

VESTRY MEETING MINUTES

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

Tuesday, September 23, 2025, 2 PM

Present: Fr. David, Harry Morley, Jackie Minto, Ian Hersey, Michael Thompson, Pat Anderson, Linda Lundgren, Hans L'Orange, Katie Fendel, Melanie Rufo, Marnie Keator

Excused: Terri Greenwell

At 2:05 PM David called the meeting to order and began with the prayer. He then led the Vestry in an exercise of focus by asking the Vestry to share a share a high, a low and halleluiah from the previous week.

The minutes from the August 19 meeting were then presented. Katie moved to accept the minutes, Harry seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Worship & Sacraments was discussed, with the following commended to Vestry's attention:

- Bishop Fitzpatrick's visit to Beach Mass & St. James' morning services is moved to weekend of Jan 24 & 25, 2026. We did this because the October date is Ironman Weekend. The 9:30 AM service will include confirmations & receptions.
- A memorial service for Butchie Berdon was held on September 13 at Spencer Beach Park and Marnie officiated.
- A memorial service for Rosaria Tabucbuc was held on Friday, October 10 into Saturday, October 11 at St. Columba's
- Over the next couple of months there are events that will necessitate our cancelling Beach Mass those evenings: Oct 11 – Ironman & Nov 22 – KCC (Kawaihae Canoe Club) Lu'au.
- Other special and upcoming services to note include on September 27 there will be an induction of members to the Daughters of the King Ministry at Beach Mass.
 - On Oct 4 & 5 we will celebrate the Feast of St. Francis and Blessing of the Animals.
 - Nov 1 & 2 is All Saints' Weekend.
 - Dec 21, 9:30 AM, Keiki Christmas Pageant at St. James'.
 - Dec 24, Christmas Eve, 5 PM Christmas Eve Beach Mass, 5:30 PM Christmas Eve Service at St. Columba's, 7 PM Christmas Eve Service at St. James',
 - Dec 25, 9 AM, Christmas Day Service at St. James',
 - Jan 10, Baptisms at Beach Mass. (Feast of the Baptism of our Lord). Astrid & Chris Caruso's baby and on Jan 24 & 25, Bishop's visitation to Beach Mass & St. James'.

In the area of Outreach, Fellowship, and Youth & 'Ohana Ministries:

- for Keiki, Youth, & 'Ohana Ministries the Plant Sale Fundraiser, this coming Saturday, September 27th, 9 AM-12 PM. Susan Acacio and Laura Williams are co-chairing.
- Susan Acacio is retiring. Her last day will be October 31. We will honor her the weekend of October 31 & November 1 at the Beach Mass and St. James'. We are exploring the way forward with Keiki Youth Ministry.
- The Parish College Scholarship Recommendation from sub-committee was then discussed. The committee is made up of Hans L'Orange, Josh Anthony, Jackie Minto and Susan Acacio. Hans shared that we received 7 applications and that there is \$7K. He shared that each applicant could be awarded \$1000, but that there was a variety of effort put into the applications. Some used the form, typed up their applications, some didn't fill out the form. The committee wanted to know if preference should be given to the applicants who made more of an effort in the application. It was decided that since the application didn't specifically say that extra effort will be rewarded, that we should keep it even across the board, but that for next year we will have the application revised to reflect that preference is given towards inclusion of transcripts, description of what the money will be used for, detailed professionalism, extra effort will be rewarded. Vestry unanimously agreed to award each applicant \$1,000.

- Teen Tech started back up on Sunday, September 7th from 10:30 AM-12 PM in the back of Spencer. The next dates are Sunday, October 12, November 2 and December 7.
- In the Junior & Senior High Youth Ministry, Josh is doing great!
- For Halloween activities, the “Fall Family Fiesta” will be held at St. Columba’s from, 4-7 PM and the Trunk or Treat at St. James’, from 3-5 PM on Friday, October 31.
- November 26, Thanksgiving Day Lunch at St. James’, 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM.

In the area of Fellowship, the Sunset Beach Mass Pupu gathering was hosted by Melanie Rufo and Noah Fiorello on Saturday, September 20th. We will pause until the days again begin to lengthen. We’ll look for other ways to get together. Perhaps we could use the Canoe Club tent one evening as it has lights. A possible Winter Visitor Gathering was discussed as well. Hans will ask a few folks if they are interested in hosting. The “Fall into Christmas” bazaar will be held at St. Columba’s, October 18th, 8 AM - 2 PM. The Christmas Bazaar at St. James’, will be held on Saturday, December 6. Melissa Levitan, Patti Kim, Linda Rodriguez (Chairs).

- In the area of the Thrift Store & Bookstore Ministries, the “Community Closet” is being held at St. James’ on the Third Thursday of the month. David is working on a banner to have on hand to put up during the Community Meal.
- Regarding the Community Meal Ministries, some clarity will be explored this week on the Community Meal Ministries position descriptions. They need revising in light of all the changes since Gregory Koesterer’s death.
 - There will be no community meals on Thursday, December 25, and Thursday, January 1. St. Columba’s next meal to be held on Tuesday, October 14th.

In the area of Adult Spiritual Formation:

- “The Chosen” Study is held at St. Columba’s every Monday with pupus from 5 PM-5:30 PM and episode and discussion from 5:30 PM-7 PM.
- Men’s Bible Study continues. Women’s Bible Study at St. James’ resumed September 5.
- For the Advent program: Carl McColman will teach at St. Columba (Mondays) and St. James (Wednesdays) using his newest book, “Reading the Bible like a Mystic: A contemplative reading of Scriptures.” Housing being provided by Donna Brown as well as air miles for travel. Mahalo Donna. Carl and his wife will use David and Bobby’s car.
- Confirmation at Bishop’s visit. January- Our parish clergy are exploring the best way to offer a confirmation course.
- For the 2026 Lenten program: The Right Rev. (Bishop) Gillies and Liz to be in residence February 2-March 29th. He will lead our Lenten Program at St. Columba’s & St. James’. He is still fleshing out his teaching. Working title of “All Shall Be Well”--looking at themes of reconciliation and redemption as God's love is extended to those on the margins of society and for those of us who feel or who have been placed on the margins. +Bob will focus on particular individuals and their contexts in John's Gospel to help us reflect upon our needs and personal journeys in faith--or even, back to faith. We need housing for two months. Rick & Katie have offered their ‘ohana for two weeks (dates flexible depending on other places available). They will use David and Bobby’s car. We are exploring a retreat at KMC for two nights while Bishop Gillies is here.

Newcomer & Evangelism was discussed:

- St. Columba’s participated in the Peace Day Parade in Honoka’a on Saturday, September 20th Mahalo for participating.
- Participating in Christmas Parade, December 6. We will need many volunteers for the Christmas Bazaar and the Bucket Brigade in the Parade!
- On Saturday, December 13 and Sunday, December 14th Community Meal and TS Volunteer Recognition events. All Vestry members are encouraged to attend.

Michael, our Treasurer then shared his Treasurer's Report.

- The Finance committee met on September 19th.
- The Fall Stewardship Campaign will be from Oct 18/19 - Nov 15/16. The Gratitude/Stewardship Committee met this past Thursday, September 18th. Hans & Gerrit are chairing. It is a GREAT committee. They are preparing the letter. Envelopes will be addressed. They will be put out at services on Oct 18 & 19. Remaining will be mailed on October 20. 2025 Stewardship results: 165 pledging units/households for \$492K. 2026 Stewardship goal: \$490K. David encouraged Vestry members to please fill out a pledge envelope.
- Budgeting for 2026 calendar year has begun.-David will provide Vestry with a preliminary 2026 budget on 10/21, one week prior to the next Vestry meeting. One thing that will need to be considered is the impact that the Gathering Place construction will have on the revenue for the TS, expenses, etc. Vestry was also asked to please sign up to sign checks

Hans then shared his Sr. Warden's Report of thorns and roses. Shared about a homeless person setting up camp in the middle of the playground. Police department recommended that we put up signs which have to be within 100 visible feet of the entrances and exits. Hans also asked Vestry about where the Community Meal can be held during the Gathering Place construction. An idea was floated that we could do meals in the church building, move the pews. Ultimately it will be the decision of the Vestry based on recommendations from the Community Meal Committee and the Gathering Place committee.

Ian then offered his Jr. Warden's Report

- The Marshallese Congregation has been helping greatly with the Great Chicken Roundup. A phone call from Small World Preschool shared that two children received a bite from a chicken.
- We are asking for quotes for the termite tenting of Thrift Store, Church, Church Office and Spencer Building. Tenting and timing is still to be determined.
- The Church truck use policy was reviewed with preliminary approval requested with the understanding that the policy may be amended. Harry motioned to accept, and Jackie seconded. Truck policy was approved unanimously. The St. Columba's window is coming home! The Tiffinay cross window will remain at the Cathedral per the Bishop. The "St. Columba" window is coming back ASAP. How and where it is installed at St. Columba's needs to be decided.
- An update on the Gathering Place was shared. Permits update from Paul Donoho: "...while I did share the County's website claims they aim to have permits in hand by mid-November, for our planning purposes we should not count on them delivering on that date they provide. I'm more comfortable if everyone keeps in their minds an end of year permit delivery..."
- Ian shared that the Owner's Rep recommendation is Alex Woodbury and Ian asked Vestry for a vote on accepting the recommendation. Alex is not only a home inspector but has functioned as an Owners Rep on a couple of large builds. His start date will be October 20th. Everyone is very comfortable with the selection. Ian asked Vestry to approve their moving forward. Tim wanted to share that 1) Alex's liability coverage exceeds what we are asking for. He has talked to Rick Fendel about reviewing the contract/proposal. A question came up in Tim's mind, does this position need to be approved by the Diocese as would be expected for construction onstruction/Repair and Architect positions. He is a consultant to review and inspect. If vestry felt like approval should be requested, then he would recommend it. Alex is a consultant for us. Ian offered "Another affirming thing he (Ian) has heard is Alex's zeroing in on the work of the subs, that is the weak link. Harry was impressed with the hammering out of the final details with Alex without seeing the contract as long as Vestry was comfortable. Vestry endorses the hiring of Alex as Owners representative and retains the right to review the contract when available. Ian motioned, Jackie seconded. Owner Rep. Selection committee is made up of: Hans L'Orange, Ian Hersey, Kae Elledge, Tim Bostock, Brian Burke, and Paul Donoho. A Construction Committee has formed and is made up of Katie Fendel, Brian Burke, Alex Woodbury, Paul Donoho, Tim Bostock, Martha Kidd, Ian Hersey and Kae Elledge. Martha Kidd has provided a detailed spreadsheet of campus needs. Mahalo Martha! The Breaking ground target of January is at 60%. Colleen and Michael created a financial

chart of donations, pledges, grants to help us understand what funds we have on hand and what will be coming in by December 31. Waimea Country School has requested that a presentation be made to their teachers and students' parents for the purpose of questions being answered. Tim Bostock has offered to do the presentation. Regarding the St. James' Meal Ministry during construction, as Tim and Paul wrote in the parish newsletter on Friday, September 19th "...options are being explored, and while a drive-through format would be our last-resort fallback, the goal is to keep the in-person meal alive."

Marnie then offered her Associate Rector's Report by thanking all for the time away in September.

Linda Lundgren shared her St. Columba's Associate Rector's Report. Her time away was wonderful and all is going well with St. C's. We are very busy and all is going well. Large Filipino funeral for Rosaria Tabucbuc will be held on Friday, October 10 into Saturday, October 11.

David then shared his Rector's report:

- The Staff Morning Retreat was held on Wednesday, September 17 at Anna's Ranch. Mahalo to Steve Bess for the space.
- The Ordination Cathy McPherson-Tamos to the Transitional Diaconate this Saturday, September 27th, at 10 AM at the Church of the Holy Apostles, Hilo. Our parish clergy presenting.
- David & Bobby participating in the Moloka'i Hoe, weekend of October 11. Bobby on crew. David is an alternate.
- The Diocesan Convention is Friday, Oct 24 and Saturday, Oct 25 on O'ahu. The Delegates are: Ruth Smith, Sherry Dupaya, Hans L'Orange, Kristel Kunishige, and Sharon Cariaga-Alfonso. Bishop has requested all delegates remain at Convention until closing at 4 PM. The Rev. Brian McGurk will officiate and preach at Beach Mass on October 25th.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 28th at 2 PM in the church.

Vestry then shared the Concluding Prayer: O God our protector, by whose mercy the world turns safely into darkness and returns again to light: We give into your hands the decisions we have made, the dreams we are shaping and our unfinished tasks, you alone are our sure defense and bring us lasting peace in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

At 4:05 PM Ian motioned to adjourn, Pat seconded. Motion carries unanimously.