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The Vestry Handbook: Third Revised Edition



Synopsis

"The Vestry Handbook was first published in 1988 and a revised edition was published in 2000. Over that span of time it has sold nearly 90,000 copies and continues to sell well. Inevitably, such a working guidebook becomes out of date if not revised at regular intervals. The Canons of the church change and new issues confront Vestries. The author is consulting diocesan administrators, other clergy, the Church Deployment Office, and the Church Pension Fund concerning changes that need to be made. Following is a partial list indicating the kind of revisions needed: 1. Update the Canons Many of the Canons summarized in Appendix I, pp. 101-102, have been revised and renumbered. Canons are often referred to in the text and these need to be checked against the latest edition of the Canons. 2. Update the resource list 3. Update financial information The illustrations for salaries etc. given are in relevant amounts for 2000 and need to be updated. 4. Safe Church Training There is only a brief discussion of "sexual misconduct" and no direct reference to "safe church training." 5. Continuing Education The new canons and diocesan emphasis on this subject are a development since the current edition. 6. Dealing with conflict The material provided is in terms of local issues but new material needs to be provided on the current tensions in the Anglican Communion: how to handle tensions in the congregation and how to be sure property decisions are properly made in terms of national canons. 7. Technology The current edition is markedly out of date, with no references to websites, cell phones, Facebook, Twitter, etc., and their use in parish communications. 8. Other minor spot revisions and updates throughout the book."

Book Information

Paperback: 136 pages

Publisher: MOREHOUSE PUBLISHING; Revised edition (September 1, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0819224391

ISBN-13: 978-0819224392

Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 0.3 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 10 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #669,667 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #205 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Denominations & Sects > Protestantism > Episcopalian #313 in Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Adult Ministry #767

Customer Reviews

Christopher L. Webber is an Episcopal priest, who has led urban, rural, and overseas parishes. In addition to Welcome to the Christian Faith (also presented in this catalog), he is the author of Love Came Down, A Time to Turn, Welcome to Sunday, Welcome to the Episcopal Church, A Traveler's Prayer Book, An American Prayer Book and coauthor of A Year with American Saints. He lives in Sharon, CT.

Having just gotten on the Vestry of my church I was looking for a some guidance as to what my role is. This little book is a great guide for the new vestry member and even someone who have been on the vestry before. You must realize of course that this guide is a general reference and adaptations must be considered for your particular parish. Overall I like this guide and would recommend it.

I am retired, but working as interim and priest in charge of small episcopal churches in Alabama. The Vestry handbook is a always good information to place in the hands of new vestry members. I have used it as part of my work for many years. The updated third revised edition is welcome and I purchased enough for all of the new vestry members where I am presently serving.

Great reference book. Given me basics of what the work entails and how to go about serving on the Vestry

Just what the Vestry needs for self-definition.

great for church work and for our new vestry members. same as old one just new updates from last convention. they were very hard to find backorded everywhere but came through again!

This is written in a style to help Vestries with flexibility for the wide variations between Episcopal churches. It is also easy to read with no undefined jargon.

The book is exactly as described, and is exactly what we were looking for. We could not be happier.

Outdated and very General information. Of little value.

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