

Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral

Minutes, Regular Meeting of the Vestry on Thursday, May 22, 2025

Approved at the June 26, 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, Nigel Jones (Jr. Warden), Colin Chambers, Blain Lagergren (Clerk), Christine Morrison, Pat Decker, Steve Moore (Sr. Warden), Bill Boyd

Via teleconference (Zoom): Steve King, Julie Brogno, The Rev. Barbara Wegener (Deacon)

Absent: The Rev. C.J. Duffie (Deacon), Chip Buckner (Treasurer), Mathias Nichols, Paget Higgins

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 April regular Vestry minutes which were distributed in the May Vestry Packet. Nigel Jones clarified that it was his suggestion to have Ric Sweeting utilize the altar plants for the Consecration. Nigel Jones moved to accept the meeting minutes as amended and was seconded by Bill Boyd. The motion passed without further discussion.

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

Upcoming events: Dean Andy gave a thank you to everyone involved in the Consecration, which was a glorious event on a beautiful day. Clare Stern-Burbano is leaving us on June 1. She will be the Curate for campus ministry Canterbury at Kansas State in Manhattan. Her last Sunday with us as well as her baby shower will be June 1. Sunday June 22 will be the farewell send off for her. Clare's ordination to the Diaconate is June 21 at Grace Cathedral in Topeka at 1030 in the morning. The Pride Mass and Pride Parade is coming up on June 7 at St. Paul's. The Parish picnic is June 8 which is the Day of Pentecost. We met with a candidate for the position of Youth and Children's Coordinator and we feel good about her and are moving forward. Her main specialty is younger children's ministry. She is currently Assistant Youth Minister at St. Andrew's.

Strategic Plan Update: We are focusing more on contact cards in the pews during announcements and explicit invites to coffee hour following the service. This is part of a push to being more conscious about on ramps to joining the cathedral community. Bylaws are still being worked on.

Whom Should We Thank?

John Braum for the usher training. Troy Sorbo for AED training. Angie and the grounds crew for their preparation for the Consecration. Steve Berman for his continued work on the Cathedral's finances.

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

The Path is wrapping up, we have two weeks left. In June Fr. James will head to Sewanee to finish his thesis for his Sacred Theology Masters and Deacon CJ will lead formation during that time. In July will begin another book study.

Deacon's Report, *The Rev. Barbara Wegener*

Deacon Barbara will be in DC on Sunday to watch her grandson march in the Memorial Day parade and to watch the concert in person.

Financial Report presented via video recording of Chip Buckner's presentation to Finance Committee by The Very Rev. Dr. Andrew C. Keyse on behalf of Chip Buckner, Treasurer

March Revenues: Pledges were \$25,046 lower than budgeted. Plate offering was \$3,986 lower than budgeted. Gifts and bequests were \$2,083 lower than expected. User fees were \$1,200 lower than expected. Interfund transfer displays a \$12,070 negative.

March Expenses: Community and Social Ministry was \$5,000 under budget. Clergy Salary & Related was \$1,264 over budget. Clergy Support was \$4,336 under budget. Administration & General was \$1,932 under budget. Facility was \$7,242 over budget. Education was \$1,335 over budget. Music was \$2,793 under budget.

March Balance Sheet: In March clergy discretionary expenditures were negative. The money market account went up. Investments and securities went from \$16.9 in February to \$16.3m in March. Checking account movements aren't of particular concern. There have been no big movements in our withholding accounts. We are simply \$600,000 negative owing to investment devaluation. March was not a bad month.

April Revenues: Pledges are going up and we are ahead for the year however April was roughly \$18,000 under budget. Plate offering was roughly \$700 under budget. User fees are roughly \$4,000 under budget. Endowment to operating is roughly \$2,000 under budget. Interfund transfers is roughly \$11,000 under budget. We did not have the parking lot for Holy Week. Steve Berman has convinced Chip that it is no longer a good idea, owing to tax treatment, to move from the interfund transfers to operating fund.

April Expenses: Administration & General is roughly \$5,000 over budget, due to overages on the copier leases. Facility is roughly \$24,000 over budget. Utilities were slightly lower due to milder weather. Parish life is roughly \$1,500 under budget. Salaries are down in April, lay salaries account for an associate organist that has not been hired yet.

April Balance Sheet: Operating Fund dropped roughly \$65,000 from March to April. Trust Fund from February to March took a hit due to taking EPN expenses out. Investment Accounts went from \$16.3m to \$16.25m. Fundraisers were down.

Nigel Jones moved to accept the March and April Financial Reports and was seconded by Bill Boyd. The motion passed without further discussion.

The bequest from Sally Chapple's estate was expected to be \$100,000. The bequest was actually \$199,000. We cannot use the principal of the bequest for the operating fund. We asked the finance committee for recommendation

as to where to put it. The finance committee recommended that the bequest be split equally among Grace Fund for Property and Trinity Fund for Ministry. Historically those funds receive gifts of this nature.

Charles Shipley moved to accept the recommendation of the finance committee and was seconded by Colin Chambers. The motion passed without further discussion.

Stewardship Report, presented by Steve Moore, Stewardship Chair

There is nothing new in terms of numbers. We need to put together a timeline for our 2026 campaign.

Junior Warden Report, presented by Nigel Jones

We had several large expenditures: sewer line repair \$19,500, painting, furnace, and power surge. Budgeted at \$70,000 or less target. The tree at 13th and Washington came down in a storm. Several fir trees were blown out of the ground; they were pulled back and staked to hopefully recover. Pine trees are dropping needles that clog grating in the Diocesan close, we are examining cost to remove trees.

Senior Warden Report, presented by Steve Moore

Following the Incident at the Daughters of the King installation, we undertook training to operate the AED device. Troy Sorbo came in to show us how to operate the AED in compliance with Missouri's good Samaritan statute. John Braum brought the ushers up to date on safety procedures and locations in the Cathedral. CPR training will be a next step in concert with AED procedures. Generally, we are happy to see new faces at the Cathedral. We are happy to see more growth, and it remains a priority to grow.

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, The Rev. CJ Duffie, Christine Morrison, The Rev. Barbara Wegener

Social Events, Julie Brogno, Colin Chambers, Pat Decker

In May our Bunco gathering had about 50 people. We are seeing some new faces outside of services. June we are helping with the parish picnic and games. We will have an outdoor movie night in the courtyard in July.

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

Children & Youth, Blain Lagergren, Mathias Nichols

Stewardship, Steve Moore, Blain Lagergren, Mathias Nichols

Community Engagement, Christine Morrison, The Rev. Barbara Wegener, The Rev. CJ Duffie

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

Bill Boyd has met with Dean Andy to get started to put together email to committee members asking for dates for first meeting, and collecting that information. They have collected last year's budget and criteria.

Additional Discussion

Old Business

Christine requested AV funding added to budget consideration. Tap to pay is in for parking at \$30. Dean Andy is scheduled for a sabbatical in the summer of 2026, with Fr. James in charge, for a period of 3 months. There is a need to prepare and Dean Andy reminded the Vestry and will remind the congregation that it is not for the priest on sabbatical to potentially leave for another church, and there do exist technical restrictions on the movement of priests following sabbaticals.

Fisk is coming in June to assess the organ for repair.

New Business

There will be no Vestry meeting in July.

The next Vestry Meeting will be June 26 at 5:30 p.m. in the Common Room and via teleconference.

Bill Boyd moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Nigel Jones. The motion passed.

A closing prayer was led by Dean Andy. The meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Blain Lagergren, Clerk