

**ST. TIMOTHY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Greenville, North Carolina**

**The Diocese of East Carolina
The Right Reverend Robert S. Skirving, Bishop**

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
December 7, 2025**

I. The Annual Parish Meeting was jointly held on December 7, 2025, during the 9:30 am worship service. The meeting was called to order at 9:40 am and presided over by The Rev. John Porter-Acee.

II. Appointment of Clerk to the Vestry: Tommy Tucker was appointed as the Clerk for the annual meeting and to serve as Clerk to the Vestry in 2026.

III. Voting Credentials: The senior warden, presented the credentials to qualify as a voting member.

ARTICLE XIV OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA:

Qualifications for Voting in Parochial and Mission Elections:

Section 1. The following definitions shall apply wherever these terms appear in this Constitution or in the Canons of the Diocese:

(a) Member: A person who has received the Sacrament of Holy Baptism with water in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, whether in this Church or in another Christian Church, and whose Baptism has been duly recorded in this Church.

(b) Adult member: A member sixteen years of age and over.

(c) Communicant: A member who has received Holy Communion in this Church at least three times during the preceding year.

(d) Communicant in good standing: A member who for the previous year has been faithful in corporate worship, unless for good cause prevented, and has been faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God.

(e) Adult communicant in good standing: A communicant in good standing who is sixteen years of age or older.

Section 2. Those entitled to vote in all Parish and Mission elections shall meet the following qualifications:

(a) Be an adult communicant in good standing in the Parish or Mission; and

(b) Shall have subscribed to the following declaration: I do hereby consent to be governed by the Constitution and Canons of the Church, as set forth in and by the General Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, and by the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of East Carolina.

There were 62 in attendance that met the criteria for voting.

IV. The minutes of the December 10, 2024, Annual Meeting *were presented and passed by acclamation.*

V. Election of Delegates to the 2026 Diocesan Convention: St. Timothy's can elect three (3) delegates and two (2) alternates to the November 2026 annual convention. The rector asked for nominations who are interested in serving as a delegate. Diane Hatfield, Jamie Kirby, Judy Tucker, and Mary Vincent offered to represent St. Timothy's. Connie Widney offered to be an alternate. A

vote was ordered. After voting, Ms. Kirby, Ms. Tucker, and Ms. Vincent were elected at delegates. Ms. Hatfield and Ms. Widney are alternates.

VI. Candidates for election to the Vestry: Bert Kemp, Diane Hatfield, Mary Moore, and Wendy Proctor were presented for three (3) year terms. Ben Williams was presented for a two (2) year term. There were no nominations from the congregation. *Ms. Widney moved to close the nominations, seconded by Ms. Hatfield, and passed unanimously. Mary Ava Johnson moved to elect the slate of vestry nominees, seconded by Debbie Strickland and passed unanimously.*

The rector announced that Leslie Veach will serve as senior warden.

The congregation welcomed the newly elected vestry members and senior warden with applause.

VII. Senior Warden Report: See Report. The congregation applauded Mr. Widney for his service as senior warden.

VIII. Treasurer's Report. See Report.

IX. Planned Giving: Mr. Barbour Strickland. See Report.

X. Rector Report: The Rev. Porter-Acee talked about his call to the priesthood and the relationships and feelings that are developed with the parish. He talked about the challenges associated with being a priest and with his family. He shared some personal experiences as he continues to grow as a rector for St. Timothy's. We need to discern what God calling us to do? He asked for comments from the congregation. There was a suggestion to relieve the rector from administrative responsibilities to allow him to reach out more to the congregation to improve the relationship between the parish members and the rector. There was another suggestion to keep the congregation informed about the status of the Fire Tower road expansion.

The service and annual meeting ended at 11:32 am.

Respectfully submitted:

Tommy Tucker

Tommy Tucker
Clerk to the Vestry

Attachments:

Senior Warden Address for 2025 Annual meeting

Greetings to all I am Chuck Widney, a 30-year member of St. Timothy's and outgoing Senior Warden. On this 2nd Sunday in Advent, we have recently started a new liturgical year with Advent being a time of preparation. The Vestry and Church business operates on the calendar year, but along with finishing out 2025 there is a great deal of preparation as new Vestry members, Wardens and a 2026 church budget are being established.

In review of this past year, we have seen the passions of St. Timothy's at work. We worshipped with various options of an 8 AM service, 10:15 service and a 4 pm afternoon service that evolved into Sunday Night Refresh. Within each there is variety in meeting space, music and liturgy. Under Martha's leadership we have a variety of accompanying child-focused worship opportunities. Our commitment to youth extends as they grow with the opportunity to participate in services as readers, acolytes and crucifers. The EYC is a great setting for our youth to learn about being a Christian in community.

We have various ministries here at St. Timothy's serving the needs of our church family and to many in our community. The major outreach ministries being the Greenville Community Shelter, JOY Soup Kitchen and Operation Sunshine, we reach people internally through our dedicated inreach team and unseen guest committee. Various parish life ministries provides a place for both members and neighbors alike to participate in a respectful environment for enrichment. The Brotherhood, Wednesday games and the Garden all have nonmembers participate. I am truly grateful for the collective spirit and to the desire to care for others a rock of St. Timothy's.

As Senior Warden, I must recognize our leadership team. The Vestry is the governing body of the church assigned the task of providing for the health of the congregation. We had challenges and opportunities this year, I was impressed with the direction of Vestry discussions with concern for the entire parish consistent with our baptismal covenant. Safety was established as a top priority supporting the move to remove trees and fix sidewalks. We will miss Sharyn Lenox as a Vestry member in 2026. She set a high bar for involvement and regularly provided thoughtful comments and advice. Also departing from the Vestry, Chip Williams who served two years as Stewardship Chair and two years as Treasurer; and Steve Calendar who said yes in perhaps his second year at St. Timothy's. He also said yes to just about everything that was asked of him and offered his professional experience.

The Senior Warden serves on various committees, one being the Executive Committee dealing with basic concerns before they come before the Vestry. Tommy Tucker sits on the committee as clerk; he does an impeccable job of recording what is discussed. More importantly, even while concentrating on note taking, he provides a perspective that comes from one who has served nearly all roles through the history of St. Timothy's. Barbour Strickland, a newer member and Treasurer of St. Timothy's has contributed innovative ideas with a redesign of monthly financial reports and new fund-raising opportunities. Barbour had a quick introduction to the St. Timothy's family as he found himself married to a vestry member stewardship Chair, and Sr. Warden. He became passionate about the future of St. Timothy's and volunteered to serve our Treasurer. John and Angela complete the executive committee, both of whom have been faithful in all duties and challenges, and my confidants. Angela will be leaving the Vestry, but has promised to continue to work on some open-ended capital projects.

We did have challenges to address through the year, that were prayerfully addressed. Even without a staff musician, the song of the church has continued with thoughtfully prepared choral and organ, piano or guitar music each week. Outreach activities continued to be strong even as the Outreach committee is reorganizing. Capital needs have been met including Ed. Building drainage and the installation of a new Parish Hall HVAC system, range and freezer.

Challenges still exist. Megan and Barbour diligently developed an operating budget for 2026, unfortunately with current projections there is a gap between our projected revenue and expenses, not even accounting for predicted capital needs. Also, we sadly lost dear friends and church leaders, the Williams and Crippens this year, leaving empty spots in our hearts and in our pews. In contrast, our Strategic planning committee conducted a parish wide survey with the results indicating that there is a high level of satisfaction with our current operation. With this knowledge, we must evaluate how we can best minister to one another and share St Timothy's in the community in order to "grow closer to God and our neighbor through inspiring and empowering each other to follow Christ." This is what the Gospel tells us to do and is the reason St. Timothy's was created. The increased needs around hunger, the environment, racial injustice, homelessness, and so forth are a challenge to grow our membership with a wide variety of gifts and perspectives of our surrounding community. Along with John, our new Senior Warden and 2026 Vestry, I hope we can build upon lessons learned in 2025 to provide for the continued health of the congregation. As a congregation we must support one another and deliver St. Timothy's to our neighbors.

Thanks be to God!

Good morning. I am Barbour Strickland – the church treasurer.

I'd like to offer a brief update on our finances as we near the end of the year.

First, regarding the current year: overall, our revenue and expenses have stayed close to where we expected them to be. If all the outstanding pledges are fulfilled between now and the end of December, we anticipate finishing the year with a small surplus – which is always good news. At this point, things look steady and positive, and we're grateful for the continued generosity of our parish.

We're also in the middle of preparing the budget for next year. That budget will be finalized and approved by the new vestry when it meets in January. As always, our goal is to put forward a responsible, sustainable, balanced budget that supports the ministries, programs, and staffing that make St. Timothy's who we are.

And as we look ahead to that work, I want to offer a word about pledging. Our pledge drive for 2026 has wrapped up, and about two-thirds of our members have already pledged. For those of you who have done so, thank you – your commitment gives us the foundation we need to plan thoughtfully for the coming year.

For those who haven't yet had a chance to submit a pledge, we hope you will consider doing so. Every pledge, in any amount, truly makes a difference. Because pledges make up most of our revenue, they give us a solid picture of what we'll have to work with next year, and that's what guides the expenses we can responsibly plan for.

You can pledge today using the yellow card with the QR code in each pew –*show example* – or by contacting Megan directly.

Our endowment—the Faith Fund—continues to grow. The two components, the General Fund and the Permanent Fund, were established in October 2023. Since then, the General Fund has grown to almost \$19,000, and the Permanent Fund is now close to \$13,000. This growth reflects both generous donations and the investment returns earned through interest, dividends, and capital appreciation.

The Endowment Committee has authorized, and the Vestry has approved, the first distribution from the Faith Fund to the church in the amount of \$1,215 for 2026. These funds may be used only for the ministries and capital needs of St. Timothy's.

As the Faith Fund continues to grow through ongoing gifts and future bequests, it will become an increasingly important source of support for the ministries and capital needs of St. Timothy's.

I hope you will take a look at the insert that was in today's bulletin – *show example* – and consider a gift to the Faith Fund.

In closing I want to thank you again for your generosity and for all you do to support the mission and ministries of St. Timothy's.