MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE VESTRY AND COUNCIL HELD AT THE PARISH HOUSE FEBRUARY 10, 1947, at 5 pm

Those present were as follows:

Dudley Gale
Dr. Philip Davidson
Harvey Pride
Charles Moss
Maxwell Benson
Sam Berger, Jr.
John Bransford
Brownlee Gurry
F. Arthur Henkel
W. H. Lambeth
Walter Robinson
Albert Rose
James G. Stahlman
Walter Stokes, Jr.
John E. Thomas

一番を持ちていてはないできる 本本になっていないないないないのできます。

W. Vivian Tupper . . Robinson F. Barker A. Q. Campbell J. Paschall Davis Craige DeMoss Dr. Garth Fort John B. Hall Russell Hart Terry Hart Joseph T. Howell, Jr. John Krieg Ralph E. Lewis Robert McNeilly Dr. Joe Minor John Steele Thomas Trabue

The meeting was called to order by the rector.

Mr. Dudley Gale, senior warden, said he had received a communication from Mrs. Vernon Tupper in which she expressed deep appreciation for the many kind attentions and expressions of sympathy in connection with the death of her beloved husband.

As Nashville chairman for the \$5,000,000 Sewanee drive, Mr. Gale outlined the campaign organization and urged the generous participation of all members of Christ Church. He said Nashville's quota was \$250,000.

Upon recommendation of Walter Stokes, Jr., chairman of the finance committee, the following action was taken with respect to revision of the 1947 budget:

"The Treasurer and Finance Committee were authorized to amortize over ten years in equal payments the unusual roof expenditure in the sum of \$12,594, and to borrow the deferred balance from a commercial bank, or the anticipated Claybrook Fund; such action, together with other final adjustments as shown in the files of the Finance Committee, to result in anticipated receipts of \$63,817.00 against budget items of expense in the sum of \$62,872.00; and the Budget for 1947 so revised was adopted."

A report was made on the Lenten services to be held for the first time at Christ Church. The interdenominational devotions, held under the auspices of the Episcopal Churchmen of Nashville, formerly were conducted at the Princess Theater. Confirming an action previously taken a committee, representing the various parishes of the city, meeting with Mr. Arthur Crown-over, Episcopal churchmen chairman, decided unanimously to move the services to Christ Church, with its organ and atmosphere of reverence and beauty. Mr. F. Arthur Henkel, director of music for Christ Church, is giving a musical meditation period preceding each service, and it was believed this would be an important factor in increasing the audiences.

The rector reported that he was making no headway in his negotiations with the Rev. T. M. W. Yerxa of St. Paul's, Orange, Texas, to accept the position as his assistant. He said, however, that he would get a definite commitment soon. He said he had been turned down on his offer to a youth worker for the religious education department, and would likewise continue his efforts to secure aid in this field. The rector expressed deep appreciation for the services of Joseph Kellermann, who has been acting as his assistant and who on February 15, took charge of a parish at Dothan, Alabama.

Mr. Williams reported on a trip that he and Dr. Philip Davidson, junior warden, had made to Atlanta as delegates to a regional meeting for the World Council of Churches which is raising a Warld Reconstruction Fund of \$15,000,000 over a period of three years. The share of this diocese would be \$15,000 with the quota of Christ Church placed at \$1,500. The rector recommended the World Council as the best organization to spend the fund.

There was some discussion on the suggestion that the Christ Church Easter offering be used for the Christ Church quota, but a motion prevailed to leave the matter to the finance committee.

Mr. W. H. Lambeth, general chairman for the Diocesan Convention, for which Christ Church was host, made an excellent report and was given a rising vote of thanks for his usual outstanding work. The convention was declared by many to be one of the most successful ever held in the State, and the Vestry and Council voted to pay half of the deficit of \$239.

Mr. Gale's motion that the Christ Church diocesan apportionment be raised by \$500 also was approved.

Mr. Stahlman brought a message of love and best wishes from Bishop Maxon, who since his retirement as diocesan, has assumed charge of two missions in Florida, St. Simon's-on-the-Sound at Fort Walton, and St. Andrews by-the-Sea at Destin. Mr. Stahlman reported that Bishop and Mrs. Maxon were very happy there and that the people of that area were grateful for their presence.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Chairpan Mullaus

(whale

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE VESTRY AND COUNCIL HELD AT THE PARISH HOUSE MARCH 10, 1947, at 5 pm

Those present were as follows:

Dudley Gale
Harvey Pride
Charles Moss
Maxwell Benson
Sam Berger, Jr.
John Bransford
F. Arthur Henkel
W. H. Lambeth
Charles Mitchell
Albert Rose
Vernon Sharp, Jr.
James G. Stahlman
Walter Stokes, Jr.
John E. Thomas

Dr. Owen Wilson
R. B. Alexander
Robinson F. Barker
A. Q. Campbell
Owsley Cheek
Craige DeMoss
Guilford Dudley, Jr.
Dr. Garth Fort
John B. Hall
Russell Hart
Terry Hart
John Krieg
Robert McNeilly
John Steele
Thomas Trabue

The meeting was called to order by the rector.

Mr. Pride, property custodian and treasurer, reported that work on the roof of the church was being delayed by slowness in procurement of slate. He announced also that it would be necessary to put down a new sidewalk on the east side of the building upon completion of the tower.

Mr. Stokes, chairman of the finance committee, said that unless otherwise instructed by the Vestry and Council, it would be his policy to stick to the budget items except in cases of "urgent necessity" or "dire emergency."

Speaking for the Social Service Committee, Dr. Owen Wilson pointed to a need for social service workers and declared that while gifts were important, nothing compared with the satisfaction gained by actual work for others in need. Thereupon Mr. Williams paid a high tribute to Dr. Wilson for his many years of free service at St. Lukes Community House and other clinics in Nashville.

The rector declared that Mr. Yerxa could not accept the position as his assistant and that he was looking over other prospects. He said that at present he was receiving some assistance from the Rev. Charles Matlock, Jr., and hoped to have his services for several weeks. Mr. Williams reported also that he was continuing his efforts to obtain a youth worker and that he would receive visits from several applicants.

He took occasion to congratulate the University of the South on obtaining the services of Robert Gibson as dean of St. Lukes Seminary.

The rector then launches a discussion on whether to bring speakers from other denominations, at least three out of the six, to take part in the Lenten series, sponsored by the Episcopal Churchmen of Nashville. He said he favored the move.

Mr. Benson took the floor in agreement and declared that for many years the number of persons taking advantage of the Denten services had not been commensurate with the intense efforts of the lay leaders and the generous page one publicity in the Nashville Banner. Mr. Bransford expressed similar sentiments.

Speaking at length, Mr. Stahlman declared it was a shame to bring nationally known speakers here from a distance and confront them with audiences of 200. He told of his efforts to bring the services to the religious atmosphere of Christ Church from the Princess Theater, which had been characterized by some of the speakers as "the catacombs."

He expressed the opinion that some of our own people definitely are "pulling back" because of the change and declared that before bringing in other denominations "we must have more Episcopal unity." He said the success of the work depends on the cooperation of every parish in Davidson County. In conclusion he urged that we wait and give the matter "another year of home treatment before we bring in outsiders to pull us out of the hole."

Similar opinions were given by Mr. Gale and Mr. Trabue. Mr. Lambeth discussed the years of work and publicity that had gone into the effort and said "I believe we've done all we can until we build a fire under our fellow Episcopalians."

Mr. Rose urged a "personal selling job" as did Mr. DeMoss.
Mr. Hall said in other cities where he had been, the crowds had
been increased by speakers of other denominations. Mr. Barker saw
a need for outside speakers because the services were looked upon
as exclusively Episcopalian. A getting away from "Episcopal exclusiveness" was suggested by Mr. Campbell. Mr. Alexander pointed out
the convenience of many bus lines passing the church and the appointment of committees to make personal calls urging men to attend, was
suggested by Mr. Steele.

The secretary was called upon to explain the extent and function of the Episcopal Churchmen of Nashville. He said that while its leaders were active on plans for the Lenten series and other occasions when needed, he had never seen a gathering of the entire membership which is made up of the lay members of the Davidson County parishes. Mr. Stahlman suggested that the Christ Church Men's Club sponsor such a gathering.

Mr. Williams asked that when conferences are necessary, the various committees meet with him for lunch at Christ Church.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Chairman

<u>Chara-</u>

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE VESTRY AND COUNCIL HELD AT THE PARISH HOUSE APRIL 14. 1947, at 5 pm

Those present were as follows:

Dr. Philip Davidson
Harvey Pride
Charles Moss
Maxwell Benson
John Bransford
Neil Cargile
F. Arthur Henkel
W. H. Lambeth
Charles Mitchell
Albert Rose
Vernon Sharp, Jr.
James G. Stahlman
Walter Stokes, Jr.
John E. Thomas

W. Vivian Tupper
Dr. Owen Wilson
R. B. Alexander
Robinson F. Barker
A. Q. Campbell
J. Paschall Davis
Craige DeMoss
Guilford Dudley, Jr.
John B. Hall
Russell Hart
Joseph T. Howell, Jr.
John Krieg
Ralph E. Lewis
Robert McNeilly

The meeting was called to order by the rector.

Mr. Pride, treasurer, announced the Easter collections to date had amounted to \$2,013 as compared with the assessment of \$1,920. Inasmuch as the goal had been exceeded he was given authority to pay out of the total fund \$88 for the Easter Offering letters.

The Sunday School offering during the Lenten period, which included mite boxes, carnival proceeds and other collections, amounted to more than \$1,000, according to Mr. Williams.

Publication of the cantata, Hosea, by Mr. F. Arthur Henkel, director of music, was approved on recommendation of the music committee of which Mr. Sharp is chairman. Mr. Williams praised Mr. Henkel for his work during the Lenten services, his success with the junior choir and the rendering of the Easter Cantata.

Mr. Stokes presented the following report of a meeting of the finance committee held April 8:

*The Finance Committee of Christ Church met at 1:30 pm, April 8, 1947, 41 Arcade. The following were present:

Henry D. Jamison, Jr.
Dr. Philip Davidson, Jr.
Dudley Gale
Albert Rose
Brownlee Currey
Walter Stokes, Jr., Chairman
Harvey Pride, Ex Officio
Rev. Peyton Williams, Ex Officio

The following actions were taken by unanimous vote:

The Treasurer was instructed to communicate with Mr. Zeboam Patton seeking further recommendation for investment of \$1,500.00 principal of the Ida Belle Wilson Fund, with particular reference to a first rate common stock or real estate mortgage.

The authorization of the following expenditures not provided in the budget, but to be made available from budget balances accruing in items of repairs, Assistant Rector, and Director of Church Schools:

\$ 987.00

Recommends to the Vestry acceptance of a gift of \$1,060.00 from the Rectors Aid Society to be devoted to the remodeling, subject to approval by the Rector and the Custodian of Property.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned."

The above report was approved, along with that of another meeting of the finance committee held immediately preceding the Vestry and Council session. At that time the treasurer was authorized to purchase a new filing system for the church office, the cost to be left to his discretion.

Speaking for the Memorial committee, Mr. Rose said a list of suitable gifts for the church was being prepared.

Mr. Williams announced completion of the new tower and paid a tribute of gratitude to the donor and the architect.

There followed a discussion of needed toilet facilities for women and children. Mr. Williams said that while adequate facilities of this nature were essential, he felt that such should await the completion of an over-all plan for church changes.

The rector declared he was still searching for an assistant and a youth worker. The Rev. Charles Matlock, he said, would assist him for three months. He explained that no salary would be involved because Mr. Matlock is employed as a missionary by the National Council and that he is spending a furlough at Christ Church before reporting to the Philippines for regular duty.

Dr. Davidson reported that the advance in student work is a source of gratification, explaining that the Rev. James Stirling, student chaplain, had held communion on Vanderbilt campus every morning during Lent. He said the growth had been extraordinary and quoted the chaplain as saying that he is now where he expected to be a year from the present. The student work chairman gave high praise to the efforts of Mr. Stirling.

Concerned with the Watkins Institute Forum charge that the church is falling down on the job it is doing for youth, Mr. Williams announced that he had arranged for a discussion of youth problems by the young people of Christ Church at a parish house dinner meeting on April 21. He said also that it was his intention to follow through with a conference for young people at the DuBose Seminary property at Monteagle in June. This property has been leased by the diocese for a period of five years for conferences and retreats.

Mr. Matlock was presented by Mr. Williams and was given a hearty welcome by the Vestry and Council.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Chairman\

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE VESTRY AND COUNCIL HELD AT THE PARISH HOUSE MAY 12. 1947. at 5 pm

Those present were as follows:

Mr. Charles S. Martin
Dudley Gale
Harvey Pride
Charles Moss
Maxwell Benson
Sam Berger, Jr.
John Bransford
W. H. Lambeth
Charles Mitchell
Albert Rose
James G. Stahlman
John E. Thomas
W. Vivian Tupper
Dr. Owen Wilson

R. B. Alexander
Robinson F. Barker
A. Q. Campbell
Owsley Cheek
J. Paschall Davis
Craige DeMoss
Dr. Garth Fort
John B. Hall
Russell Hart
Terry Hart
John Krieg
Ralph E. Lewis
Charles Nelson, Jr.
John Steele
Thomas Trabue

The meeting was called to order by the rector.

Mr. Dudley Gale, senior warden, opened the meeting with a report on a recent session of the Bishop and Council, which laid plans for the improvement of historic Holy Trinity Church. The plans, it was said, include sale of a diocese-owned piece of property known as the Florence Crittenten lot, proceeds of which would be used toward acquirement of parish house for Holy Trinity. The Bishop expects to get one-third of the cost from the National Council.

On motion of Mr. Pride, the treasurer, the handling of the Claybrooke fund, amounting to \$15,000, was referred to the finance committee. It was agreed that such amount as necessary of this fund would be used to pay for roof repair, and that the fund be repaid over a period of years. The treasurer reported that the new sidewalk on the Ninth Avenue side of the church had been finished and that an audit of the church books for the year 1946 had been completed.

Dr. Wilson, speaking for the social service committee, said that money was available for improvements to be made. It was announced that Mr. Afbert Rose had been elected to represent the Vestry and Council on the St. Luke's Board.

A list of prospects is being prepared by the personal workers' committee, according to Mr. Lambeth, chairman.

After reviewing and praising the work of the Davidson County Planning Committee in the Davidson County Expansion Program, Mr. Williams said he had an announcement of great importance, namely the anonymous gift of a piece of property for the construction of a chapel in Belle Meade. He expressed his gratitude, said this step meant the realization

of a dream and offered both a challenge and a great opportunity for service by the members of Christ Church. He explained that the donors had first planned to vest the property with the diocese, but that it was later decided to deed it to the Vestry and Council of Christ Church.

Mr. Lambeth, chairman of the planning committee, praised the gift and said the location is ideal inasmuch as it is in an area where live 239 Episcopalian families. He expressed the opinion that with the proper screening and landscaping, the plot, which fronts approximately 240 feet on the south side of Harding Road near Belle Meade Boulevard, could be made very beautiful. He said the committee had decided that the chapel must be on Harding Road and that a survey proved this to be the only available tract.

The formation of a new Belle Meade Committee was announced, composed of John Bransford, chairman, and Brownlee Currey, vice chairman. Other members are Dudley Gale, Robert McNeilly, Harvey Pride, Albert Rose, Maxwell Benson and W. H. Lambeth. This group, it is said, had already been at work with Donald Southgate, architect.

Mr. Stahlman, after expressing gratification for gift, asked if the deed specified that a chapel is to be erected thereon. An examination of the document showed that it contained such a provision. Pointing out that all angles of the proposition should be explored, he recalled that noise from the nearby railroad and the proximity of a business block had been factors in the turning down of lots previously considered in that vicinity.

He called attention to the fact that a beer tavern is nearby and raised the question of possible legal involvements.

Mr. Williams asked the opinion of Mr. Davis, an attorney, who said it was his belief that the tavern could not be forced to move.

The Secretary said that while he appreciated the gift of the property, he thought it was absurd to locate the proposed Belle Meade chapel near a beer tavern, two filling stations and a police station. He said he had discussed the matter with the County Attorney, who had advised that he had heard of beer taverns moving too close to a church, but had never heard of a church violating the distance rule by moving too close to a tavern, as would be the case in this instance.

Mr. Williams suggested that Mr. Gale, as senior warden, make the motion for acceptance of the property; whereupon, Mr. Stahlman pointed out that inasmuch as title already had been vested in the Vestry and Council without advising the members, any future action would be merely confirmatory.

Mr. Gale said he considered the property ideally located. It has great value, he declared, and is a magnificent gift. He moved that the Vestry and Council accept it with gratitude. His motion was adopted.

Mr. Campbell and Mr. Barker engaged in a discussion of Christ Church Sunday School needs, the former urging that fully adequate facilities be insured with the erection of the proposed Belle Meade Chapel.

The question was asked by Mr. Benson as to when the Belle Meade Committee would have the project ready for presentation to the congregation. He said there was much talk about it on the street, but that few seemed to know anything definite.

Mr. Terry Hart asked the reasons for building the Belle Meade chapel and Mr. Williams reviewed an article he had written for the Church Bulletin, setting out the various needs and purposes.

Again taking the floor, Mr. Campbell said he presumed the chapel would have the status of a mission of Christ Church and that in time would become another parish.

Mr. Williams agreed, and pointed out that an assistant rector would be in charge. He said the chapel would be mainly for Sunday School and young people's activities, but in answer to another question said that 11 o'clock services would be held.

Mr. DeMoss suggested that in the future, when the Vestry and Council is to receive a piece of property, the members be so advised, if possible, before the transaction is completed.

Mr. Williams agreed and said that such would have been the case in this instance except for the fact original plans called for deeding the lot to the diocese.

Mr. Benson, as chairman of the testimonial committee, was instructed to arrange a dinner to honor Dr. Owen Wilson for his half century of Christian service to the Christ Church parish.

The dinner is to be held at the Belle Meade Country Club on Thursday. June 12, at 6:30 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

hairman

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE VESTRY, HELD AT CHRIST CHURCH, JUNE 9, 1947

Those present were as follows:

Harvey Pride
Charles Moss
Maxwell Benson
Sam Berger, Jr.
John Bransford
W. H. Lambeth
Charles Mitchell

Walter Robinson
Albert Rose
Vernon Sharp, Jr.
James G. Stahlman
Walter Stokes, Jr.
John E. Thomas
W. Vivian Tupper
Dr. Owen Wilson

The meeting was called to order by the rector.

Mr. John Bransford, chairman of the Belle Meade Chapel Committee, made a report on the progress of the project, and recommended the purchase of 25 feet on the east side of the chapel lot from the Lion Oil Company for \$1.500.

It was pointed out by Donald Southgate, architect, who has been generously cooperating with the chapel committee, that this strip would be necessary for a road-way leading to parking space, which it is hoped may be secured in the rear of the church.

Mr. Stahlman reminded that the congregation of Christ Church should be consulted before being committed to a long term obligation, and recalled that two years previously, when purchase of the adjoining parking lot on Ninth Avenue was under discussion, there was considerable sentiment for centralizing all church activities at the uptown site. He again called attention to the nearness of the beer tavern to the chapel lot and the noise from the nearby railroad.

Bishop Dandridge said he was 100 per cent for the idea of presenting the matter to the church members, and said he had considered the location ideal except for the railroad and the tavern. He said there seemed to be excellent grounds for purchasing the additional footage.

Mr. Williams said that in the past two years he had made rather complete surveys as to sentiment concerning the chapel and had discovered that opposition had dwindled practically to the point of neglibility. He pointed out also that no one would be forced into anything and that those who did not wish to take part in the chapel project could continue to confine their activities to Christ Church.

Mr. Walter Stokes said he was not worried about the beer tavern and recited the passenger schedule of the NC & St. L. Memphis trains, which he said would not coincide with worship periods. Others called attention to the frequent passage of freight trains.

It was on motion of Mr. Stokes that the vestry voted to address a letter to the congregation, presenting the general idea of the Belle Meade Chapel project. He said the matter of specific church design could be considered later.

Previously in the meeting Mr. Albert Rose had suggested that the matter be wrapped neatly and presented immediately to the congregation by the committee.

It was decided, however, not to move too hastily, and that the letter be drafted and approved by the vestry before submission to the church membership.

Mr. Robert McNeilly, secretary of the original Belle Meade Committee, said the chapel had been in the first Davidson County Planning Committee's plans and also had been approved at a church mass meeting.

He suggested that a special committee from the Vestry of Christ Church take over the Belle Meade Chapel inasmuch as the idea had advanced from the general county planning stage to a specific Christ Church project.

On motion of Mr. Stahlman, the current committee, headed by Mr. Bransford was so designated. The work of Mr. Bransford and his committee, along with that of Mr. Southgate, the architect, was highly praised.

The architect, who commended the lot, went into detail on his plans for its development and beautification as the chapel site.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Chairman\

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE VESTRY AND COUNCIL HELD AT THE BELLE MEADE COUNTRY CLUB JUNE 12, 1947

Those present were as follows:

Mr. Charles S. Martin
Dudiey Gale
Dr. Philip Davidson
Harvey Pride
Charles Moss
Sam Berger, Jr.
John Bransford
W. H. Lambeth
Charles Mitchell
Walter Robinson
Albert Rose

Vernon Sharp, Jr.
Walter Stokes, Jr.
John E. Thomas
W. Vivian Tupper
Dr. Owen Wilson
Craige DeMoss
Guilford Dudley, Jr.
Dr. Garth Fort
John B. Hall
Joseph T. Howell, Jr.
Ralph E. Lewis
W. W. Morehead, Jr.

The Vestry and Council held a dinner meeting at the Belle Meade Country Club on June 12, 1947, to honor Dr. Owen Wilson for his more than half century of service to Christ Church.

With Peyton Williams, the rector presiding, Dudley Gale, Senior Warden, read the following testimonial, which, artistically designed and beautifully framed, was presented to Dr. Wilson:

"'Suffer little children to come unto me--for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.' These loving words of our Lord are chosen appropriately as a prologue to this testimonial in honor of Dr. Owen H. Wilson.

"When the Good Man of Nazareth was on earth ministering to the meek, the lowly, the poor and the sick, He provided for the perpetuation of His works through those who were to follow after Him and His disciples.

"Truly a disciple of the Son of God has been His servant whom we seek to honor on this occasion. Among his services to God and man we here record:

"His love for little children and the arduous, faithful and affectionate service which he has rendered them in Beth-lehem Center, in St. Luke's Community House and in the numerous by-ways of this broad community.

"His devotion to the missionary work of the church.

"His splendid leadership of the Conference of Southern Children's Specialists, dedicated to improving the health and well-being of our children

"His half-century of faithful and distinguished service as a vestryman of Christ Church and with conspicuous mention of his constant attendance at the services of the church.

"We honor him for his lifetime of service as the good physician to countless thousands of Nashville homes; for the genuine humility and Christ-like simplicity that go hand in hand with his countless good deeds; for the love and kindness and thorough goodness which he leaves along the way as he walks through life.

"Thus to Owen Wilson the Vestry and Council of Christ Episcopal Church offers this tribute in recognition of his priceless worth."

In addition to the testimonial, the honor guest received many tributes from those present. Among the speakers were Bishop Dandridge; Charles S. Martin, Sr., senior warden emeritus, and Charles Mitchell, both of whom have for many years been associated with Dr. Wilson in the work of the church; Dr. Hearn Bradley, an associate in the medical profession and Albert Rose, referred to as "one of Dr. Wilson's boys".

The beloved physician acknowledged the tributes with feeling. He recalled some of the work and struggle for Christ Church in its early days, cited its progress in the intervening years and envisioned new heights of achievement in the years to come. The Belle Meade Chapel, he said, should be only one of several missions that could be sponsored by Christ Church.

At a brief business session prior to presentation of the testimonial, the vestry and council authorized investment of the Claybrooke fund in short term government notes. It also approved and referred to the finance committee, the request of the music committee that the choir be given full rather than half pay for the month of July and August.

The report of the treasurer was received and filed. He announced also that a contract had been signed with C. H. Reese & Sons for the new roof on the church and that work would start the following day.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Chairman

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE VESTRY OF CHRIST CHURCH

HELD, JUNE 26, 1947

Those present were as follows:

Dudley Gale Charles Moss Sam Berger, Jr. John Bransford Neil Cargile Brownlee Curry W. H. Lambeth Charles Mitchell Walter Robinson Vernon Sharp, Jr. John E. Thomas W. Vivian Tupper Dr. Owen Wilson

At a special meeting held in the office of Brownlee O. Currey on June 26, 1947, the vestry approved the following letter on the Belle Meade Chapel to be sent to the Christ Church membership:

"To the Members of Christ Church Nashville Tennessee

For many years the need for the expansion of the Episcopal Church in Nashville has been close to the heats of Bishop Maxon and Bishop Dandridge. Four years ago, Bishop Maxon appointed a committee of laymen, representing the various parishes and missions in Davidson County. This committee made a careful study and presented a number of different needs. The first of these, the student work in the college centers, has been established and is functioning well. Others include the strengthening of St. Andrew's, the removal of St. Peter's to another location, a parish house for Holy Trinity Negro Mission, and other projects.

High on the list of recommendations was the establishment of a chapel of Christ Church in the Belle Meade area. It was recognized that, in the first place, there is no church of any denomination in that community. Furthermore, it was found that an unusually high percentage of Episcopalians live there. A more recent count has revealed that there are some two hundred and thirty-nine Christ Church families representing two hundred fifty-five or more children or young people. Of these, some one hundred and seventy-nine were enrolled in Sunday School last year. Perhaps the most pressing challenge is in the fact that activities for children and young people, centering about the church on Sunday evenings and during the week, are best carried on in a community close to their homes and there is at present no center for such activities. Above all, it was recognized that a church can only grow as it goes out into new communities. It was obvious that the establishment of a new piece of work was past due.

Recently, strong impetus has been given to the project by the generous gift of one of the most strategically located and best available tracts of land. This property is located on the south side of Harding Road, about 100 yards east of Belle Meade Boulevard, fronting approximately 230 feet on Harding Road with a depth of 300 feet. A committee of the Vestry, with Mr. John Bransford as chairman, has been appointed to work with the Planning Committee, appointed by the Bishop, with a view to the establishment of the chapel. Furthermore, we have been successful in securing the services of the Rev. Johnathan Næbitt Mitchell to work as an associate to the Rector with a view of eventually becoming vicar of the chapel.

In its form of government, the Episcopal Church is particularly fortunate in such matters. A chapel can be established which will be an integral part of Christ Church Parish, operating with one communicant list and a single budget. Every individual member has the opportunity to choose whether he will attend the church or the chapel. It is a matter of completely free choice. As a matter of experience, there are many chapels which have been founded in this way and grown ultimately into strong self-supporting parishes. In some instances, the relationship has been maintained for only a short time. In other instances, the relationship has remained for a period of twenty or twenty-five years as was the case until recently in Detroit with Christ Church downtown and the chapel in Grosse Point. In some instances in New York City, the relationship has remained over a period of a hundred or more years.

It is worthwhile noting that a number of those most interested in the establishment of the chapel will, in all likelihood, continue to attend Christ Church regularly while there will be others who, for one reason or another, will choose the chapel. From time to time there are expressions of fear as to the effect upon the downtown church. It has been the experience elsewhere in almost every instance that the mother church has not suffered, but the church at large has gained immeasurably.

It is planned that the emphasis at the outset would be upon work with children and young people though adequate provision would be made for regular services for adults who prefer to attend the chapel. Mr. Donald Southgate, the architect, is making preliminary sketches which will envision long-time development but provide for the early erection of such facilities as will make possible a strong beginning.

We are writing you because we believe that no matter where you live, you will be interested in the growth of the Church. The Vestry has given a great deal of thought to this matter and expressed its unqualified approval. We would be glad to have the benefit of any comment you may care to make. We hope and trust that it will have your hearty support. We cannot avoid the feeling that the challenge

and opportunity are great and it is time for us to move forward to meet them.

Faithfully yours,

Bishop, Rt. Rev. E.P.Dandridge, D.D. Bishop of Tennessee

Dudley Gale, Sr. Warden Wardens: Dr. Philip Davidson, Jr. Warden

> Secretary, Charles Moss Rector, Peyton R. Williams

Vestry:

Maxwell Benson Sam W. Berger, Jr. F. Arthur Henkel James G. Stahlman John Bransford Wentworth Caldwell Charles Mitchell Neil Cargile Robert Cheek

Brownlee Currey W. H. Lambeth Walter Robinson Albert Rose

Vernon Sharp, Jr. Walter Stokes, Jr. John Thomas Vivian Tupper Dr. Owen Wilson"

In addition the vestry authorized the Belle Meade Chapel Committee to:

- 1. Start negotiations for purchase of a 25 foot strip on the east side of the chapel lot.
- Lay preliminary plans for raising funds for the chapel.
- 3. Engage an architect to do preliminary drawings to be used in fund raising.

Fee for the above sketches would be 1.2 per cent of the total fee, which is 6 per cent of the cost of the church.

Mr. Donald Southgate, architect, who already has given tirelessly of his time and effort in preliminary advice and plans for the chapel, said that all above his actual costs on the structure would be returned to the church. He is forbidden by the rules of the American Institute of Architects to give his services without charge.

The cost of the chapel was put tentatively at between \$80,000 and \$90,000. Mr. Williams said he believed the design should emphasize beauty, adaptability for additions and facilities for Sunday school, youth work and recreation.

Discussing the site, Mr. Currey, who also served on the first Belle Meade Committee, pointed out that an exhaustive survey, from the city limits to the overpass at the Highway 100 intersection, had shown the chosen lot to be the only one available. The anonymous donors, he said, would have been glad to have given a site in West Meade or elsewhere but that the Bishop had insisted that it be located somewhere on Harding Road as near the center of the Episcopal population as possible.

The vestry voted not to hold a meeting in July.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Chairman

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE VESTRY OF CHRIST CHURCH HELD AT THE OFFICE OF BROWNLEE CURREY ON AUGUST 21, 1947

The Vestry of Christ Church, meeting in called session at the office of Mr. Brownlee Currey on August 21, 1947, authorized the custodian and treasurer, Mr. Harvey Pride, to offer \$12,000 for a house in the Highlands of Belle Meade which will be occupied by the assistant rector of Christ Church, Mr. Johnathan N. Mitchell.

The treasurer was further authorized by the Vestry to raise the offer on the house not more than \$1,000, if necessary, and to sign for the Vestry and Council all papers, including a mortgage, in connection with the transaction.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Chairman

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE VESTRY OF CHRIST CHURCH HELD AT THE OFFICE OF BROWNLEE CURREY ON AUGUST 28. 1947

Present: Messrs. Berger, Bransford, Mitchell, Lambeth, Stokes, Henkel, Robinson, Benson, Tupper and Gale.

Proxy of Mr. Sharp held by Mr. Bransford.

Others present: The Rev. Peyton R. Williams, Mr. Donald Southgate and The Rev. J. N. Mitchell.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Reverend Mr. Williams. The necessary quorum was established by the proxy vote of Mr. Sharp. Mr. Williams opened the meeting by reviewing the limits of authority granted by the Vestry to the Chapel Committee at the last regular meeting of the Vestry. This authority was in three parts.

- 1. To enter into negotiations for the purchase of 25 feet of land adjacent to the Chapel site from the Lion Oil Company.
- 2. To arrange with the Architect for preliminary sketches, plans, etc. for the proposed Chapel.
- 3. To make preliminary arrangements for the necessary activities of fund raising in behalf of the Chapel.

Mr. Bransford, Chairman of the Chapel Committee reported on the activities of his Committee. He stated that the Committee had proceeded to the limits of its authority -- that plans have been drawn, arrangements made for purchase of the strip of land from the Lion Oil Company and preliminary plans made for the fund raising activities. Mr. Bransford pointed out that the Chapel Committee was now in a position of seeking further authorization for its activities. He stated that the consensus of the Committee was that it would be desirable, if possible, to proceed with the construction of the entire project rather than simply the Parish Hall section. Mr. Bransford stated that the Committee had prepared a list of potential givers for an initial gifts campaign and that it was the opinion of the Committee that a potential sum was available sufficient to warrant the construction of the project. He pointed out that while building costs were high at the present time, at the same time incomes and ability or inclination to contribute, were also at a correspondingly high The draw-backs in proceeding immediately with the construction of the project were recognized, but Mr. Bransford stated the relationship between cost of building and incomes should be recognized.

Mr. Bransford further stated that a Brochure was in process of preparation by the Committee and that this Brochure would be ready for inspection August 29.

It was moved by Mr. Gale and seconded by Mr. Bransford that the purchase of the 25 foot strip of land from the Lion Oil Company be completed. In the discussion of this motion, Mr. Williams pointed out that \$1,100.00 were in the treasury available for application against the purchase price of this lot which will be \$1,500.00. The resolution which was passed unanimously, authorized the Treasurer and the Finance Committee to make the necessary arrangements for payment to the Lion Oil Company.

In beginning the discussion of the prospective fund raising campaign in behalf of the Chapel, Mr. Stokes stated that in his opinion, no possible injury to the Every Member Canvass should be given. It was his suggestion that the financing of the Chapel project be deferred until February of 1948. Mr. Gale suggested that one possibility would be to advance the Every Member Canvass by several weeks and have the Chapel fund raising campaign before the end of the current calendar year.

Mr. Bransford objected to the postponement of the fund raising campaign. He pointed out that the plans of the Committee were in full swing now and also pointed out that a number of drives in the community were impending. He stated that it was his opinion that the Chapel should get the benefit of an early start.

Mr. Southgate, in answer to questions regarding cost, stated that estimates had been secured which indicated that the sum of \$150,000.00 would be adequate to complete the entire project.

Mr. Benson stated that he too was fearful of disrupting the Every Member Canvass. In this connection Mr. Berger asked what the Committee's plans were regarding pledges. Mr. Bransford replied that it was the intention of the Committee to have pledges for the Chapel, extending over a five year period.

Mr. Berger commented that the present time was a good time to raise money, but that it should be recognized that building costs might decline in the future.

Mr. Bransford urged that the drive be conducted now with separate determination as to the most opportune time for construction. Mr. Southgate pointed out that in his opinion contractors would certainly be returning to a competitive basis in bidding on construction jobs.

Mr. Gale concurred with Mr. Berger regarding the fact that the present time is a good one in which to raise money. Mr. Bransford referred again to his earlier observation regarding the relationship between costs and incomes. Mr. Williams in connection with the points raised regarding the Every Member Canvass, stated that in his judgment, the majority of the people would figure out in advance their participation in the Every Member Canvass. Mr. Tupper urged that the project be continued in full force and pointed out that other churches are proceeding with their building programs at the present time. Mr. Williams pointed out that if the fund raising activities were initiated at an early date there would be ample time intervening between them and the time of the Every Member Canvass.

Mr. Tupper pointed out the memorial aspect of much of the Chapel project and stated that Mr. Currey was of the opinion that the drive should be conducted in September.

Mr. Lambeth, in answer to questions, stated that in his opinion, having the drive begin in September and basing it on a five year program would not interfere with the Every Member Canvass. He pointed out that the organization for the campaign is nearly perfected and indicated the unwisdom of allowing too much time to elapse.

Mr. Gale offered the suggestion that a solicitation of a selected number of cards be conducted in the near future with the general campaign in the Parish deferred until after the Every Member Canvass.

After further discussion it was moved by Mr. Stokes that an Initial Gifts Campaign based on approximately 100 select cards, be conducted in the near future with the general campaign deferred until after the Every Member Canvass. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gale. Without further discussion it was adopted unanimously.

The meeting was closed with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Williams.

Chairman

Johnathan N. Mitchell

Actung in the absence of the Secretary

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE VESTRY AND COUNCIL OF CHRIST CHURCH, HELD AT THE CHURCH, OCTOBER 6, 1947

Those present were as follows:

Dudley Gale
Dr. Philip Davidson
Charles Moss
Maxwell Benson
John Bransford
F. Arthur Henkel
W. H. Lambeth
Albert Rose
Vernon Sharp, Jr.
W. Vivian Tupper
R. B. Alexander
Robinson F. Barker
A. Q. Campbell

Owsley Cheek
J. Paschall Davis
Guilford Dudley, Jr.
Dr. Garth Fort
John B. Hall
Terry Hart
Joseph T. Howell, Jr.
John Krieg
Ralph E. Lewis
Robert McNeilly
Dr. Joe Minor
Charles Nelson, Jr.
John Steele
Thomas Trabue

The Vestry and Council of Christ Church, meeting in special session at the Church on October 6, 1947, laid plans for the Vestry and Council membership to assume responsibility for completing the drive for the Harding Road Chapel and raising the Christ Church budget in the every member canvass.

The meeting was opened by the rector, who reviewed the progress on the chapel to date and declared the time had come for action and completion of the project.

Mr. Walter Stokes, chairman of the finance committee, said he had found the interest much greater than expected, and urged that we go forward to wind up both the chapel drive and the canvass. The church budget, he pointed out, will be about the same as last year.

He moved that the chapel campaign committee be thanked for its splendid work and that its membership be authorized to proceed to give every member of the church an opportunity to give to the chapel. The motion called for the campaign committee to work in liaison and cooperation with the every member canvass.

Mr. Albert Rose, discussing a method of solicitation procedure on the joint drive, suggested that the chapel gift, which would be spread over a five-year period, be equal to the annual contribution to the church budget.

It was agreed that in approaching the church members, the chapel be stressed first, it being assumed that the parisloners will want to do their customary part for the regular church canvass. Mr. Laurence Howard, chairman of the initial gifts campaign for the chapel, whose work was highly praised, announced that his group already has raised \$112,000 from 50 persons and he expected the total to reach \$130,000. He said he did not believe the chapel would interfere with the canvass.

Mr. Gale then moved that the Vestry and Council, due to the business and "selling" experience of its membership, take over the chapel drive (except for the initial) and the canvass. With cards ready to be given out at the meeting, he said both campaigns could be wound up by the next vestry meeting. It was explained that there would be 20 workers in addition to the vestry and council.

This motion was adopted with enthusiasm, but it was decided after some discussion, that the solicitation not start until the rector has an opportunity to present the chapel project to the congregation and all workers have an opportunity to meet to form a close knit organization.

It was thereupon agreed that Mr. Williams discuss the chapel at the regular 11 o'clock service Sunday and that the workers make final plans following the Men's Club Meeting October 13.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Chainman

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE VESTRY AND COUNCIL HELD OCTOBER 13, 1947

Those present were as follows:

Dudley Gale
Dr. Philip Davidson
Charles Moss
Maxwell Benson
John Bransford
Neil Cargile
F. Arthur Henkel
Charles Mitchell
Walter Robinson
Albert Rose
Vernon Sharp, Jr.
James G. Stahlman
Walter Stokes, Jr.
John E. Thomas
W. Vivian Tupper

R. B. Alexander
Robinson F. Barker
A. Q. Campbell
J. Paschall Davis
Craige DeMoss
Guilford Dudley, Jr.
Dr. Garth Fort
John B. Hall
Russell Hart
Terry Hart
Terry Hart
John Krieg
Ralph E. Lewis
Robert McNeilly
Charles Nelson, Jr.
John Steele

The Vestry and Council meeting on October 13, 1947, adopted a tentative budget for the year 1948 of \$63,700 as proposed by Mr. Walter Stokes, chairman of the finance committee. The motion was made by Mr. Vernon Sharp and unanimously approved. Mr. Stokes said further it would be necessary to make adjustment in the Claybrooke fund due to its assistance in financing church roof repair and purchase of the residence for the assistant rector, which will be known as the Claybrooke House.

Mr. Williams reported that the Sunday School was continually improving, with attendame increasing. He particularly praised the work of the teachers and also had good reports on the church census conducted recently under the auspices of the Council of Churches.

At this place on the program the Vestry and Council members were joined by 20 volunteer workers who were to assist in the Harding Road Chapel Drive and the Every Member Canvass. Pledge cards were distributed.

Mr. John Bransford, chairman of the chapel committee, reported that \$122,000 had been raised to date. Mr. Sharp, director of the Every Member Canvass, said the new budget would be about the same as last year, and expressed confidence in the outcome of a joint campaign.

Mr. Dudley Gale, the senior warden, delivered a message of encouragement to the workers and said he considered it proper to ask the church members to give $2\frac{1}{2}$ or 3 times as much to the chapel as their donation to the Every Member Canvass.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Sande Moss

Chairman

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE VESTRY AND COUNCIL HELD NOV. 10, 1947

Those present were as follows:

Dudley Gale
Dr. Philip Davidson
Harvey Pride
Charles Moss
Maxwell Benson
John Bransford
F. Arthur Henkel
Charles Mitchell
Vernon Sharp, Jr.
Walter Stokes, Jr.
W. Vivian Tupper

Dr. Owen Wilson
R. B. Alexander
Robinson F. Barker
A. Q. Campbell
Craige DeMoss
Dr. Garth Fort
Terry Hart
Joseph T. Howell, Jr.
John Krieg
John Steele
Thomas Trabue

The meeting of the Vestry and Council on November 10, was opened by Mr. Dudley Gale, senior Warden, calling attention to the recent city-wide testimonial luncheon honoring W. H. Lambeth, long a pillar in Christ Church, for his 30 years of civic work and leadership in Nashville.

Mr. Harvey Pride, treasurer and property custodian, announced that the roof should be completed in 30 days and he hoped the debt thereon together with that on the Claybrooke house, could be paid by January 1. He called attention also to the fact that he had received the Frank Smith bequest for \$500 and \$623 additional on the Claybrooke fund. The disposition of these funds was referred to the finance committee.

Mr. Williams pointed out that the recent bid on the proposed passageway between the church and the parish house was \$5,300 and that there is only \$3,900 available for the work. The acolytes' bench, a memorial to the late George Henry (Mike) Wehrenberg, was dedicated on October 17.

Preceding a discussion of the Every Member Canvass and its initial gifts drive, Mr. Walter Stokes, chairman of the finance committee, said the \$18,000 balance in the budget looks good but reminded that much of it represents bequests and that during the second half of the year church service expenses have increased in the form of salaries for an assistant rector and a youth service worker. The canvass must raise enough for all our expanded activities, he pointed out.

Mr. Vernon Sharp, director of the every member drive and his associate, Mr. Robinson F. Barker, said that \$18,000 had been raised to date and they considered the results splendid at that stage.

Mr. Vivian Tupper, in charge of the initial gifts campaign, said his division must raise \$35,000 and stressed the urgency of succeeding.

Turning to the Harding Road Chapel drive, Mr. Williams said \$142,000 already had been raised. He announced a building committee composed of Mr. Donald Southgate, Mr. John Bransford, Mr. Brownlee Currey, Mr. Charles Mitchell and himself.

Preparatory to urging construction of the chapel immediately, Mr. Bransford, chairman of both the chapel drive and the building committees, said he believed we can actually count on raising a total of between \$155,000 and \$160,000. He recalled that the building committee, at a recent meeting at his home, had decided to go ahead. Thereupon he recommended that the vestry and council authorize funds for the architect to complete details and start construction at the earliest possible moment. It was his opinion that "a creditable job could be done on the building for from \$165,000 to \$175,000."

Mr. Williams emphasized the urgency of work "out there."

Mr. Stokes said he concurred with Mr. Bransford, but recommended that plans and specifications be completed and bids be taken on a unit basis.

He said it is a poor time to build and declared the vestry and council should think a long time before committing themselves on a plan that would saddle long term debt upon Christ Church. He expressed the opinion that the money should be in hand "before we start" and said bids should be taken "and brought back to this body before we take action."

Mr. Bransford was quick to point out that the chapel had been sold as a whole and that at least \$50,000 contributed represented memorials. He declared much of the money had been given with the understanding that the project be completed immediately and not at some vague time in the future. He said that most of the money pledged had come from people able to give and he believed the funds would come in fast enough to start the work right away.

Mr. Williams said it was now his opinion that a convertible setup would work to the detriment of the Belle Meade program. He termed it a "dangerous thing" and declared that a complete program is advantageous and essential. "Never was there a more ripe situation for any community," he said. "I think this thing is going to go."

Considerable exploratory discussion by Mr. Craige DeMoss, Mr. Sharp, Mr. Tom Trabue and Mr. Barker was ended when Mr. Gale pointed out that Mr. Stokes' motion was the next natural step in the chapel procedure.

Mr. Stokes then revised his motion as follows: that the building committee be authorized to complete plans and specifications, then take bids both on a unit basis and as a whole, at the earliest possible moment. "We should proceed as prudent men in commiting this parish on debt," he said. His motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Williams asked that the collections on the second Sunday in Advent be devoted to support of the American Bible Society. The request was granted.

He also called attention to the program of evangelism inaugurated by the presiding bishop, declaring that it is most significant for Christ Church inasmuch as "we are about to divide and grow."

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Chairman

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE VESTRY AND COUNCIL HELD DEC. 8, 1947

Those present were as follows:

Dudley Gale
Dr. Philip Davidson
Harvey Pride
Charles Moss
Maxwell Benson
Sam Berger, Jr.
John Bransford
Neil Cargile
F. Arthur Henkel
W. H. Lambeth
Walter Robinson
Albert Rose
Vernon Sharp, Jr.

James G. Stahlman
Walter Stokes, Jr.
W. Vivian Tupper
Dr. Owen Wilson
Robinson F. Barker
A. Q. Campbell
Owsley Cheek
Dr. Garth Fort
Russell Hart
Terry Hart
John Krieg
Robert McNeilly
Dr. Joe Minor

The Vestry and Council meeting at Christ Church on December 8, named Dudley Gale, senior warden; Philip Davidson; junior warden and Harvey Pride, treasurer, as delegates to the diocesan convention at Memphis. Alternates are John Bransford, Albert Rose and Vivian Tupper.

Mr. Pride delivered his report on the treasury and said the amount left therein at the end of the year would be applied to the mortgage on the Claybrooke house.

The senior warden announced that a silver chalice, stolen from the church a number of years ago, had been located in the shop of a Philadelphis antique dealer, and that a check had been sent for its purchase.

Reporting as chairman of the finance committee, Walter Stokes, Jr., said the Smith fund would be used in reduction of the church debt, then repaid and used as endowment. He announced also that the committee had given its approval for the Christmas offering to go to the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief.

Bids were being taken on the Harding Road Chapel building according to John Bransford, chairman of the building committee.

Vernon Sharp, chairman of the every member canvass reported that \$46,000 had been pledged and urged that all outstanding cards be turned in. He said he was confident of success.

Mr. Williams discussed a clergy-laymen conference held at DuBose at the call of Bishop Dandridge the first of December for the purpose of outlining the evangelistic campaign authorized by the Presiding Bishop.

With the theme of the plan being a "deepening sense of responsibility in spreading the Gospel", lecturers were Dean Gibson of St. Lukes, Bishop Dandridge and others. Albert Rose, layman delegate from Christ Church also reviewed the proceedings.

The rector outlined the mechanics of the campaign as follows: After the conference go back to the churches, pick people to carry out personal calls to families during Epiphany, talk to them about religion, make a report on each group and invite each to Corporate Communion the first Sunday in Lent.

Mr. Williams said the campaign would be an excellent approach to Lent. He stressed "revitalization" and an emphasis on deepening the devotion of those who are members of the church in name only. He called a meeting of the committee on the State of the Church to be held at his home on December 15.

Mr. Gale suggested that Vestrymen volunteer their services.

Mr. Rose discussed the formation of a Senior Brother-hood of St. Andrew and said the first meeting would be held on the first Sunday in January for early Communion breakfast and organization.

Mr. Davidson said he thought the senior brotherhood would fill a need between the Men's Club and the Vestry, that it would offer an opportunity to come to grips with the real business of the church.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Chairman