

**STANDING RULES
FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST
VANCOUVER, WA
Revised 1/21/23**

I. CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday & Thanksgiving at 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. (Membership motion 10/16/21)

II. PERSONNEL

Should a church closure occur for reasons outside of the control of anyone in the positions listed in this section, then these positions shall be paid as if there had not been a closure, as deemed appropriate by the Board of Trustees.

(Membership motion 1/15/22)

A. Salaried

Clerk- \$375 per month (Membership motion 10/14/14)

Treasurer- \$215 per month (Membership motion 10/14/14)

Reading Room Librarian- \$650 per month starting February, 2022

(Membership motion 1/15/22)

Regular Organist- Sunday & Thanksgiving \$100; Wednesday \$70; two weeks paid vacation (Membership motion 10/14/14)

B. Readers (Membership motion 10/14/14)

First Reader- Sunday \$55; Wednesday \$65; two weeks paid vacation

Second Reader- Sunday \$55; two weeks paid vacation

The church makes available \$1,500 to each new reader for coaching in effective reading.

(Membership motion 1/23/21)

C. Contractual

Soloist- \$95 for each Sunday service and the Thanksgiving service.

(Membership motion 1/23/21)

Substitute Organist- Sunday & Thanksgiving \$100; Wednesday \$70

(Membership motion 10/14/14)

Sunday school Pianist- \$10 per Sunday (Membership motion 10/14/14)

Church Custodian- \$100 per weekly cleaning (Membership motion 7/16/19)

III. READERS

A. Readers may read the Sunday Lesson-Sermon from the full-text edition of the Christian Science Quarterly published by The Christian Science Publishing Society. (Membership motion 01/12/2016)

B. The Board of Trustees is authorized to pay for gifts to outgoing readers not to exceed a total expense of \$200. (Membership motion 7/17/21)

IV. DONATIONS

A. \$100 per month contributed to The Mother Church (Membership motion 4/16/96)

B. A Community outreach donation of \$150 every three months to a local charity selected by the Board of Trustees. (Membership motion 4/16/19)

Board agreed that the donation should be paid quarterly, in \$250 increments, starting in January, 2021 at its 22/7/20 Board Trustees Meeting.

C. \$50 per month to Canterbury Crest (Membership motion 10/11/11)

D. \$30 per month to the producers of the Reading Room slide show (Designer Marguerite Becker and Coordinator Sue Parsons.) (Membership motion 7/12/2016)

E. \$1,000 per year to the Jointly-Maintained Christian Science Reading Room in Portland, Oregon. (Membership motion 10/24/20)

V. PER CAPITA MONTHLY PAYMENTS

The Treasurer is authorized to pay the current per capita rates for and established by the Washington State Christian Science Committee on Publication and the Christian Science Committee for Institutional Work for the State of Washington.

(Membership motion 1/15/19)

VI. CHURCH BUDGET AND FINANCE

The Board of Trustees is authorized to expend church funds as set forth in the budget without further membership approval. (Membership motions every January from 1/15/2008 to the present).

VII. FUNDS

A. Improvement Fund

Contributions shall be put into the Improvement Fund when they are specifically so designated by a donor. (Membership motion 7/16/13)

***B. Dennis Trust**

Our church and Eastern Oregon University are the two charitable organizations that receive equal annual distributions from The Dennis Trust, a charitable remainder trust managed by trustees at Bank of America in accordance with the provisions of the trust. The proceeds received by the church are “not to be used for the ordinary operating expenses of said churches, except in emergency, but shall be used for building programs, the acquisition of land for building programs, and for the improvement of the musical programs of said churches, including the acquisition of organs, music libraries, and increased payment of musicians and honorariums for readers in the church.” (Dennis Trust 12/24/76)

The church has been advised by the trustees that the term “building programs” is intended to include programs which improve or add to any of the property, plant, equipment, furniture or fixtures of the church including its reading room.

***C. Cook Endowment Fund**

The Cook Endowment was intended to create a growing fund which will provide for the financial needs of the church without using significant amounts of principal. (The Frances Price Cook Trust letter dated 11/2/14)

*These are not standing rules which members can change by a motion, but they are noted here to complete the list of church funds and to provide information on the restrictions connected to their use.

The Reading Room fund was closed by membership motion 7/15/14.

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Refreshments are allowed before and after church events.
(Membership motion 7/12/2016)

B. Current design of the American flag with an appropriate stand shall be displayed in the Board room. (Membership motion 4/16/02)

C. Late comers to church services shall not be prevented from entering except during silent prayer and the repetition of the Lord's Prayer. (Membership motion 7/12/94)

D. Qwest was given an easement to use a 5X5 square foot area for a communication box, as well as an easement for a 2-foot-wide access to 4th Plain Blvd. on the east side of church property, in exchange for \$4,900 compensation deposited 3/20/06. (Membership motion 1/10/06)

E. The Vancouver Symphony will be allowed to hold auditions in the church, once the Board of Trustees has confirmed that there are no other activities being scheduled in the church at that time and that there are members willing to be on hand to usher the activity. (Membership motion 10/14/14)

F. The use of the church for memorial services may be determined by the Board of Trustees. (Membership motion 1/13/15)

G. The Reading Room Committee is authorized to decide annually if we should participate in the Peace and Justice Fair. (Membership motion 4/11/17)

H. Only the readings portion of the Wednesday Testimony meetings may be recorded for the church's website. (Membership motion 10/10/17)

I. The Board of Trustees is authorized to determine the wording on signs, the use of signs, or any other action pertaining to the church parking lot. (Membership motion 1/15/19)

J. As long as the technology and a host are available, members be able to attend business and membership meetings virtually, including participating in discussions and open ballot votes on motions. (Membership motion 1/15/22)

K. The church purchase a full-text quarterly for each month to use at a Sunday service, to give to anyone visiting the church for the first time, to be able to follow along as the citations are read from the desk. (Membership motion 1/21/23)

IX. ELECTION PROCEDURE

- A. When multiple elective offices are to be filled, the offices shall be filled in this order, as appropriate: First Reader, Second Reader, members of the Board of Trustees, and President. (Membership motion 10/24/20)
- B. The President shall appoint tellers as needed. (Membership motion 1/12/2016)
- C. Voting shall be by secret ballot, in either manual or electronic form. (Article VI, Section 2C, Bylaws) (Membership motion 10/24/20)
- D. Whenever the president reads the candidates eligible for a ballot, the names shall be in alphabetical order, with no mention of the number of votes received by any candidate.
- E. On the nominating ballot, each member shall nominate no more than one eligible member.
- F. The president shall read in alphabetical order the names of all those nominees receiving one or more nominating votes. (Membership motion 7/11/17)
- G. Any member who after earnest consideration, feels he/she cannot accept election may withdraw his/her name from the nomination. After all such withdrawals have been made; the president shall close the nominations and proceed with the elective balloting. No withdrawals can be made after the close of the nominations.
- H. On each elective ballot, each member shall vote for no more than one candidate.
- I. If there is no election on the first elective ballot, then the president shall read in alphabetical order the names of the five members who received the largest number of votes. In the event of a tie for the fifth highest candidate, the names of all those so tied shall be included in the list of candidates. The vote then proceeds with the next elective ballot.
- J. If there is no election on the second or any subsequent elective ballot, then the president shall read in alphabetical order the names of the two members who received the largest number of votes. In the event of a tie for the second highest candidate, the names of those so tied shall be included in the list of candidates. The vote then proceeds with the next elective ballot.

The standing rules of this church shall contain those main motions adopted by the members which are of an indefinitely continuing nature.