

Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral

Minutes, Regular Meeting of the Vestry on Thursday, May 28, 2026

Approved at the July 23, 2026 Vestry meeting

Vestry Members and Leadership Present

In-Person: The Rev. Canon W. James Yazell (Canon), The Rev. Clare Stern-Burbano (Associate Priest), Steve Moore (Sr. Warden), Nigel Jones (Jr. Warden), Colin Chambers (Clerk), Chip Buckner (Treasurer), Pat Decker, Charles Shipley

Via teleconference (Zoom): Bill Boyd, Steve King, Janet Sweeting

Absent: The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse (Dean) (sabbatical), The Rev. Barbara Wegener (Deacon), The Rev. Dr. Richard Liantonio (Deacon), Julie Brogno, Blain Lagergren, Christine Morrison, 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 Canon James with opening worship.

Approval of previous meeting's minutes

Colin Chambers presented the April regular Vestry minutes which were distributed in the May Vestry Packet. A few minor corrections were made. Nigel Jones moved to accept the meeting minutes as amended and was seconded by Charles Shipley. The motion passed without further discussion.

Financial Report, Chip Buckner, Treasurer

Chip presented the April financial report. Pledges came in \$6,000 better than expected, and overall revenue was close to budget despite the full \$10,000 in COVID funds not being transferred as planned. Pledges were up 25% over the prior month, and user fees, lease income, and parking donations all performed well. Chip reported no change in property values for the month and noted that a \$30,000 discrepancy in March's endowment draw is being adjusted over time. He recommended reducing the endowment draw from 5.5% to 5.25% for the remainder of the year, noting the resulting \$2,600 difference would not meaningfully affect operations and that a \$300,000 reserve remains available if needed; the change is expected to take effect in July.

Nigel Jones moved to accept the April Financial Report and was seconded by Charles Shipley. The motion passed without further discussion.

Nigel Jones moved to change the endowment draw from 5.5% to 5.25% for the remainder of the year and was seconded by Charles Shipley. There was a question about when the change was likely to take effect. Steve Moore said he expected it would take effect for the July endowment draw. The motion passed without further discussion.

Canon's Report, *The Rev. Canon W. James Yazell*

Canon James reported that a recent newcomer gathering was well attended, drawing six engaged participants. He will be away June 4-28 for vacation and continuing education; Canon Lisa of the Diocese of Kansas will preside at all services on June 7.

Associate's Report *The Rev. Clare Stern-Burbano*

The Rev. Clare Stern-Burbano reported continued congregational growth, with five youth volunteering to serve as Eucharistic ministers, thirteen individuals and four families joining as new members this spring, and a baptism for Eva Dukes scheduled for July 12. She will coordinate with Deacon Barbara and the relevant families to schedule Eucharistic minister training for the youth, and will finalize plans for the July 12 baptism. Youth programming is on break until September due to families traveling.

Deacon's Report, *The Rev. Barbara Wegener, The Rev. Dr. Richard Liantonio*

Deacon Barbara's brother is very ill, so there is no report.

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

No report.

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

Nigel reported that HVAC controller installations are underway and that the courtyard gate repair contract was awarded at \$3,500. He also reported on the Memorial Garden granite installation: the lettering layout is being finalized and will be reviewed before etching, a new product will increase engraving capacity by approximately 400 spots, and the garden remains licensed for up to 500 names.

On the organ project, Nigel reported that a letter of intent has been prepared to place an order with Fisk for an organ installation targeted for 2031. The project requires a non-refundable payment of \$150,000, which Nigel proposed funding from the Faeth Music Fund, to be repaid during the capital campaign; he will work with the Finance Committee, specifically David Barker, to confirm the funding source before proceeding. Nigel shared observations from a recent visit to see Fisk organs in Kansas, including discussion of potential locations for the blower room in either the basement or the choir room, and noted that payment to Dana Kierkegaard for his acoustics report remains outstanding. The Vestry agreed to proceed with signing the letter of intent once Finance Committee approval is received.

Senior Warden Report, *presented by Steve Moore*

There is a baby shower for Deacon Richard and his husband, Jeff this Sunday, May 31st. The following weekend, June 6th, is Pride KC, with continued planning for the Cathedral's involvement in this event. June 7th is Wear

Orange Sunday for our position against gun violence. The June Game Night will be June 12th, where we will play Bunco.

Whom Should We Thank?

Trinity Choir

The Vestry agreed to thank the Trinity Choir, with the message to be coordinated through Lucas Fletcher.

Other Committee or Vestry Liaison Reports

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

No Report

Finance, *Nigel Jones, Steve Moore, Bill Boyd, Mathias Nichols*

No Report

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

No Report

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

No Report

Newcomers, *Julie Brogno, The Rev. James Yazell*

No Report

Children & Youth, *Blain Lagergren, Mathias Nichols, The Rev. Clare Stern-Burbano*

No Report

Stewardship, *Steve Moore, Blain Lagergren, Mathias Nichols, Pat Decker, Christine Morrison*

No Report

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

No Report

Budget, *Bill Boyd, Nigel Jones, Steve Moore*

No Report

Old Business

None.

New Business

The Vestry discussed skipping the June meeting due to scheduling conflicts with the Orange March and anticipated World Cup activities. In the interim, the Vestry agreed to maintain current security policies while remaining hospitable to visitors, including purchasing additional water and researching portable toilet options; Julie will contact the Downtown Council and Visit KC for guidance on city-provided facilities rather than the Cathedral assuming responsibility for portable restrooms.

Janet Sweeting moved to skip the June Vestry meeting and was seconded by Nigel Jones. The motion passed without further discussion.

The next Vestry meeting will be July 23, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in the Common Room and via teleconference.

Nigel Jones moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Charles Shipley. The motion passed.

The meeting was closed with the saying of the Grace. The meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Colin Chambers, Clerk