

# Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral

## Minutes, Regular Meeting of the Vestry on Thursday, January 22, 2026

*Approved at the February 26, 2026 Vestry meeting*

### **Vestry Members and Leadership Present**

In-Person: The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse (Dean), The Rev. Canon W. James Yazell (Associate Priest), Charles Shipley, Blain Lagergren (Clerk), Nigel Jones (Jr. Warden), Christine Morrison, Steve Moore (Sr. Warden), Colin Chambers, Chip Buckner (Treasurer), Pat Decker, Julie Brogno

Via teleconference (Zoom): Bill Boyd

Absent: The Rev. Barbara Wegener, The Rev. Clare Stern-Burbano, Paget Higgins, Mathias Nichols

### Others Present:

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**

Blain Lagergren presented the December regular Vestry minutes which were distributed in the January Vestry Packet. A correction of the date of the "To be approved" subheading of the minutes from 2025 to 2026 was made. Julie Brogno moved to accept the meeting minutes as amended and was seconded by Charles Shipley. The motion passed without further discussion.

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

This Sunday's services and the Annual Meeting following the 10:30 service have been cancelled due to inclement weather. The announcement will be sent out tomorrow and as part of Dean Andy's Friday email. Morning Prayer for Sunday has been recorded along with prelude and postlude musical accompaniment by Dr. Lucas Fletcher.

Dean Andy has requested the Vestry vote to move the Annual Meeting to the following Sunday, February 1.

Colin Chambers moved to reschedule the Annual Meeting to February 1, 2026 and was seconded by Nigel Jones. The motion passed without further discussion.

Thank you to our outgoing and returning Vestry members: Julie Brogno, Blain Lagergren, and Mathias Nichols. A big thank you to Paget Higgins for being willing to be appointed to the Vestry and complete the term.

Upcoming events: The Annual Meeting will be Sunday, February 1. Our Pancake Breakfast will be Sunday, February 15. Our Mardi Gras dinner will be Tuesday, February 17. Ash Wednesday will be Wednesday, February 18. Diocesan Ordinations will be Saturday, February 21.

One of the newly ordained deacons, The Rev. Richard Liantonio of St. Mary's, will be placed with us for his diaconal training starting in March.

After three years our Strategic Plan ends this year. We will be putting together a new Strategic Planning committee to begin work on a new Strategic Plan for the next three to five years. Our Vestry nominations for this year are: Julie Brogno, Janet Sweeting, Blain Lagergren, and Mathias Nichols. At our meeting after the Annual Meeting we will elect Jr. Warden, Clerk, and Treasurer and set the date of our Vestry retreat.

### **Whom Should We Thank?**

Paget Higgins for her service on the Vestry to complete her term.

### **Associate's Report, presented by The Rev. Canon W. James Yazell**

Our Lenten programming will lean hard into memento mori, looking at death and dying and how we prepare for it. Each Wednesday night will deal thematically with that. We hope to have a speaker from the Diocese come and discuss planned giving and estate planning as well as a Chaplain from St. Luke's to discuss advanced directives and the theology and ethics behind those end of life and medical care decisions. Lucas will discuss music and Dean Andy and Fr. James will discuss a liturgy planning workshop as well.

We will be doing a Rule of Life workshop on Ash Wednesday, to think about spiritual practices for Lent. Our Sunday Adult Formation continues to have a faithful and strong showing.

**Deacon's Report, The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse on behalf of The Rev. Clare Stern-Burbano, The Rev. Barbara Wegener**

### **Financial Report presented by Chip Buckner, Treasurer**

Prefaced by Chip Buckner as the strangest Treasurer's report he's presented. The December Finance Committee meeting showed that we were incorrect about our end of year position.

December pledge revenue was preposterously good, as was plate in November and December. We took \$75,000 out of the trust fund and reimbursed operating fund for certain capital expenses, shown as negative number for facility purposes. There were \$46,000 in Facility expenses in December, \$30,000 of which was the streetcar tax. We are \$1200 to the good of our budget on pledges YTD, we are \$15,000 above budget on plate offering YTD, and gifts and bequest shows \$7000 below budget but we received a \$200,000 gift that did not go to operating but rather went to the endowment so we are really \$193,000 above budget YTD. The Diocese has not yet paid their portion of streetcar assessment, which is \$2600. Recurring bequests is nearly \$69,000 above budgeted YTD. User fees are down a bit for the year, with more special events, so not as much parking. Endowment to operating and interfund transfers are the numbers that Julie wants to take a longer look at, we are \$14,000 above budget YTD. Interfund transfers is mostly ERC money, we budgeted for \$144,838 but we put none of it in there. Taking that from what was budgeted we wound up positive \$110,000. YTD expenses we spent \$5292 more on clergy, but \$48,297 less on lay salaries. Facility YTD we were over budget by \$59,306, even with additional money to capital expenditures. Overall, we spent \$12,033 less than budgeted over the course of the year, within \$21,000 of a balanced budget. We have \$123,439 remaining ERC money.

Balance Sheet: The Kemper Trust - Long Term Restricted fund balance has gone down roughly \$70,000 due to capital expenditures. The Faeth Music Investment fund is down roughly \$15,000 for instrument repair expenses.

Our withholding accounts are now down to zero after paying taxes. The Downs Bequest – Choir Vestments is down \$5000 due to vestments expenditure.

Steve Moore moved to table the December Financial Report until February's Vestry meeting and was seconded by Christine Morrison. The motion passed without further discussion.

**Stewardship Report**, *presented by Steve Moore, Stewardship Chair*

We have 74 pledges totaling \$310,000, an average of \$4039. We have six new pledges. Of the pledges made this year there are 35 increased, eight decreased. We have 36 pledges that have not yet been renewed, totaling \$175,000. We are looking at a total pledged amount of \$485,000 if those remaining are renewed at the same rate.

**Junior Warden's Report**, *presented by Nigel Jones*

A repair was necessary to the air return duct under the nave at the cost of \$972. We will convene the next Building and Grounds in March following the establishment of committees at the Vesty retreat.

**Senior Warden Report**, *presented by Steve Moore*

**Other Committee or Vestry Liaison Reports**

**Buildings & Grounds**, *Nigel Jones, Charles Shipley, Steve King, Mathias Nichols*

**Finance**, *Nigel Jones, Steve Moore, Bill Boyd, Paget Higgins*

**Social Action & Outreach**, *Colin Chambers, Christine Morrison, The Rev. Barbara Wegener*

**Social Events**, *Julie Brogno, Colin Chambers, Pat Decker*

Put together calendar of events to be published in January.

**Newcomers**, *Julie Brogno, Steve King, The Rev. James Yazell, Beth Keyse*

The next Newcomers committee meeting will follow the Vestry retreat. We will assess what has worked and what changes are necessary.

**Children & Youth**, *Blain Lagergren, Mathias Nichols*

**Stewardship**, *Steve Moore, Blain Lagergren, Mathias Nichols*

**Community Engagement**, *Christine Morrison, The Rev. Barbara Wegener*

**Budget**, *Bill Boyd (Chair), Nigel Jones, Pat Decker, Steve Moore*

**Additional Discussion**

**Old Business**

## **New Business**

Kney Organ Update. After inspection by two reputable builders, Richards-Fowkes and CB Fisk, it has been determined that a rebuild of the organ would be nearly 60%-70% of the expense of a new build and would likely not significantly improve the sound of the organ. Neither firm is interested in pursuing a rebuild and both firms recommended the construction of a new organ. Given the unique size of the current organ, in order to install a new organ in the gallery, the gallery would likely need to be expanded. The HVAC system would also need to be modified in order to more efficiently heat and cool the organ space. A capital campaign will need to be considered, complete with a fundraising consultant, in order to raise the funds for these items. Given the size of the capital campaign needed to effect such a project, other items such as Haden Hall will likely be included in further discussions of any possible campaign.

The next Vestry meeting will be February 26 at 5:30 p.m. in the Common Room and via teleconference. The Annual Meeting will be Sunday, February 1. We will come together as a new Vestry immediately after.

**Nigel Jones moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Christine Morrison. The motion passed.**

The meeting was closed with the saying of the Grace. The meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Blain Lagergren, Clerk