

Trinity Vestry Meeting

May 28, 2025 / Guild Hall, Trinity

Present: Elizabeth Molitors, Sarah Thomas, Georgia Noble, Keith Cobell, Sarah McCarter, Jay Casbon, Alex Thomas, Susan Kruttsch, Jean Davis, Ellen Whittet, Michael Arnold.

Absent: Michelle Petty, Susan Zink, Mark Ismond

Vestry meeting began following dinner with check-in and prayer.

With no additions, Jay Casbon moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Alex Thomas followed by unanimous approval.

Keith began by discussing April financials which show that Trinity has a net income of \$111,000, with investments performing well despite market volatility. It was agreed that there is no immediate need to change how we draw from funds but will review in the future if we see any concerning change in market values.

There has been a continuing issue with excess water flowing from an unknown source. A tool to track usage hour by hour is being implemented and plans are in place to meet with Steven Singleton, who was part of the team that designed the irrigation system, in hopes of finding a solution.

Elizabeth explained the history of the Web Fund, which is intended for elder subsidies. A member of the finance committee is concerned that some of the funds will be allocated to improve the parking lot which will create better access for handicapped individuals. Elizabeth explained that the fund has been used in the past for similar projects and that, in fact, there is a qualifier in the document that allows for this. She assured the Vestry that the fund balance is sufficient, and the project will not affect the ability to support individuals in need.

The Ex Nihilo Sculpture that was donated to Trinity by Jay and Theresa Means was discussed. To install it as a permanent fixture at Trinity would be costly

and there is some concern as to whether it fits the aesthetic of Trinity. A decision will be made as to whether it should be sold or installed after further conversation with Dane Goodman, who will be invited to the next meeting.

A unanimous vote was taken to support replacing the railing on the Micheltorena St. porch entrance. The project will be completed by Chapala Ironworks for \$2800.00

Elizabeth discussed her thoughts about taking a sabbatical and shared that she has chosen, instead, to take extra vacation time in lieu of a 12-week sabbatical.

The ministry fair was highly successful with many people signing up to participate in different ministries. Despite the challenges associated with holding the fair in close proximity to Holy Week, it has been decided that the event will continue to be scheduled in the spring.

Upcoming events and important dates

Next executive committee meeting: Tuesday, June 17, 2025

Upcoming activities: June 8: Graduation Sunday, Pentecost Sunday, last day for choir. June 15: Trinity Sunday

A motion was made by Ellen Whittet to approve the minutes and receive reports, seconded by Sarah McCarter. All in favor, the motion passed.

Following compline, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35

Submitted by Sarah McCarter, Vestry Clerk

Agenda for June 25, 2025, Vestry Meeting

| Tim ing | Agenda Item | Who? |
|-------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| 5:30 - 6 pm | Dinner & check-in | Georgi a |
| 6 - 6:10 pm | Devotional | Michael Arnold |
| 6:10 - 6:15 pm | Touchstones | All |
| 6:15 - 6:20 pm | Approve the evening's agenda | Elizabe th |
| 6:20 - 6:30 pm | Financial Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May financials • Audit team has begun work | Keith Elizabe th |
| 6:30 - 7:00pm | <p>Questions and discussion about the Ex Nihilo sculpture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Links re: Ex Nihilo sculpture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is the piece we have. Price is set by the gallery, and doesn't necessarily mean that's what we'd get. https://www.1stdibs.com/art/sculptures/figurative-sculptures/frederick-hart-ex-nihilo-fragment-3-frederick-hart-figurative-bronze-sculpture-43x31x18/id-a_6507142/?qQT=1 • The piece we have is a bronze reproduction of one of the figures in this frieze (tympanum - a vertical <u>recessed triangular</u> space forming the center of a <u>pediment</u>, typically decorated) at the Washington National Cathedral https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Creation_of_mankind_-_tympanum_-_west_facade_-_National_Cathedral_-_DC.jpg • Frederick Hart's website: https://frederickhart.com/ • Hart's Wikipedia entry: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frederick_Hart_(sculptor) | Elizabe th, Dane Goodm an |
| 7:00 - 7:15pm | Leadership Retreat, Best Practices Small Group Formation | Georgi a |

| | | |
|---------------------------|--|------------------|
| 7:15 - 7:20 pm | Consent agenda: approve the minutes and financials; receive the reports Upcoming events and important dates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NO EXEC COMMITTEE or VESTRY MEETING IN JULY • Next Exec Committee meeting is August 19 • Next Vestry meeting is Wednesday, August 27 • Upcoming activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 29 - Asman 50th, Mark preaches • July 13 - David Richo at post-service forum • August 29 / 30 - Leadership retreat | Elizabeth |
| 7:20 - 7:25 pm | Last paragraph of Touchstones - how did we do? | Georgia |
| 7:25 - 7:30 pm | Prayer concerns, Compline | All |

The Touchstones, to be read at the beginning of each meeting, are a set of guidelines and agreements for how to “be” together to create a safe, trustworthy, healthy environment for the important work at hand: to nurture and support the well-being of the parish. The Touchstones acknowledge that our relationships are as important as the tasks at hand.

A Working Draft of Trinity Vestry & Parish Council Meeting Touchstones

Extend and receive welcome. People work best in hospitable spaces where they know their presence, opinions, feelings, and ideas are welcome. We welcome the radical notion that our meetings invite Spirit to enter into and guide our work together.

Be present as fully as possible. Trust builds when we show up well prepared and on time. Invest in the task at hand. Turn off cell phones and computers, and be as present to each other, and ourselves, as possible.

Listen deeply to others. Pay close attention to how you listen to each other’s ideas, emotions, and body language. Pause between speakers, invite voices that have not yet been heard, and value what you are hearing from others as much as what you want to say. Use mutual invitation when needed.

Speak your truth in ways that respects other people’s truth. Our views of reality may differ; there is great value in hearing all voices present in the room. Speak for yourself only, using “I” statements, do not interrupt when another is speaking, and be willing to be influenced by each other’s ideas and wisdom. Ask for a time of silent reflection when needed.

When the going gets rough, turn to wonder. If you find yourself being “triggered” or strongly reacting while another person is speaking, pause and look at yourself. Ask, “I wonder what that touched in me?” “I wonder why they think in that way?” “I wonder what my reaction teaches me about myself?” Set aside judgment to listen to others—and to yourself—more deeply.

Observe confidentiality regarding any personal sharing. Safety and trust grow when we know that what is said about our personal lives will not be repeated outside this meeting.

Commit to supporting each other and focus on solutions. When you find yourself complaining it is a signal that something is off course for you. Do your best to take your concern directly to the person or persons that it relates to. Who might be able to do something about your concern? Be solution oriented. If you have a complaint, what do you want, and what are at least two solutions? Assume good intentions all around.

Invite a check-in at end of each meeting. The Touchstones are ideals we wish to maintain, but when we understandably fall short, they also serve as a chance to see where we need to grow. Build into the agenda time to process the meeting. How did our process go? How was I in the meeting? What touchstone helped me/us in this meeting? Was there any place I/we went “off course”? What Touchstone was violated? How might I/we improve our ways of being together?