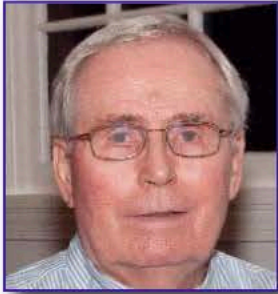


Christ Church Looks Back

by Joseph A. Tomberlin



Dr. Joseph Tomberlin

As reported in the March *Vineyard*, Senior Warden Jerome Tillman informed the Vestry on September 5, 1948, that the

money on hand was insufficient to complete the entire Christ Church building project. Apparently, construction of the Parish Hall was to be delayed. In the October 3, 1948, Vestry meeting, though, someone floated the idea of "a temporary ex-army building for use as a Parish Hall." Vicar Clifton H. White and a vestryman, Mr. Robinson, were assigned "to secure information on the subject."

At the meeting of November 7, 1948, letters from Senator Walter F. George and Representative Don Wheeler disclosed that the nearest available surplus building was at Boca Raton, Florida. Moreover, the cost of moving such a structure several hundred miles was "out of reason." Therefore, further discussion of this alternative was delayed until Bishop Middleton S. Barnwell's visit to Christ Church on November 19, 1948.

Minutes of the called Vestry meeting with Bishop Barnwell on the 19th tersely note, "The question of a temporary building [to serve as Parish Hall] was discussed and voted down." The Bishop offered encouragement and declared that inclusion in the 1949 budget of \$1800 as a "debt retirement and interest fund" meant Christ Church should have "no difficulty

The Vineyard, p. 10, April 2009

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Reverend Clifton H. White, Vicar, Valdosta – Georgia

MINUTES OF THE VESTRY, IN MEETING ASSEMBLED NOVEMBER 7, 1948

Those present were Rev. Clifton H. White and Messrs. Tillman, Robinson, Carroll, Dawson, Morrison, Fry, and Macks.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

Rev. White reported in reference to the temporary building suggested as a Parish Hall. Letters had been received from both Senator [Walter F.] George and Representative [Don] Wheeler advising that there would be nothing available nearer than Boca Raton, and investigation of costs involved indicated that the expense would be out of reason. It was agreed to postpone the matter until we could talk it over with the Bishop on his visit on the 19th.

The question of Church furnishings was discussed. No worthwhile bids had been received except from Amidon for the furnishings, exclusive of pews. It was agreed that action had to be taken and that if no other offerings were received in short order, the furnishings would be ordered from Amidon.

Mr. Fry reported on the carpet situation and it was suggested that carpet and flooring should be referred to Mr. [Lloyd] Greer and report made directly to the Building Committee who would handle the situation.

An extra heat duct from the heating unit to the Northwest corner of the building was approved for consideration by the architect and contractor, if the expense involved were not out of reason. The question of sand blast finish of the interior vs. aquella finish was referred to the Building Committee for final action.

The 1949 budget was discussed and items totaling approximately \$4600.00 were approved, plus a special debt retirement and interest fund of \$1800.00. Detail[ed] figures will be prepared by Rev. White and all parishioners advised thereof. Rev. White distributed booklets and lists of parishioners on whom the various members will call prior to the parish supper, scheduled for the 19th.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert G. Macks, Clerk of the Vestry

whatsoever in borrowing the additional money needed for the completion of the Parish Hall at this time." He was, he said, "heartily in favor of going ahead with the project" especially because H.G. Tinker, the contractor, had offered a thousand dollar reduction in the cost of the Parish Hall if construction could begin "at once." Bishop Barnwell recommended that Christ Church plan to proceed immediately, promising "his full cooperation." The only condition he imposed was that pledges from parishioners cover the entire proposed 1949 budget of \$6400, including the debt retirement fund.

More on this story in the May issue of *The Vineyard*.