

VESTRY MINUTES

April 24, 2025

6:00 PM

Vestry Members in Attendance: Ashley Chapman; Dianne Duncan; Frankie Eichenberger; Stephen Eisele; Selby Graepel; Rachel Hebisen; Christine Johnson; David Ott; Gale Patterson; Rixey Ruffin; Cathy Sanders; Joe Sheehan; Lindsey Stokes.

Clergy: The Rev. Andrew Archie; The Rev. Peter Speropulos.

Staff & Guests: Laurie Brown; Alexis Posnanski.

Proceedings

1. Call to order
2. Prayer – Collect of St. George
3. We each give thanks
4. Stewardship Report – Alexis Posnanski
 - Comparison between '24 and '25
 - 2024: 327 pledges for \$1.8M
 - 2025: 334 pledges for \$2.009M
 - Many are pledging more – for the organ, 40% of budget/goal has been received. Joseph will be joining us in May to discuss it further. After the vestry, members are invited to tour the church to see progress. Dedicated portion of the website for keeping members involved, tied to stewardship.
 - Social media presence – please follow on website and Facebook.
5. Parish Life Report – Laurie Brown
 - For Palm Sunday, we had 420 people! Pews were filled for Holy week – thanks to the ushers. Tea on Saturday had 120 people.
 - Upcoming events. Please join us on Sunday morning for Chaplain Norman at Episcopal City Mission. Join us Sunday night for the Legends concert, with reception. Evensong on May 4 with the Monks of the Abbey.
 - Ministry Fundraiser is coming up on Sunday, May 18. It's a fun night, please buy tickets.
 - Our Community Listens. June 19-21. The facilitator is Frankie Eichenberger.
 - Choristers will be singing on Sunday, April 27. It is exciting to have them back.
6. Treasurer's Report – David Ott
 - Presentation during February retreat. Vestry turns over 1/3 each year. We provide context through this presentation for new members. Voted on the '25 budget at the January meeting prior to retreat. Provide broad context for the year ahead.
 - Highlights from presentation and report:
 - One entity – accountants and operators of the church. School is separate with financials due to their July – June calendar. The church operates on calendar year financials.
 - Endowment - \$ to operating fund along with pledges. At vestry – we go over month by month financials. The source of funds can be seen in the presentation.
 - Other revenue – includes infant/toddler program. Other support – bequests and non-pledge \$\$.

- Infant/Toddler program – is it part of the church or the school? Previously caused challenges. Does revenue support the mission of the church is a key question/consideration. Revenue of the infant/toddler program helps fund mission of the church and the school.
- Diversified funding source is critical – this was most apparent during COVID.
- Ambition – children in the infant/toddler program to continue into the Episcopal Day School.
- More notes on slides.
- Overall Trend: declining parishioners over the years, which has turned around under Alexis and the Stewardship Committee.
 - Youth programs – there was a question as to why the decrease? It was a personnel/financing mechanism.
 - School debt – still operating at a significant loss – need to right the ship, and we will be keeping a close eye on progress.

7. Junior Warden's Report – Frankie Eichenberger

- Attached/shared one-pager highlighting recent progress. Bolded are the critical items. Hearing Loop – needed for church programming. Windows – repaired and installed. School – upcoming, we'll be tackling the wood.
- Question: Can we recruit high schoolers to help paint the kitchen?

8. Senior Warden's Report – Joe Sheehan

- Great, spectacular Holy week. School is in a better place; we're seeing positive momentum and a shift in the right direction.
- The endowment has been helpful, sustaining our work.

9. Rector's Report

- Liturgy for Holy Week is where we wanted it to be.
- Thanks to Joseph and the choir for creating a joyful environment.
- Grateful for Mother Sirota. Thankful for the McCarthys whose endowment makes the Holy Week preacher possible.
- Organ campaign – it's an exciting time to be at the church.

10. Approval of November 21, 2024, January 23, 2025 (budget meeting), March 20, 2025, Vestry meeting minutes

- Approved due to lack of quorum at last vestry meeting.

11. New Business

- Should we reconsider the timing of the March meeting in 2026 due to the Spring Break schedule?
- Retreat – could we disclose the cost of the retreat in advance?

12. Applause and Apologies

13. Closing Prayer

Notes submitted by Stephen Eisele