

Christ the Savior Orthodox Church
4th Quarterly Parish Council Meeting
Sunday December 14th, 2025

The meeting was opened with a prayer led by Father John at 11:06 am.

In Attendance:

- Rector: Fr. John Parsells.
- Council: Georgianne Mathews, Edward Hill, Anya Drobish, Cheryl Kokkinos, Chrissy Harris, Ryan Harris, Marian E. Ridge, Cecilia Wyant, Zach Davidson, Ioana Davidson, Michael Prasalowicz, and Marius Vlad Ghemis.
- Also attending: Tom Mathews, Rebecca Hill, Daria Parsells, Raymond Sunderland Sr., Raymond Sunderland Jr., and Ella Parsells.

Agenda:

- Review of Previous Minutes
- Report of the Rector
- Report of the Senior Warden
- Report of the Junior Warden
- Report of the Treasurer
- Old Business
 - 2026 Budget Draft
 - 2026 Parish Council Membership
 - Montgomery Financial Update/Discussion/Vote
- New Business
 - 2026 Annual Meeting Date Selection
 - Ambassador Program
 - Building Fund Accounts

Review of Previous Minutes

- Father John invited the meeting participants to amend or approve the minutes of the September 28th parish council meeting, which were taken by Anya Drobish, distributed via email.

Motion to accept the minutes: Chrissy

Second: Ed

Vote: Motion passed with none opposed and with one abstention- Anya Drobish

Report of Rector

Father John presented the Rector's Report.

- Overview of recent events, attendance, metrics, and other information
- Some events coming up to look forward to

- Restructuring of Archdiocese of Washington from the recent meeting- additional information and details regarding these changes to come as they are available
- Building Fund Brokerage account- Montgomery financial update

Report of Senior Warden: Georgianne Matthews

- No formal report

Report of Junior Warden: Ryan Harris

- Overview of maintenance and repairs that have been completed, some high priority items that need to be addressed, some other maintenance items, and future projects and long-term maintenance
- Ioana mentioned the donation for AED- Father John will follow up. AED has been ordered.
- Cheryl raised the question of why we need a doctor to sign off on an AED in order for it to be up to date. Cheryl offered to see what the requirements are then as a nurse practitioner would sign off every so often if it is working properly.

Report of the Treasurer: Ioana Davidson

- Overview of balance sheet
- Need to establish a good relationship with a local bank to work with easily to transfer funds in and out of checking and investments.
- Ioana remarked that it was very difficult to receive certain items from PNC bank.
- Larger banks may be harder to work with in general.
- Ioana inquired from a local bank and they were very accommodating- Taylor Bank.
- Recap: An account for Montgomery Financial to send money to when needed.
- Marian: Very successful personal history with Taylor Bank.
- Ed: Why don't we move from PNC to Taylor Bank now?
 - We are discussing the money market funds rather than our normal checking
- Ryan: Would it be easiest to consolidate all of our accounts to one bank to simplify?
 - Previously an annual parish meeting had decided that building fund accounts needed to be at a different bank from regular operating accounts to avoid comingling.
 - If we want to change the guideline for the building fund accounts, we need to revisit that at the annual meeting with the whole parish
- Father John: It seems as though we want to consider Taylor Bank for one or many accounts. That can be discussed at the annual meeting, but for now we can move to Taylor Bank for the building funds and close out the Truist account.

Motion to move to Taylor Bank for building fund accounts: Ryan

Second: Ed

All in Favor

- Need to discuss IPS- which can be done later
- Ioana gives an overview of profit/loss
- Well pump and HVAC need to be funded because it is not included in normal maintenance budget
- Potential funding from surplus roof funds, surplus multipurpose room funds, general building repairs and maintenance funds, etc. Difference can possibly be used from the annual operating budgeted amount.
- We are in the black for the year- but the extra \$14K in the profit/loss through November is not a surplus because the vast majority of these funds are for the priest's compensation package which hasn't been fully paid yet. The Parsells family is considering donating a substantial portion of these funds to the kitchen renovation.
- Potential to leave some of the multipurpose room surplus for some loose ends in the room
 - Need maybe \$500 left in that category and excess to the roof

Motion to use excess funds aside from \$500 from multipurpose room surplus for Well Pump and HVAC: Ed

Second: Michael

All in Favor

- Some donations will have to be reallocated- charitable funds raised will be distributed at the end of the year

Motion to Accept the Treasurer's Report: Ed

Second: Cheryl

All In Favor

- Fr. John: It has been nice to be in the black for the year and talking about surplus in multiple categories. Thanks to everyone for their stewardship!

Old Business

2026 Budget Draft

- Waiting on Archdiocese of Washington for projected amount due for 2026
- Fr. John: When finance committee discussed the document, there was discussion on having projected costs in an effort to forecast maintenance for the entire parish center and grounds
 - Ryan Harris and Raymond Sunderland offered to help oversee that document
- Fr. John: It would be ideal to have an account for that so that when the once in a blue moon things come up- we are able to pay for it easily.

2026 Parish Council Membership

- All information is listed on the Website

- Officers switch every year (2 different each year)
 - This year new Senior Warden and new Treasurer
 - We should be thinking about having those roles lined up for the Parish Council Meeting
 - If you have someone in mind for the parish council please run it by Fr. John first to ensure qualifications are in place before nomination.

Montgomery Financial Update Discussion/Vote

- Investment Policy Statement Discussion: Are we adopting the recommendations from Montgomery Financial? Or are we going a different route?
- The finance committee is recommending that we accept Montgomery Financials' recommendations.
- Overview: the recommendations are to reallocate investments for lower risk.
- The Parish Council will vote via email once everyone reviews the document.

New Business:

- Select date for 2026 Annual Meeting
 - End of January/Beginning of February
 - Proposed Dates: January 25th for parish council meeting and February 1st for Annual Parish Meeting
 - **Motion** to accept these dates: Ioana
 - **Second:** Cecilia
 - **All in Favor**
- Ambassador Program
 - Overview: Ambassador teams assembled to meet with potential donors and discuss pledging personally with them.
 - If approved, the program would be communicated to the parish in regard to what to expect.
 - Potential presenting to the parish at the annual meeting, then getting the program off the ground.
 - Ryan: Are we strategizing who is speaking with which potential donors?
 - Yes, ideally. Priest would be involved in matching people up
 - Essentially we want people to be able to have a more personalized and honest conversation about what CTS is trying to accomplish.
 - **Motion** to adopt Ambassador Program and get it ready for the Annual Meeting: Ed
 - **Second:** Ryan
 - **All in Favor**
- Building Fund Accounts
 - Already addressed
- Security Team

- o Edward is a retired cop and had been head of security at a church in Colorado Springs, and has raised concern about having a plan for security in light of recent church incidents.
- o First step has begun: Discussed the need for a security team and various scenarios we may face at this church with Fr. John, then other police officers in the parish, and has established the team in the Parish.
- o After the holidays, Ed will be putting on some training for anyone interested to participate in. Addressing situational awareness and potential scenarios at all levels.
- o Fr John is requesting Edward to prepare a security procedures document that would be shared via email.
- o For internal usage only.

Marian moved for adjournment, Michael second, approved. The meeting closed with a prayer at 12:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Anya Drobish, Secretary