) Loomis' last will and testament bequeathed \$1000 to the Rector, Church Wardens and Vestrymen of Christ Protestant Episcopal Church of Pottstown, Pa. This was reported by the secretary, Mr. Charles Gochneur, at Vestry meeting of February 6, 1939.

The author cannot pass this point without remembering the earnest and helpful work done by "Miss Bell" as far back as 1892. She was Sunday School teacher then, and had a girls' class. When he returned to Pottstown in 1923, after twenty-six years absence, she was still teaching a Sunday School Class of girls. The congregation remembers "Miss Bell" as a true saint.

Mr. Ancona resigned as Accounting Warden in Vestry meeting of February 6, 1939. Mr. R. Sands was elected Accounting Warden.

A certificate of application to the Standing Committee of the Diocese for ordination to the Priesthood of the Rev. Clarence E. Tobias, Jr., was presented to the Vestry, signed by a majority, and certified by the secretary of the Vestry. This was at Vestry meeting, April 3, 1939.

Mr. W. E. Mills reported at this last meeting that Mr.

Wm. H. Price had consented to write a history of the Church to be presented to Mr. Wm. I. Rutter of Philadelphia, Pa., Historian of the Diocese, when completed.

As this meeting of the Vestry is the last recorded in the minutes of the Vestry, May 21, 1939, the History of Christ Church, Pottstown, Pa., ends herewith.

TIME OF RECTORSHIP 1825 to ?	RECTORS OF CHRIST CHURCH, POTTSTOWN, PA. NAME	REMARKS
	Rev. George Mintzer	No complete records available.
	Rev. John Reynolds	No complete records available.
	Rev. Wm. Homman	No complete records available.
	Rev. Henry Whitesides	No complete records available.
	Rev. George Burkner	Served two years. West to Flushing, L. I.
1844	Rev. Oliver Shaw Rev. Edward P. Jones	No complete records available.
	Rev. Oliver Shaw Rev. Edward P. Jones	No complete records available.
1844-1858	Rev. Edmund Leaf	Also Rector in charge St. Gabriel's, Pa.
1858-1859	Rev. Aaron Christman	Resigned to be Rector, Church of Redeemer.
1859-1863	Rev. Samuel Edwards	
1863-1868	Rev. Geo. Lattimer	
1868-1870	Rev. S. H. Galledet	
1870-1877	Rev. Byron McGann	Died during Rectorship.
1877-1884	Rev. Daniel F. Warren	
1884-1889	Rev. A. J. Arnold	Resigned because of continued ill health.
1889-1900	Rev. Charles L. Cooder	Writer was confirmed under Rev. Cooder
1900-1912	Rev. Frederick Jewell, S.T.B.	
1912-1924	Rev. Stanley West, B.D.	
1924-1926	Rev. John Doyle	
1927-1930	Rev. Caleb Cresson	Locum tenens 1926, 1927
1931-	Rev. Albert H. Holt	Supply Minister 1930 —Present Rector May 14, 1939.

TIME OF SERVICE 1825 ⁷	VESTRYMEN of CHRIST CHURCH, POTTSTOWN, PA. NAME	REMARKS
	Jacob Hubley	One of the organizers of Christ Church.
	Robert E. Hobart	One of the organizers of Christ Church.
	Thomas Chills	One of the organizers of Christ Church.
	Henry Potts	One of the organizers of Christ Church.
	Furman Cook	One of the organizers of Christ Church.
	David Rutter	One of the organizers of Christ Church.
	Charles Clay	One of the organizers of Christ Church.
-1859	Robert E. Hobart, Jr.	Died while Vestryman, previous to 1869.
1846-1869	Nathaniel Potts Hobart	Evidently had been previous to 1845.
1845-1846	Nathaniel P. Hobart, Jr.	Elected April 25, 1859, resigned April 29, 1859.
1859-1859	Nathaniel P. Hobart, Jr.	Elected April 25, 1859, resigned April 29, 1859.
1845.	Jos. Neide	Evidently had been previous to 1845.
1845-	John P. Rutter	Accounting Warden.
1845-	John Castleberry	Evidently had been previous to 1845.
1845-	C. H. Clay	Rector's Warden.

1846-	Thos. M. Clark (?)	First secretary signing Vestry Minutes, 1846.
1846-1847	John H. Osborne	
1846-1847	David E. Stout	Secretary Vestry meeting of April 25, 1846.
1847-1861	Autis Snyder	Secretary Vestry Meeting January 29, 1847, Secretary 1860. Accounting Warden 1861.
1847-1850	Joseph Christian	
1849-1850	Thomas Boyd	
1850-1855	Clement Brooke	Also 1857-1859
1850-1851	Richard Casselberry	

⁷ Records not found showing who of above were Vestrymen, except in Charter; and of the above Hubley and Hobart were also Wardens. Clay was Accounting Warden in 1846.

1850-1852	Thomas Cunys	
1851-1857	Abner Evans	
1860-1865	Abner Evans	Secretary, 1853. succeeding C. H. Clay
1870-1871	Abner Evans	Secretary, 1861, succeeding A. Snyder.
1875-1877	Abner Evans	Rector's Warden, 1875-1876
1852-'57 1860-'62	Joseph Potts	
1857-'58 1862-'66	Wm. Mintzer	
1857-1858	Wm. Rutter	Secretary, 1862. Accounting Warden, 1863.
1858-1859	Clement R. Potts	
1859-1859	N. P. Hobart, Jr.	Served 1 month and four days.
1859-1860	Joseph Potter, Jr.	Accounting Warden, 1860.

1862-1863	Jasper W. Nicolls	Died in service.
1862-1875	Samuel Wells	Died in service. Rector's Warden.
1866-1869	W. C. Moore	Accounting Warden, 1867-1868.
1869-1875	George W. Harner	
1869-1870	George E. Mintzer	
1869-1879	William L. Williamson	Elected Secretary, 1869, succeeding W. I. Rutter.
1883-1884		
1869-'72 1882-'84	Daniel Price	Elected by Vestry, June 3, 1869.
1870-1873	George Rice	
1871-1873	Richard M. Cooper	Secretary, 1872.
1872-'76 1884-'85	Henry Royer	
1873-'75 1882-'84	E. P. Ancona	Secretary 1873, 1874
1873-1881	Dr. Charles Moore	Secretary 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880
1875-1882	George Butler	Secretary 1875, 1876 succeeding E. P. Ancona
1875-1877	Charles Rutter	
1876-1882	Dr. M. A. Withers	
1877-'84 1887-'94	Wm. H. Morris	Accounting Warden 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880, 1881.
1877-1884	George Harrison	Accounting Warden 1882.
1877-1886	G. W. Nicolls	Secretary 1881. Rector's Warden, 1883 to 1886.
1887-1889	H. J. Neizell	
1879-'82 1885-'10	Horace Evans	Rector's Warden, 1887-1910.
1881-'86 1892-'99	Morris P. Janney	
1882-1883	James L. Patterson	
1884-1917	Charles H. Bowen	Secretary, 1887, until death, November 13, 1917.
1884-1934	Benton Cadwalader	Accounting Warden, 1884-1918, Rector's Warden, 1918-1934, Honorary Member Vestry, 1934.
1884-1885	Major Griffith Jones	
1884-1917	Ellis Mills	Died in service, January 8, 1917.
1885-1886	Dr. N. G. Reiff	
1885-1887	Isaac Umstead	
1885-1888	G. Russell Lincoln	
1888-'89 1891-'92	James P. Roe	
1889-1891	Muffin Campbell	
1889-1891 (?)	C. H. Potts	
1891-1895	Richard J. Potts	
1894.1918	Joseph Hartshorne	Died in service. Rector's Warden, 1910.
1895-1912	Major Thomas Steel	Died in service.

1899-1921	Charles P. Ancona	Died in service, June 10, 1921.
1910-1932	Newton R. Turner	Honorary member, 1934. Accounting Warden, 1918.
1912-1917	Percy Williamson	Resigned April 9, 1917.
1917-1935	Henry S. Campbell	Died in service. Secretary, January 14, 1918.
1917-1917	L. Loveland	Resigned September 10, 1917.
1917-	Wm. E. Mills	Serving at present.
1918-'31, 1932	Ceo. C. Lees	Serving at present.
1921-	Henry K. Ancona	Accounting Warden.
1921-1925	S. O. Hobart	Resigned.
1925-1930	William H. Price	Resigned. Secretary, January 11, 1926-November 30, Appointed to

1930-1932	Arthur Cooley	write Parish History, 1939.
1930-	Ralph Guest	Succeeded W. H. Price as Secretary.
1930-	Richard Sands	Serving May, 1939, Accounting Warden.
1930-	Isaac Thomas	Serving May, 1939.
1931-1932	D. K. Bullens	Resigned May 2, 1932.
1931.1937	Russell H. Shelly	Died in service. Succeeded R. Guest as Secretary, 1936.
1931-1936	Theodore O. Tagert	

1932-	Frederick W. Ancona	Serving May, 1939.
1932-	William Rutter	
1934-	H. C. Gingrich	
	Gustav Schade	
	Charles Gochnaur	
	James Sands	
	Earl Strange	
1938-	F. L. Lavertu	
1938-	A. Watson	
1938-	Frank Ackerman	

TIME OF SERVICE	WARDENS AND SECRETARIES OF CHRIST CHURCH, POTTSTOWN, PA. NAME REMARKS	NAME REMARKS
1845	Charles H. Clay	Rector's Warden.
1845	John P. Rutter	Elected Accounting Warden, 1845.
1845-1846	Thos. M. Clark	Secretary of the Vestry.
1846-1847	David E. Stout	Secretary of the Vestry.
1847-1849	Autes Snyder	Secretary of the Vestry.
1848-	Autes Snyder	Accounting Warden.
1848-	John P. Rutter	Rector's Warden, April 28, 1848.
1849-	Thomas Boyd	Accounting Warden.
1849-	Joseph Christian	Secretary
1849-	R. E. Hobart	Rector's Warden
1850-	Thomas Cunys	Accounting Warden
1850	C. H. Clay	Secretary.

1851	Abner Evans	Rector's Warden.
1852	C. H. Clay	Rector's Warden.
1852	Robert E. Hobart	Accounting Warden.
1852-1857	Abner Evans	Secretary. Mr. Evans' minutes April 11, 1853, show Morlatton Congregation connected with Christ Church. Rector's Salary, \$400, 1854.
1855	C. H. Clay	Accounting Warden.
1855	Robert E. Hobart	Rector's Warden. Also in 1862.
1857	Wm. C. Rutter	Secretary.
1858	C. H. Potts	Secretary
1868	Clement Brooke	Rector's Warden.
1859	Wm. I. Rutter	Secretary
1859	Wm. Mintzer	Was Chairman meetings April 29, 1859, May 2, 1859.
1859	Joseph Potts, Jr.	Accounting Warden and Treasurer. Meetings at this time at the National Bank of Pottstown. Vestry was meeting in basement f Church, 1861.
1860	Autes Snyder	Accounting Warden and Secretary.
1860	Robert E. Hobart, Jr.	Rector's Warden.

By-Laws
of the
VESTRY OF CHRIST CHURCH
POTTSTOWN, PA.

(Adopted Tuesday evening, June 29, 1847, by Vestry meeting in basement of Church)

FIRST
RELATIVE TO MEETINGS

The Vestry shall hold stated meetings on the first Mondays of March, June, September, and December of each year.

Special meetings may be called by the Rector, at his own option, or at the request of one Warden, or two members of the Vestry. In the absence of a Rector, a meeting may be called by one of the Wardens, or shall be called at the request of two members.

A majority of the Vestry shall have power to transact business at any meeting.

SECOND

DUTIES OF THE CLERK

It shall be the duty of the clerk to make an accurate record of all the proceedings of the Vestry in a suitable book, which shall at all times be open to the inspection of the Rector, Wardens, two members of the Vestry. He shall also give due notice of the time and place of Meeting when requested to do so by the Rector or Wardens.

THIRD

DUTIES OF THE TREASURER

The treasurer shall receive pew rents and all other revenues of the Church, and shall keep a correct account of all receipts and payments. This account shall be open to the inspection of the Rector, Wardens, and members of the Vestry.

He shall also pay the salary of the Rector at the end of each quarter, namely at the end of March, June, September, and December of each year.

FOURTH

DUTIES OF AUDITORS

At the meeting of the Vestry on the first Monday of March of each year, a committee shall be appointed to examine and audit the accounts of the treasurer, and shall make the report to the Vestry on Easter Monday.

FIFTH

RELATIVE TO PEWS, ETC.

The Vestry, or committee appointed by the Vestry, shall establish the rents of the Pews on Easter Monday for the year then commencing. These rents shall be paid at the end of each quarter, and in case of failure to pay, the treasurer shall report the same to the Vestry at their next stated meeting.

SIXTH

RELATIVE TO DEPUTIES

Deputies to the Diocesan Convention shall be chosen by Ballot, and the majority of the votes of the members present shall constitute a choice.

No person shall be eligible to the office of Deputy unless he shall be a Communicant of the Church.

SEVENTH

RELATIVE TO BURIALS

Any member of the Congregation shall be entitled to the right of burial in the Graveyard, permission having been obtained from one Warden, and one member of the Vestry, or from two members to break ground.

Other persons shall be entitled to the right of burial after having obtained permission from the Rector or Wardens by paying the sum of two dollars for breaking ground.

CHRIST CHURCH SCHOOL

Few early records are found of this important auxiliary of the Parish.

The minutes of the Vestry meetings do tell of early sessions in the basement of the old Church, as were the Vestry meetings. Prominent among those in the school are:

G. W. Nicolls, Clement Potts, Richard Morris, Will Bassett, Joseph Hartshorne, William Strador, A. C. Mack, Richard Sands, W. H. Price, and Earl Strange as superintendents. Horace Evans seems also to have been a Sunday School superintendent at some time, but not in the memory of the writer. Then Miss Bella Davies (Mrs. Loomis), Mr. Elmer Sands, Miss Chrissie Bassett, and Mr. Isaac Thomas are outstanding in the memory of the author as teachers. Mr. Henry Ancona contributed much in his interest and advice for musical instruction.

W. H. PRICE

**Postscript to
HISTORY OF CHRIST CHURCH, EPISCOPAL
POTTSTOWN, PA.
By WILLIAM H. PRICE
JANUARY 1. 1949**

Our Rector, Reverend George A. Lineker, asked the author of above "History" to write the "highlights" in the Parish since ending May 21, 1939 of the history.

It seems well to review the minutes of Vestry meeting, May 8, 1939. All members were present: Messrs. Wm. F. Mills, Henry K. Ancona, Isaac Thomas, F. L. Lavertu, James Sands, Frank Ackerman, Harry C. Gingrich, Arnold Watson, F. W. Ancona, George C. Lees, Charles Gochnaur, and Rev. Albert Holt.

A former \$1000 bequest from the Edith Lloyd Potts Estate was ordered used for reduction of Parish debt. Finances were low, and had been for several years. Due to the death of Mr. Henry K. Ancona the following month the music committee was having difficulty in choir direction.

Mr. Ancona's death was a severe loss to the Parish, as he was an outstanding musical director, an earnest Vestryman, and Churchman.

On August 7, 1939, the Vestry ordered a letter of congratulation to be sent Rev. Clarence F. Tobias, on his ordination to Priesthood, and to thank him for assisting our Rector, Rev. Albert Holt, in our Parish, during Mr. Holt's illness.

Rev. Holt opened regular monthly meeting of Vestry, September 11, 1939. He seemed improved in health. Mrs. Earl R. Strange was appointed organist. Mr. F. W. Ancona presented the Vestry with two books containing records of finance, attendance, committees' works, and miscellaneous information.

1940

The Pottstown Ministerial Association, of which Rev. Albert Holt has served as chairman, requested and received permission to hold Holy Week Services in Christ Church. Mr. Arnold Watson suggested "rotating the offices of Vestrymen" at Vestry meeting. February 5, 1940. Action was deferred to later meeting. The Diocese was presented a budget of estimate of receipts and expenses for this year for the purpose of asking for financial aid toward Rector's salary. Forty dollars per month, beginning July 1, 1940, was granted from the Sustentation Fund of the Diocese.

Rev. Clarence E. Tobias resigned as Assistant Rector, effective July 1, 1940. The Order of Moose and of Eagles agreed to pay for Christ Church's share for paving alley (Queen Street), back of Church's property.

During the year, the Vestry met several times without quorums. The Rector's health was failing, and visiting Clergymen concluded services several times during latter half of 1940, Rev. R. I. Baldwin so doing several times.

On October 1, 1940, Rev. Holt resigned. Resignation was accepted October 7. 1940.

It should be noted that Mrs. Harry Hoyer, who lived in Collegeville. Pa., and had been singing in the choir for years, was always ready to play the organ during these trying times. Choristers were serving without pay at this time.

1941

On January 12, 1941, at a special meeting of the Vestry, it was decided to notify Bishop Taite that the Vestry desired to call Rev. George A. Lineker. Bishop Taite approved January 16, 1941. Rev. Mr. Lineker was present at Vestry meeting February 7, 1941.

Parish meeting, February 21, 1941, elected Messrs. Wm. E. Mills, F. L. Lavertii, George C. Lees, Arnold Watson, Harry Gingrich, Charles Gochnaur, Richard Sands, Wm. Huey, 3rd, Isaac Thomas, Frank Ackerman, James Sands, and F. W. Ancona, to serve as Vestrymen.

Mrs. Allen Hoffer was President of Women's Guild during past year, and Mrs. Russell Shelly was Treasurer of the Altar Guild. Mr. Carroll Rutter was Sunday School Superintendent. The Misses Bassett (Elizabeth and Jean) were active in the Sunday School as they had been since early in the 1890's.

The Rector appointed Mr. Wm. E. Mills Rector's Warden at Vestry meeting, February 21, 1941 - The Vestry elected Richard M. Sands Accounting Warden, William Huey, 3rd, Assistant Accounting Warden, and Mr. Charles Gochnaur Secretary of the Vestry.

The Vestry unanimously approved the lease from Mrs. Elizabeth B. Rutter of the new Rectory, 703 High Street. But on June 13, 1941, the Vestry authorized termination of this lease to be August 15, 1941 and the property of Dr. and Mrs. S. T. Nicholson, Jr., to be used as Rectory at latter date. (This was agreeable to Mrs. Rutter). It was 808 High Street.



VIEW OF PRESENT CHANCEL.

1942

Those taking active part in Parish meeting, February 11, 1942, were Mrs. Russell Shelly,

Altar Guild; Mr. Carroll Rutter, Sunday School Superintendent; Mr. Isaac Thomas, Men's Bible Class; Mrs. Nelson Feroe, Sunday School Primary Department; Miss Jean Bassett, Treasurer Sunday School; Mr. F. L. Lavertu, Chairman; Music Committee Mrs. Russell Kirk, Choir Committee; Mrs. Nelson Vaughan, President Commandos Club, and Mr. Gustav Schade, Treasurer, Men's Bible Class.

Vestrymen elected at this meeting, Messrs. Wm. E. Mills, Frank Ackerman, Charles Gochnaur, H. Gingrich, F. L. Laertu, Isaac Thomas, V. Warfel, Carl Binder, N. Feroe, R. Sands. H. Kupp, F. W. Ancona. And at Vestry reorganization following the Parish meeting the Rector appointed Mr. Wm. F. Mills, Rector's Warden. Mr. Carl Binder was elected secretary of the Vestry.

The Rectory, 808 High Street, was ordered negotiated for renewal of lease, but at June 1, 1942 meeting of Vestry; action was taken on leasing property, 709 High Street for Rectory (present

Rectory being sold). Mr. Wm. F. Mills proposed that he would buy property, 709 High Street, if Church would lease it for two years. At special meeting of Vestry, June 14, 1942, it was reported that Mr. Mills had bought it.

The regular Vestry meeting, September 7, 1942, authorized rental of property, 709 High Street, for Rectory.

The confirmation class was reported to be 36 in number at October 5th, 1942, Vestry meeting. This was excellent evidence of Parish interest and growth.

The Rector appointed Harry Kupp, Chief Air Raid Warden.

1943

The Rector requested and was granted the re-election of 1942 Vestrymen, because of war emergency at this year's Parish meeting. Red Vestments for Acolytes were given by Mrs. Harry Watson and Harold Watson. Parish meeting was February 1, 1943. The Rector appointed Mr. Wm. E. Mills, Rector's Warden, at March 5, 1943 Vestry meeting. Mr. Charles Gochnaur was elected Accounting Warden, and Mr. Nelson Feroe, Assistant Accounting Warden. Mr. Arnold Watson was elected Secretary of Vestry.

1944

Vestrymen elected to serve for 1944 were: Messrs. Wm. E. Mills, Isaac Thomas, F. L. Lavertu, H. Kupp, Arnold Watson, Frank Ackerman, Charles Gochnaur, F. W. Ancona, Cairns Snider, Clarence Averell, H. Gingrich, Carl Binder.

Mr. Wm. E. Mills was appointed Rector's Warden.

Mr. Carl Binder was elected Secretary of Vestry.

Mr. Charles Gochnaur was elected Accounting Warden.

The 'Eagles' Home donated \$200, and Ellis Mills, Inc. also \$200 for reduction of Parish debt, during 1943, and general contributions were increasing splendidly, the Woman's Guild taking a very important part in this. By December 1, 1944, the Parish House Debt was extinguished, proving the organizing ability and zeal of the Rector. Rev. George A. Lineker. Not in the memory of our Parishioners has Christ Episcopal Church had such inspiring sermons.

1945

Seventy-eight of Christ Church's parishioners were in United States Armed Forces in January, 1945. Mr. Geo. E. Schade, and Mr. Samuel T. Nicholson gave their lives for their country.

Rector's salary was increased to \$3100 per annum, effective January 1, 1945

At the Parish meeting Miss Eleanor Sands reported the Commandos Club income during past year was \$933.11, of which \$850.00 was given toward reducing the Parish Debt. Miss Margaret Tappen reported for Women's Guild which was in splendid order.

Organizing Woman's Auxiliary was proposed.

At Vestry organization Rector appointed Mr. Wm. E. Mills, Rector's Warden, Emeritus; Mr. Francis L. Lavertu, Rector's Warden, and the Vestry now consisting of Messrs. Charles Gochnaur, Earl Strange, Cairns Snider, Isaac Thomas, Frank Ackerman, Harry Gingrich, F. Lavertu, H. Kupp, A. Watson, W. E. Mills, Theodore Taggart, and F. W. Ancona, elected Mr.

Charles Gochnaur, Accounting Warden. Frank Ackerman, Assistant Accounting Warden and Earl Strange, Secretary of the Vestry. Mr. Wm. E. Mills died in June, 1945.

The Stanley G. Flagg Co. reported appreciation for service done them by Rev. George A. Lineker, during war crisis, now coming to a close.

Mr. Carroll Rutter, Sunday School Superintendent, was continuing with success in his work. Plans to improve the heating system were made during the summer of 1945.

Mrs. Wm. E. Mills, in a letter read at the Vestry meeting. September 21, 1945, gave the property at 709 High Street, to the Parish for a Rectory, as a memorial to her husband, Mr. Wm. E. Mills.

The front window was reported damaged by wind storm, and estimated repairs were reported at September 21 Vestry meeting to be \$700.00 and a storm window to protect it was estimated at \$100.00.

Also at this September 21 Vestry meeting the Rector stated that he wanted to continue with a progressive program as follows:

- Remodel Altar Guild Room
- Men's and Women's Vesting Rooms
- Modernize Kitchen
- Paint outside Church
- Paint inside Church
- Remodel Rectory
- Change Heating Plant

In December, 1945, the choir was led by Mrs. Charles Gochnaur, soprano: Mrs. H. Hover, contralto Mr. Robert Sidler, tenor, and Mr. James Sands, bass (baritone).

1946

A special meeting of the Vestry, January 4, 1946, increased the Rector's salary to \$3300 per annum, effective January 1. 1946.

At the Parish meeting, February 11, 1946, the following Vestrymen were elected:

For three years: Messrs. Lavertu, Gochnaur, Ackerman, and Carroll Rutter.

For two years: Messrs. Thomas Storm, James Sands, H. Kupp, and Arnold Watson.

For one year: Messrs. Ancona, Gingrich, Richard Stein and Earl Smith.

Mr. Carroll Rutter resigned as Sunday School Superintendent effective March 1. 1946.

The Vestry recommended Five-Year Program of Renovation and reconstruction as follows:

CHURCH	EST. COST
Reinforce Foundation	\$350.00
Point Outside Masonry	650.00
Replace Chancel Roof Slate	250.00
New Heating Plant - Oil	3,500.00
Modernize Kitchen	1,000.00
Paint Inside	900.00
Paint Parish House	600.00
Remodel Choir Rooms	250.00
Repair Steeple	\$7,500.00

RECTORY

\$4,100.00

At the Vestry meeting, March 8, 1946, the Rector appointed Mr. Francis L. Lavertu Rector's Warden. Mr. Earl Strange was elected Secretary of the Vestry, and Mr. Charles Gochnaur was elected Accounting Warden.

At the April 4, 1946 Vestry meeting the Rector appointed Mr. Frank Ackerman, Mr. Francis Lavertu, Mrs. Brooke Binder, Mrs. Carroll Rutter, and Mrs. Lavertu as Renovation Committee; also Mr. John Kupp and A. Watson. Mr. Stafford was choir director through Easter, 1946.

A valuation of \$95,000.00 was reported on Church Buildings. Mrs. Logan started as choir director October 3, 1946.

1947

At the Vestry meeting January 10, 1947, the Rector's salary was increased to \$3400.00.

Mr. Elmer Hutt was janitor at this time.

The choir organization was: Mrs. Logan, director; Mrs. Earl Strange, organist; Mrs. Charles Gochnaur, first soprano; Mrs. Harry Hoyer, first contralto & Mr. Robert Sidler, first tenor, and Mr. James Sands, bass.

At the Parish meeting, the Rector requested the rotating system used in electing vestrymen be changed to allow the Rector's Warden and the Accounting Warden to remain in service. The rotating system a year back was for vestrymen not to serve more than three years in succession.

Vestrymen then elected were Messrs. Charles Gochnaur, Thomas Storm, Carroll Rutter, Earnest Brenneman, Harry Kupp, Francis Lavertu, Arnold Watson, Earl Strange, Frank Ackerman, Henry Colbath, Brooke Binder, and James Sands.

Mr. Lavertu was appointed Rector's Warden. Mr. Earl Strange was elected Secretary of Vestry. Mr. Charles Gochnaur was elected Accounting Warden.

The Rector appointed Mr. Carroll Rutter legal adviser to the Vestry at March 7, 1947 Vestry meeting.

A confirmation class of thirty-five and twenty transfers was reported.

A splendid job of renovating the Church property in charge of Mr. Frank Ackerman and Mr. Fred Ancona was completed during the year.

A check for \$160.00 was received from the estate of Miss Joanna Evans previous to September 5, 1947 Vestry meeting.

Mr. Elmer Hutt resigned as janitor in April.

1948

A new office of Financial Secretary was created at Vestry meeting March 5, 1948.

The annual Parish meeting, February 15, 1948, reported terms (3 years) of the following Vestrymen expired: Messrs. Kupp, Ackerman, Storm, and Strange. Messrs. Melvin Pearce, Webster Schiotti, Richard Stein, and Morrison Blake were elected to fill the vacancies.

The Parish meeting elected the following men to the Vestry: Messrs. Charles Gochmaur, Melvin Pierce, Richard Stein, Earnest Brenneman, Arnold Watson, Webster Schlott, Carroll Rutter, Brooke Binder, Morrison Blake, Henry Colbath, Francis Lavertu, Frank Ackerman.

Mr. Lavertu was appointed Rector's Warden.

Mr. Frank Ackerman was appointed Assistant Rector's Warden

Mr. Charles Gochnaur was elected Accounting Warden.
Mr. Frank Ackerman was elected Assistant Accounting Warden
Mr. Earnest Brenneman was elected Secretary of the Vestry.
Mr. Brenneman was serving as Superintendent of the Sunday School.
Mr. Plank was serving as Choir Director.

The Rector reported 521 people on Parish List. He also reported Mrs. Ira Staunton was elected president of newly organized Women's Auxiliary. And there was a confirmation class of forty-eight and transfers of fifteen persons. The confirmation class became fifty-nine, breaking all records of the Parish.

Mr. Lloyd Ritter succeeded Mr. Walter Schlicter as janitor.

The salary of the Rector was increased to \$3,700.00 at December 3rd, 1948, meeting of the Vestry. Rev. George A. Lineker had served nearly eight years as Rector at this time, and during this time Christ Church has risen from narrowly escaping the status of Mission when he took charge. Since then all Parish Debts as he found them were extinguished. The Church property has been completely renovated, and many improvements made. A Rectory has been acquired and building much improved. Improvements were at a cost of \$12,469.73 at the end of 1946. Now the Parish is well on the way of paying off money borrowed for these improvements.

The Woman's Club of Christ Church had become a very active organization.
Church attendance records are being broken.

WILLIAM H. PRICE

Editor's Notes:

This is the first of three histories of Christ Episcopal Church and was first published in 1939. It was revised in 1940 with a series of short yearly addenda through 1948.

The original was published in a 5x7 format with large margins. I have attempted to maintain the grammar and spelling of the original (which at times is idiosyncratic) but have not attempted to reproduce the page format.

The document was digitized by scanning it into MS Word, then converting to a PDF format. The process produces errors which I have tried to correct, but if you detect any that I have missed, please let me know. Note that Mr. Price's grammar, spelling and style often appear a bit archaic to us and I do not propose to modernize them.

If you would like a copy of the MS Word version, I'll be happy to provide it.

*Yours in Christ,
Robert M. Gross
Christ Episcopal Church
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Feast of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, 2008*