

VESTRY MEETING MINUTES

St. James' Parish, Waimea, Hawai'i Island

Monday, February 23, 2026, 12 PM in St. James' Church

Present: Terri Greenwell, Marnie Keator+, Katie Fendel, Harry Morley, Donna Brown, Melanie Rufo, Pat Anderson, Ian Hersey (Jr. Warden), David Stout+, Tim Bostock (Guest)

Excused: Linda Lundgren+, Michael Thompson, Hans L'Orange

At 12:08 PM David opened the meeting and began with an exercise of focus in asking the Vestry "what might it look like to make decisions out of a place of belovedness rather than fear? How do we measure ourselves?" A great example was the Thrift Store, in that they have a prayer book and it's not about counting the number of people in the store, but rather how many lives had been touched. The video that is on our website is also a great example of the stories of the people who have been impacted by the Community Meal, and this is especially fitting given that we will be showing belovedness in the discernment of the Chock property.

The minutes from January 20, 2026 meeting were then presented. Terri motioned to approve and Donna seconded. The motion carries unanimously. Also entered into the minutes the recording of the unanimous Vestry vote via email 1/29 to enter into contract with Alert Alarm to provide security for campus. Entered into the minutes was the recording of the unanimous Vestry vote via email 2/20 to move \$400K of the Robertson Estate funds to the Gathering Place.

Worship & Sacraments: The Heart of All We Are and Do was then discussed. Jeremy Noller & Katherine Schmitt were married on Saturday, February 14th, 3:15 PM in Puako. David officiated. Joanne Coon entered into Glory on Thursday, January 8th. The internment was held Friday, February 13 at 10 AM, funeral held on Saturday, February 14 at 10 AM at St. James'. A funeral and paddle out for Deborah Withers' husband Neil Withers, daughter Lauren Withers, and grandson Ashai, to be held at the Kawaihae Canoe Club, March 7, at 9:30 AM. David officiating. Astrid Caruso & Chris Lynch's child, Marion May Caruso-Lynch, was baptized at the Beach Mass on January 10th. Lew & Pat Chartrand's grandchild, Adeline Helen Melton, was baptized at Beach Mass on January 17th.

Other special and services commended to Vestry's attention include the weekend of Jan 24 & 25, Bishop Fitzpatrick's visitation to Beach Mass & St. James'. The 9:30 AM service included the confirmation of Bea Feliciano and Colleen Norris. Deborah Murakami had her confirmation received into the Episcopal Church, and Melanie Rufo reaffirmed her baptismal vows. Feb 14, 5 PM Beach Mass included Renewal of Marriage Vows.

On Feb 18, Ash Wednesday included distribution of ashes at St. James' Church from 7-9 AM, distribution of ashes at Kawaihae Small Boat Harbor (in front of KCC) from 7-8 AM, and Noon Eucharist at St. James'. A 5:30 PM Eucharist was held at St. Columba's. On March 8, Bishop Fitzpatrick's visitation to St. Columba's will be held, and Andrew Dupaya, Isaac Duyaya, and Melissa Levitan are scheduled to be confirmed.

In the area of Outreach, Fellowship, and Youth & 'Ohana Ministries, the next Teen Tech will be held on Sunday, March 8, from 10:30 AM-12 PM in the back of Spencer Building. In the area of Fellowship, Feb 17th Shrove Tuesday/Pancake Supper was held at St. Columba's. Mahalo to Rick Fendel for chairing and to all the men for helping! And to the women of St. Columba's supervising the men!!!! 😊

Thrift Store & Bookstore Ministries were discussed. Mahalo to Rona and Bri for their leadership. In the area of Community Meal Ministries, Tim provided an update for the Waimea Community Meal. Due to the termite tenting of the church the week of March 9th, there will be no deliveries or takeout meals for the Thursday, March 12th meal. The Meal Ministry Team will be asking Dominoes, Underground and Pau Pizza for pizzas. There will also be the Kohala Food Hub boxes for 45 families. This week's meal is Lauya (pork and cabbage). Tim also provided an update on the tent that will be used for the Community Meal during the Gathering Place construction. It is expected to arrive in the first part of March. Needed vote on where and when to put up. Vestry discussed where the tent would be placed. The 30x50' tent will be placed between the cemetery and the white picket fence; it was half the

price of Big Island Tents. The tent sides will have windows. A motion was moved by Katie that upon receipt of the tent, it be installed in the area East of the cemetery on or around the second week of March. Terri seconded. Motion was amended to include the temporary removal of the picket fence. All in favor. Motion carries unanimously. Jaisy to talk to Frankie about having the person who is repairing the section of fence in front of Waimea Country School remove the portion of the fence where the tent is going to be. Discussion ensued about the containers and where they will be moved. The vestry is aware that one of the Community Meal storage containers will need to be moved to near the Thrift Store and the other will be relocated near the Parish Office. The St. Columba's Community Meal is Tuesday, March 10, and the menu is chili and rice and corn.

In the area of Adult Spiritual Formation, the Confirmation/Newcomer/Inquirer's Class continues Tuesdays from 5-6 PM via ZOOM. Mahalo to Cathy McPherson-Tamos for leading. Wednesday Men's Bible Study has restarted. We will continue to offer through Lent. Friday Women's Bible Study continues. The Prayer Ministry led by Aimee Love and Monica Newcomb is meeting in St. James' church on Tuesdays at 7 AM. For the 2026 Lenten program: The Right Rev. (Bishop) Gillies is in residence until March 29, to lead our Lenten Program at St. Columba's & St. James'. "All Shall Be Well". Using David and Bobby's car. Mahalo to Rick & Katie Fendel for providing accommodations for 2 ½ weeks. Mahalo to the Conley 'Ohana for offering accommodations for the next two weeks. +Bob will stay at David and Bobby's when they are away for a week in March.

Regarding Newcomers & Evangelism, Welcome new members Weekend was held Saturday & Sunday, February 7 & 8 and February 14 & 15, we welcomed Andrew and Anara Allen, Dakota Rivera, Doreen King, Nanene Ching, Patricia Jaeger, Chris & Debra Simmons, Alex Van Ella, Debbie Murakami, Kim Cooke, David Cooke, Cathy Klarin, Florence Hausman & Belinda Hodge.

Vestry then reviewed the Parochial Report for 2025. God bless you Donna for preparing the Parochial Report! A motion was made by Katie for provisional acceptance of the parochial report as currently presented, pending the completion of the optional financial section that we are waiting on from Michael. The motion was seconded by Terri. Donna will be asking for an email vote in the affirmative.

Tim and Ian provided an update on The Gathering Place. An all-Parish Meeting was held this past Sunday, February 22. \$791,000 is needed from additional fundraising to meet the hard goal of \$6,626,000 which is what is needed to begin construction. Amount raised to date (which includes the \$400K & expected \$150K in grants): \$5,835,000 including the \$300,000 Matching Challenge gift from Harry Morley. Mahalo Harry!

Vestry was asked at what point do you feel comfortable signing the contract. \$5 Million is what we are asking Vestry when we hit a target of \$6 Million. Ian shared that he is comfortable setting the contingency of \$250K plus \$100K in donations. Additionally, how long do we keep the challenge grant open? A motion was made by Donna to conclude the Matching Grant Challenge on Easter Sunday. Katie seconded. Motion carries unanimously.

A conversation then ensued regarding how much of the needed amount left to be raised did we need to have in hand before the vestry is comfortable signing the construction contract. This conversation led to the vestry discerning that God is calling us to move forward in faith by approving the contract trusting that the remaining funds to complete the project will come. Harry moved that the Vestry authorizes the construction committee to present the contract to the Diocese and our counsel for review. Ian seconded. Email vote to request that the Diocese sign the contract. Motion carries unanimously. Motion was made to present the contract to the Diocese. Marnie then led the Vestry in a prayer of Thanksgiving

- a) Easter Sunday blessing of the Savanak Pavilion and all our gratitude to God for what has been and what is to come will take place after the 9:30 AM service.
- b) A target date of construction to begin will be Easter Monday!
- c) Readyng the property during March. Moving the swing sets, containers, etc.. Tim to talk to Cisco about swing sets.

Finance & Treasurer's Report then took place. (see attached report & financials). Note from Michael: The January 31 balance sheet is to be adjusted to reduce acct. 1000 by \$1,200,000 and to increase acct. 1090 by \$1,200,000 to reflect an additional payment for the Chock property purchase.

There was no Sr. Warden's Report.

Ian then gave his Jr. Warden's Report (5 min)

- a) Thrift Store & Spencer Building to be tented for termites on Monday, March 9
- b) Church and Church Office to be tented on Tuesday, March 10
- c) Next available appointment for tenting of Small World Preschool Building (which includes Bookstore and Waimea Yoga) is Monday, July 20
- d) Update on the Chock Property
 - A walk through of the Chock property was conducted to check on the status of the locks and the very next day there had already been two break-ins. It isn't clear of occupants so we can't close. We need a 5-day period so that people don't come back. Ian is waiting on the Alert Alarm mobile security trailers. We don't know when the 5-day period can start. Mr. Chock may need to come up with another way. An option is 6 PM-6 AM 3 security guards for 8-hour shifts. Harry made motion to authorize Ian to direct through our agent Bill Jardine negotiations with the seller to satisfy the non-occupancy provision so that we can close. Donna seconded. Motion carries unanimously. David shared that he is in touch with Pohakuloa Training area for a possible cleanup.
- e) Update on return of St. Columba stained-glass window. It is being shipped from O'ahu. Looking like first or second week of March to arrive at Hilo port. Ian arranging pick up. Work being done by William to prepare for the window to be reinserted into space.

Marnie had nothing to report for her St. James' Associate Rector's Report.

David and Marnie then gave an update on Linda and Bob Lundgren. Prayers continue to be lifted for Bob's health. David is exploring options to cover the time Linda & Bob are away. He is in initial conversation with the Rev. Tom & Jean Buechele and the Rev. Brian McGurk.

David then continued into his Rector's Report. He wanted to make sure there is complete transparency on his vacation and continuing education/retreat time away. See page 4.

New business was then invited: Terri mentioned that we have fallen behind in hiring a Youth Keiki Coordinator and so many people have stepped up and aren't being compensated. How can we honor and thank them? It would make a difference. David and Jaisy to come up with a few options. The Vestry would like to recognize those who have been giving so generously of their time, energy, and resources

There was no Executive Session.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 23, 2026 at 12 Noon

Concluding Prayer was then offered.

At 1:59 PM Donna moved to adjourn. Harry seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Rector Time Away Tracking: Program Year: October 1 – September 30

Vacation	Dates Taken	Days Used
	Oct 13–17	5 days
	Jan 12–21	10 days (including 1 weekend)
	Total Used: 15 days. Remaining: 27 days (including 5 weekends)	

Cont. Education	Dates Taken	Days Used
	Feb 9–10	1½ days
	Total Used: 1½ days. Remaining: 12½ days (including 2 weekends)	

Upcoming Vacation Scheduled Time Away

March 9–16	1 week, including 1 weekend
April 6–14	1 week, including 1 weekend