

Trinity Vestry Meeting Minutes

Vestry Meeting

March 24, 2026 / Guild Hall, Trinity

Present: Elizabeth Molitors, Sarah Thomas, Brian Bargiel, Michael Neal Arnold, Keith Cobell, Sarah McCarter, Jean Lange-Davis, Alex Thomas, Jay Casbon, Ellen Whittet, Fred Williams, Lucy Bell, Clare Carey-Pesani, Carol Ann Manzi.

Absent: Michelle Petty, Claude Garciacelay

Opening

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM following a meal prepared by Jay Casbon and Sarah McCarter. Ellen Whittet led the group in the evening's devotional.

Agenda Approval and Financial Overview

Elizabeth noted that information about one of the agenda items was not included in the packet so this will be postponed until the next meeting. Pursuant to this change, Ellen Whittet moved to approve both the minutes and agenda, with Fred Williams seconding the motion. The vestry unanimously approved the minutes and agenda as amended.

The treasurer, (Keith Cobell), opened a discussion on the financials, highlighting a positive budget variance and the importance of the Brackenbury Fund for managing potential economic downturns. The vestry approved a motion to reallocate 10% of US equities to non-US equities for diversification. The importance of socially responsible investing was highlighted, ensuring funds are not invested in objectionable companies. Keith explained the budget variance as an effort to better project large expenditures. The question was raised as to why the pledge income is 122% of the budget. He suggested this is likely due to members using tax planning strategies and/or frontloading their donations in the first 3 months of the year.

Keith also shared information about the prevalence of elder financial abuse, recommending that we incorporate community training for this issue.

Elizabeth introduced the Parochial Report, explaining its purpose and the data collected. She discussed the accuracy of the data and the importance of the report for the diocese. Brian Bargiel moved to approve the report, seconded by Sarah McCarter and followed by unanimous approval of the vestry.

Leadership Retreat

Sarah Thomas opened a discussion about the recent leadership retreat and welcomed feedback from the Vestry members that attended. It was considered by most to be a positive experience, with members feeling more connected and accepted. Suggestions for future retreats include more visibility from the parish council, workshops on centering prayer, and discussions on leadership and ethics.

Parish Council Transitions and New Leaders

Sarah talked about the Justice and Outreach Council and included issues that have been challenging for the group. Jeffrey Krutzsch has stepped down from his position as co-chair of JOC and Brian Bargiel plans to step in as interim co-chair alongside Ralph Armbruster. Jeffrey will transition to a new role as chair of the Worship Ministries Council.

Mary Gibson is stepping down from her long running role as co-chair of the Children and Youth Council. Ashley Miller will assume this position beside Kristen Foell; the transition will take place during the summer.

The goal going forward is that these positions will be rotated every few years as is done by the Vestry.

Consent Agenda and Upcoming Events

Fred Williams moved to approve the agenda, financials, and receive the reports. Alex Thomas seconded the motion, followed by unanimous vestry approval.

The Holy Week services informed the discussion of upcoming events.

Following prayer concerns and compline, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM

Submitted by Sarah McCarter, Vestry Clerk