

Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral

Minutes, Regular Meeting of the Vestry on Thursday, October 23, 2025

Approved at the November 20, 2025 Vestry meeting

Vestry Members and Leadership Present

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

Via teleconference (Zoom): Mathias Nichols

Absent: Pat Decker

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 September regular Vestry minutes which were distributed in the October Vestry Packet. **Nigel Jones moved to accept the meeting minutes and was seconded by Colin Chambers. The motion passed without further discussion.**

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

Upcoming events: Funeral services for Sue King will be Friday, October 24 at 4:00 pm. Bingo Night will be Friday, October 24 at 6:00 pm. Our Fall Festival will be Sunday, October 26. All Saints' Sunday will be Sunday, November 2, at which will be the commissioning of Fr. James as Canon of the Cathedral. The Diocesan Convention will be Friday, with Eucharist, and Saturday, November 7 and 8. Our three Stewardship Gatherings will happen Wednesday through Friday, November 12-14, the first at Founders' Hall at the Cathedral, the second at Steve Moore's house, and the third at Dean Andy's house. The Kirkin' o' the Tartan will be Sunday, November 16. Andy, James, and Barbara are heading to a clergy conference Sunday next week in Branson.

Strategic Plan Update:

Whom Should We Thank?

Dr. Joan Bergstrom for her work as volunteer coordinator.

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

Our Prayer Book study continues, spending a third week on Communion. Fr. James led a study on healing theology in the Gospels for the Daughters of King this past month.

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

Hi everyone!

It's so good to be back at GHTC. Words cannot express how grateful I am to you the vestry, the staff, the GHTC community, and above all, God for all saying yes to my return.

While my time at GHTC is different this time around, it is going very well! The clergy have taken me under their wing and have been so willing to teach and mentor. I wish this for every new clergy person.

Additionally, I am working on planning the remainder of the fall schedule for both children and youth. I have started reconnecting with families to listen to the needs and wants for the community. It is my hope that we can retain at least 1 new family by Easter.

If you wish to hear about our weekly rhythms for Cathedral kids, I invite you to checkout out GHTC Kids Instagram account. I typically post pictures of our youngest leaders on there each week.

The same goes for youth group. You can learn more about that by looking at GHTC youth and college ministry.

I have also reached out to some of the young adults in the congregation about potentially meeting 1 time a month for a time of fellowship. More to come on that.

The podcast is THRIVING! We are averaging about 200 downloads an episode which is up there with well-known podcasts such as a Morning at the Office by Forward Movement.

ATE is the second most listened to Episcopal podcast. Also, Bexley Seabury Seminary has made a request to come on the podcast to discuss their recommitment to DEI initiatives.

Wishing you all well!

Clare

Financial Report presented by *Chip Buckner, Treasurer*

Revenue and expenses: Actual vs. last year's numbers to generate expectations.

Pledges lower in August and September. Plate offering is down a little bit, but tap-to-pay has been contributed into the wrong place, bookstore sales, distorting the final calculation. The October report will account for this. User fees are down in August and up in September. Interest income, money market are doing well. Interfund transfers skipped owing to accounting frustration. Endowment to operating is up in August and down slightly in September. YTD revenues are \$50,000 less than expected. But we have \$90,000 of interfund transfers that have not been credited. Revenues are actually \$40,000 higher than expected.

YTD expenses are \$8,000 less than expected.

Balance sheet. Items of concern – we are spending more than we are taking in. We have been relying on COVID ERC funds and those will no longer be available to us. Book Store fund showing tap-to-pay revenues at this time. Securities have grown roughly \$600,000 in the past three months. Parking fundraisers were not as large as expected. We saw early ticket sales for Messiah Singalong through September. Accurate property valuations are being sought, perhaps from insurance company assessments.

Julie Brogno moved to accept the September Financial Report and was seconded by Paget Higgins. The motion passed without further discussion.

Stewardship Report, presented by Steve Moore, Stewardship Chair

Thank you to those who wrote pledge letters. We are adding a new aspect to stewardship, stewardship gatherings, which may turn out to be more about people voicing their concerns. We have good news, 27 pledges – \$117,000, including 3 new pledges. 11 are increased. 3 decreased.

Junior Warden's Report, presented by Nigel Jones

Trees have been planted, donations covered most if not all of the cost. Concrete in courtyard and Diocesan close has been mostly completed. We are finalizing granite for memorial garden. The amplifier issue is unresolved, but we have a temporary workaround. As of now four cylinder-lights are having issues. We are investigating handicapped accessible restrooms. We have a new procedure for check approval. Discussion of dedication for Memorial Garden upgrade, possibly in the spring. Those who have paid for spots on the Memorial Garden wall will be contacted after current arrangement is decided.

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

Bingo night tomorrow night. Movie night in November. Nothing in December due to schedule. January will have chili night and games.

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

Children & Youth, Blain Lagergren, Mathias Nichols

Stewardship, Steve Moore, Blain Lagergren, Mathias Nichols

Incorporated into Stewardship Report.

Community Engagement, Christine Morrison, The Rev. Barbara Wegener

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

Budget committee met two weeks ago to discuss first draft of budget. Currently \$200,000 apart on revenues and expenses. Now dedicated to trying to bring that into line.

Additional Discussion

Old Business

Discussion of security of door locking in tunnel. No replacement for Joan as volunteer coordinator as of yet. Joan is remaining as Sacristan.

New Business

There is a webinar for the Episcopal Network for Stewardship on November 12 concerning young families connected, pledging, etc. There will be no 12:00 pm Eucharist next Wednesday.

The next Vestry Meeting will be November 20 at 5:30 p.m. in the Common Room and via teleconference.

Blain Lagergren moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Bill Boyd. The motion passed.

A closing prayer was led by Dean Andy. The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Blain Lagergren, Clerk