

Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral

Minutes, Regular Meeting of the Vestry on Thursday, April 20, 2023

Approved at the May 25, 2023 Vestry meeting

Vestry Members and Leadership Present In-Person: The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse (Dean), Sharon Cheers, Sara Copeland, Blain Lagergren, Valerie Johnson (Clerk), Steve Moore (Chancellor) ; Via teleconference: Kay Woolley, Julie Brogno, Ron Michka, Pat Decker, Mathias Nichols, Paula Livingston-Lewis, The Rev. Barbara Wegener (Deacon), David Barker (Treasurer)

Absent: Candy McDowell (Sr. Warden), Michael Thomas (Jr. Warden),

Others Present: Dr. Paul Meier, John Braum

The meeting was held in hybrid format (Common Room and via Zoom teleconference). The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Dean Andy with opening worship.

Approval of previous meeting's minutes Valerie Johnson presented the March 16, 2023, regular Vestry minutes that were distributed in the April Vestry Packet. Sara Copeland moved to accept the March 16, 2023, minutes and was seconded by Blain Lagergren. The motion passed without discussion.

Dean's Report, *The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse*

Choir Tour Update: Dr. Paul Meier and John Braum provided an update on the England/Hereford GHTC Choir Tour planned for August 1-13, 2024. John thanked Dr. Paul Meier and Vestry for their support. The update included savings being realized through proximity of lodging to events with less dependence upon special transportation. They are currently watching the fluctuation of pounds to make the airfare purchases. They have already secured hotel rates through wired funds before the accommodation costs increase prior to Olympics in Paris. Sarah Rowland and Guy Townsend will place an article in the June/July *KC Studio* magazine about this choir tour. Dr. Paul Meier thanked Vestry, choir and music program, John and Wayne for their generous gift and setting up the music trust and all of John's work organizing the details of the choir residency. Dean Andy thanked John and Wayne for their support through the music trust fund and their work toward making this tour possible while minimizing costs.

Offering: The Easter offering was equally shared with Mercy and Truth (a medical mission group) and GHTC. The total offering was almost \$7,000 so \$3458.50 went to each group.

Past/Upcoming Events:

For Pete's Sake Fundraiser for Pete's Garden: The accounting today appears to be PG receives almost \$9200 and GHTC will cover costs of the event while realizing approximately \$1600 and 4 cases of remaining wine.

First Fridays on June 2: An event will be held on the first Friday evening in Founders' Hall.

Saturday, June 3: The ordination to the vocational and transitional diaconate will take place for Robin Rusconi and Jody Carroll, respectively. Robin will serve at GHTC on Sunday, June 4th with us before she is assigned to her ministry home, which will be announced later.

Parish Picnic on June 4: Trinity Sunday

William Jewell Teaching Series, Year 2: Last year GHTC's participation in leading the William Jewell Teaching Series consisted of 2 classes (1 per semester) and were led by Dean Andy Keyse and Canon Ryan Wiksell. This cost was \$8,000 to the Cathedral. This year, Dean Andy proposed GHTC participate in leading only one class during one semester because of limited clergy availability. Dean Andy would lead a fall semester course on the GHTC campus

and has been asked to address the topic of gender identity. For GHTC to be part of the William Jewell Faith and Culture series, \$4,000 is required from the Cathedral.

Sharon Cheers moved that \$4,000 from the Trinity Fund for Ministry be used for GHTC participation in the Fall of 2023 William Jewell Faith and Culture series. This was seconded by Blain Lagergren. The motion passed with one opposed.

Discussion points: The Vestry supports the topic and questioned that of the other participating churches of the WJ series. WJ requested the specific topic of Dean Andy for this class and the intention is to inform and discuss with families who seek to understand. What are the benefits of participating in the WJ series now that a year of experience is now complete? Dean Andy stated working with churches in our community was beneficial and non-GHTC participants did attend. The money paid to WJ is used for advertising, registration, and educator stipend. It was suggested GHTC educate and promote to the community without participating in a WJ series by using own communications and format.

Strategic Planning: The Strategic Planning Committee has been challenged with meeting and has not progressed as anticipated by this point. Focus groups are being considered and the SPC will have a retreat in May. Vestry will still be one of the focus groups and will hear a report in Fall 2023. The consultant to GHTC for this process has been available; it is the SPC that is not moving forward currently. Dean Andy will meet with the consultant in one week.

The Vestry went into Executive session from 6:20-6:30 p.m.

Financial Report presented by David Barker, Treasurer

A full-time Financial Administrator, Steve Berman, has been added to the staff. March realized \$80,712 in actual pledge revenue. User Fees revenue was \$12,279—likely from parking lot and will partly apply to the Choir Tour costs. Expense for Facility was much less than anticipated. This may change in the future as it is expected there will be \$12,000 spent to fix mechanical A/C. Parish Life expenses are less than expected.

Year-to-Date: The reason for seeing \$100 each month in Community and Social Ministry goes back to the 2023 Budget where \$90,000 is still available to the ministry from previously unused funds, therefore only \$100/month is allocated for 2023 as it appears in the report.

In June, the Finance Committee will interview and consider new auditor as it is their hope to reduce the cost of this service and obtain reports in a timely manner.

Blain Lagergren moved to accept the Financial Report as presented. It was seconded by Sara Copeland and passed without further discussion.

Stewardship Report presented by Dean Andy Keyse for Steve Moore, Stewardship Chair

Additional pledges have come in, yet there are 40 pledges (approximately \$73,000) still not renewed from last year. Some of these non-renewed pledges are currently giving but have not completed a formal pledge. Letters were sent to these households. As of April 14, we have 108 pledges at \$424,051. There is still hope that the \$500,000 goal for pledges will be achieved.

Junior Warden Report presented by Dean Andy Keyse for Michael Thomas

The A/C will be repaired for approximately \$12,000 and the control unit for Founders' Hall and the Nave will be replaced. The parking lot resurfacing and striping will be completed.

Senior Warden Report presented by Dean Andy Keyse for Candy McDowell No report

Other Committee or Vestry Liaison Reports

Safety/Security, *Sharon Cheers and additional report submitted via email*

The GHTC Safety/Security Continued work with public safety partners providing safety resources and services for the Cathedral staff, congregation, guests, and visitors. Committee members: Joan Bergstrom, John Braum, Denny Brisley, Mark Colburn, Mark Galus, Angela Graham, Julie Toma and Dean Andy Keyse.

In March, the Buildings and Grounds Committee reviewed the security of the breezeway doors on Sundays and whether they should remain locked. Easier access from 9:00-10:00 a.m. for choir, children's formation, etc., is desired but requires a door monitor. It was noted that property staff deals with more than we often see and they have a unique perspective to safety and security concerns. The workplace safety of our property staff is important and it was decided unless a door can be monitored/watched, it is best to remain locked for the safety of all.

The Downtown Council-Community Improvement District provides public safety monitoring, patrol services, resources, and other services to KC downtown (River Market to Truman Road) businesses and residences. They patrol the areas, answer calls for assistance, interact with houseless persons, keep public streets and sidewalks clean, and network with KCPD and other law enforcement agencies. They are trained to work with houseless persons and those in mental health situations. The Cathedral is a member of the Downtown Council and the security services is one of the benefits of our membership.

Downtown Council Security hours are 6:00 AM-10:30 PM daily. These times coincide with GHTC business and event hours. Mr. Frank Jackson, Security Supervisor, is the contact for Downtown Council/Security: **dispatch number (816) 820-3475.** Assistance can be requested at this number.

Street Sheets Publication: The Kansas City Public Library publishes a resource guide, "Street Sheet." and provides daily onsite services to those seeking assistance. "Street Sheet" provides current information on services to those in need of healthcare, employment, shelter, food, etc. The "Street Sheet" guide is also available in the Cathedral track rack(s).

Jackson County Deputy Sheriff Department provides onsite patrol of the Cathedral campus on Sunday mornings and special events. The Deputy Sheriffs are: Edward Johnson, Coordinator for the Cathedral, Deputy Sheriffs Walter MacDonald and Dwight Rhodes. The Deputy Sheriff's Office number (816) 541-8047. The Deputy Sheriffs patrol the cathedral grounds, parking lots and walk inside and outside the buildings. Please feel free to speak with the Deputy Sheriffs.

Social Outreach The Social Outreach Committee will meet in May.

Children's Formation Youth Sunday is Sunday, May 7th at the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Service

Community Engagement; Communications; Young Adults No reports

Old Business None

New Business None

The next Vestry Meeting will be Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Common Room and teleconference.

Sharon Cheers moved to adjourn the meeting. Ron Michka seconded and the motion passed.

A closing prayer was led by Dean Andy. The meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Blanco Johnson, Clerk