



**Christ Church Cathedral
Polokwane**

Annual Vestry Meeting

25 February 2018

Agenda and Dean's Report

Christ Church Cathedral strives to be a Church of excellence and resource to the Diocese of St. Mark the Evangelist, providing kingdom ministry and sanctuary to the city through active participation of all parishioners

Agenda

- 1. Welcome & Opening Prayer**
- 2. Appointment of Minute Secretary**
- 3. Roll & Apologies**
- 4. Acceptance of the Minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on 26th February 2017**
- 5. Voting for Office Bearers**
- 6. Matters Arising**
- 7. Presentation of Reports**
 - 7.1 Dean's Report (*presented at preceding Eucharist Service*)
 - 7.2 Warden's Report
 - 7.3 Treasurer – Audited Financial Statements for 2017
- 8. Election of Office Bearers** (*voting conducted at beginning of Vestry*)
 - 8.1 Wardens (*2 plus 1 Alternate*)
 - 8.2 Councillors (*maximum 8. At least one licensed lay minister*)
 - 8.3 Synod, DSC, Elective Assembly and Archdeaconry Council (*2 laity plus 1 lay alternate*)
- 9. Appointment of Auditor for 2018 – DZB**
- 10. Approval of New Toilet**
- 11. Vote of Thanks to Outgoing Council and Prayer for New Council**
- 12. Date of next Meeting** – Admission of Councillors 04th March; Council Orientation 06th March; Exco 13th March; Council 20th March
- 13. Close of Vestry**

Annual Vestry Report

2018

Dean of Christ Church Cathedral

We stand at the threshold of another tumultuous year. From developments within the Cathedral, happenings with our weather and drought, to business and politics.

We may well stand and wonder how we will cope? What is going on? How will it all end? But, we do know that our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ is in control and nothing which happens will take him by surprise.

Let us therefore step out in the faith that he will always be with us, and that we must continue to plan and prepare for the future.

In this regard, we bade farewell to Moruti Philip as he left to take up the post of Rector of Lebowakgomo and Archdeacon of Lepelle. I congratulate him on these appointments; they are deserving.

We also welcomed onto the staff Moruti Thabang Bengani, and his family; Kwezi, Tendo and Amogelang. I am looking forward to working with Thabang; he has a lot to offer.

Accomplishments This Past Year

Notwithstanding the detailed list which I presented at the Annual Vestry of last year, this past year we have planned for Moruti Philip's departure and Moruti Thabang's arrival. We have also identified and begun maintenance on our built environment.

We completed the roof over the outside cooking area and made the gas cooking top a permanent fixture. This will save wear and tear on the hall floor.

We have almost completed the checking of the electrical wiring in the church, which had begun to give serious problems. At the end of this process we will have certificates of compliance for all our buildings.

We have moved from our separate offices into the new Parish Centre, where we as the Admin and Pastoral staff are all together. This move has only just completed, and we are still fixing up the necessary aspects of making our administration and office complex professional and efficient. I look forward to giving a short tour of our new offices after this Vestry.

This is a big move, because we made the decision that the Rectory, after many years of successful use, is no longer suitable or family friendly for a minister to live in. It was a difficult decision, but I am confident it is the correct one.

We are moving forward steadily with the building of a new set of toilets for use by the ladies attending church or meetings. In effect we will be doubling the number of toilets available for use by ladies. We will later in this Vestry be seeking official approval for this project. I wish to thank Messer's Willie Mphele and Roy Kirkpatrick for their invaluable advice and planning. We have a very workable and cost-efficient solution to offer you.

We have completed the installation of a new projector at the front of the church and moved the old projector to the back of the church. The centre carpet runner was also replaced.

We have improved the overall security around the property. We focused strongly on the Rectory – as it was then – by upgrading the old system to a modern digital system which includes outdoor beams, and we will now begin to evaluate the church, Curates Flat and Deanery.

We completed the two street facing signboards and the additional magnetic strips for advertising services.

Our numbers attending the Sunday Services has continued to increase, especially at the 07h30 service. Total church membership is approximately one-thousand. Our financial income has increased and is relatively stable.

For all this growth and development, I am pleased, and I thank all of you for making this a reality. I pray that we will continue to grow and impact the Diocese and our community for Christ.

Going Forward

As we continue to grow and strategically plan for the future, it is important that we consolidate the new Parish Centre into a functioning resource for the entire cathedral family; I see this providing decent meeting rooms, for example, for the Mothers Union, Anglican Women's Fellowship and the Men's Fellowship.

Thabang and I, with Philip's assistance shortly before he left, have begun a year-long preaching plan, where we have made use of the lectionary and supplemented this with special Sunday services, focusing on Youth, Women, Bible, Environment, etc. We are still finalising the details and will be sharing with you more information as we proceed.

We will be offering ALPHA again this year and presenting a programme of Discipleship Training and a chronological study on the life of Christ in the Wednesday Evening Teaching services.

As the Cathedral we are being used more and more by the Diocese for events and services, and by local government for funerals and other services. This is very much what a Cathedral is meant to be; a church for the city and for the congregation which calls the Cathedral home.

Not only is it the Cathedral Council driving our growth and ministry, it is important to acknowledge the leadership and ministry role played by our organisations. I received a report from the Mothers Union which gave details of their involvement in, for example, providing food for the homeless on Mandela Day and in visiting the home-bound. They also held a fund-raising event on Women's Day in August.

I am personally excited by the vision and mission unfolding before us. I believe it is Holy Spirit inspired and achievable. I believe we are more than capable of making this happen. I thank all of you for helping make this a reality.

My Appreciation

I thank all those who have strived to fulfil the mandate of God by offering to stand for Council, those who volunteer their time and talents in our ministries, and who support the staff and clergy in a myriad of different ways.

Your love and support are hugely appreciated. Thank you.

In Conclusion

I again thank Jenny for her support, encouragement and assistance. Without her ministry, I would not achieve very much at all.

I also thank the Cathedral staff for their work; they make us a successful church.

I thank my Wardens and Council for their support and advice; their ministry is equally valuable in facilitating our growth and impact in our community.

Finally, we thank our Lord Jesus for being with us and guiding us. We are his and he is our redeemer.

Thank you for allowing me to be your minister and for your support.

May God bless and guide us all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Pretorius". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end.

Luke Pretorius
Dean, Christ Church Cathedral