

Grace Episcopal Cathedral Minutes of the Vestry Meeting – September 17, 2024

Present: LeRoy Dagg, Vanessa Evans, Vanessa Hill, Alan Johnson, Mark Quintana, Arceile Ridgeway, Evelyn Wilson, David Woods, Canon Jody Carroll, Dean Torey Lightcap

August Minutes: *A motion was made and seconded to accept the August 2024 vestry minutes as presented. Motion unanimously carried.*

Treasurer's report: Lance was not able to be in attendance to present a report this month.

Conversation items:

- **Liturgical music:** LeRoy commented on the secular guitar piece that was played during communion in August and questioned the standard for music that is included in worship services. He has emailed Donald Livingston and is waiting to hear back.
- **Update on ride share:** Mark said response to an inquiry about providing rides to church for those unable to get there on their own has been sparse. There have been two requests for rides and one offer to give rides.
- **4th of July feedback:** Mark said he has heard positive comments about the return of the 4th of July service this year. The addition of a homily to the service was noticed, and the service music for each military branch was missed.
- **Prayer Ministry:** Other comments brought to Mark include the option of putting a last name or at least a last initial for those on the Cathedral prayer list; and the return of the prayer ministers to the Cathedral nave instead of in the Chapel. He also suggested that an explanation of the prayer ministry would be a good idea.
- **Youth mission:** Mark noted that the other downtown church youth groups had a summer mission project/trip. He would like to see community service as part of preparing for the Cathedral Youth Group's trip to England next year.

Tom Lewis estate: Peter Seddon, Cathedral member and employee of the Boy Scouts of America, spoke to the vestry in regards to money that will be distributed to the scouts from the Tom Lewis estate. An initial gift of nearly \$66,000 would be used to purchase handbooks for each new Scout in the Jayhawk Area Council for one year; to assist the completion of Phase 1 of the high ropes course restoration project plus a matching grant for subsequent phases of the project; to redevelop Unit 29 at Grace Cathedral; and money for the Scouts' permanent Council Endowment.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the submitted structure for use of the estate gift. Motion unanimously carried.

Great Spaces grant money: David Woods is working with Donald Livingston to secure grant money to support the Great Spaces music program. He is in the process of submitting a proposal to the following organizations:

- The Prairie Band Potawatomi Tribe
- Top City Arts Grants
- Kansas Arts and Industry Grants
- Topeka Community Foundation Grants
- Humphrey's Charitable Trust
- Arts Everywhere Grants
- Kansas Arts Commission Grants
- National Endowment for the Arts

They intend to ask for \$10,000 from most granting sources and \$50,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Canon's report: Jody reported that there are interesting and different Adult Forum classes coming up this fall and that she has enjoyed collaborating with the dean on this schedule. She has also been involved with the Labyrinth project at Bethany Gardens and is working with Sarah Shipman on the ministry at Brewster Place.

Dean's report

- Dean Torey was invited to participate in the next round of Leadership of Greater Topeka, but will have to pass this year due to conflicts. He hopes to be invited again next year.
- The dean is working with Julius Inman on a scouting award called "God and Country."
- The dean will be attending the North American Cathedral Deans from the Midwest conference in Omaha later in September to discuss the 2025 gathering of deans.
- Help is needed for the clerical portion of the Stewardship campaign this fall.
- The Blessing of the Animals will be held the afternoon of October 6 on the Bethany Garden grounds.
- A welcome dinner for newcomers will be held in early October.
- Diocesan Convention will be held in Wichita in October. Clergy and delegates will be attending, meaning an added expense for overnight stays.

Other business

- LeRoy asked if a ministry fair will be held this year. The answer is no, however a ministry brochure is in the works.
- Mark asked if the Cathedral is planning a Fall Festival or Trunk or Treat this year because First United Methodist Church would like to host Trunk or Treat.
- Alan asked if possible changes in calculating the Diocesan apportionment will come up at Convention in October. The dean said the Council of Trustees is currently focused on annual audit rules that could result in a savings realization for some parishes. Apportionment will come up in the near future though.

With no other business to conduct, the meeting concluded with prayer.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 15, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Robyn Room.

— Respectfully submitted by Connie Vosburgh, *Vestry Recorder*