

## **Grace Episcopal Cathedral**

### **Minutes of the Vestry Meeting – June 24, 2025 (Corrected Version)**

**Present:** David Woods, Rick Backlund, LeRoy Dagg, Eva Jenkins, Vanessa Evans, Lawton Nuss, Steve Wolgast, Norman Nellis, Dean Torey Lightcap, Canon Jody Carroll, Lance Royer (Treasurer)

The meeting was called to order with prayer.

**Welcome New Vestry Member, Lawton Nuss.** Lawton will serve the remainder of Evelyn Wilson's term ending in January 2027. He will also serve as the Vestry representative to the Endowment Trustees.

**Opening Study:** The opening study by Rick Backlund on the *Forward Day by Day* reflection for June 14, 2025, written by The Rev. Sarah Shipman, Priest Associate.

**May Minutes:** *A motion was made and seconded to accept the May 2025 vestry minutes as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.*

**Treasurer's report:** For the month of May, operating income was \$60,881.31, and operating expense was \$69,978.90 resulting in a negative balance of \$9,097.59. Operating income for the year 2025 is \$451,046.48, and operating expense for 2025 is \$441,229.98 resulting in a positive balance of \$9,816.50.

The Dean's discretionary account had an income of \$395.00 and expenditures of \$200.00, leaving a balance of \$641.26. The Canon's discretionary account had an income of \$798.00 and expenditures of \$100.00, leaving a balance of \$2,884.22. The Priest Associate's discretionary account had an income of \$0 and expenditures of \$0, leaving a balance of \$3,137.05.

Cash in the checking account on May 31, 2025, was \$14,100.18.

#### **Financial Updates:**

##### **Trust Company of Kansas:**

Since receiving approval at the last Vestry meeting, Treasurer Lance Royer has moved some funds from CoreFirst Bank & Trust and Capitol Federal Bank to the Trust Company of Kansas to begin our new investment process with the goal of earning roughly 2-3% more in interest moving forward.

##### **Current Building Maintenance & Expenses:**

- The LED lighting project - The lighting company is back to the drawing board to fix some of the current hiccups. There could be some slight additional fees that were originally not anticipated.
- Phones and Internet - We will be updating our phones and possibly internet soon.
- Quarterly Budget Update - We will begin preparing another quarterly budget update to the congregation for July.

**Sunflower Music Festival:** Senior Warden David Woods encouraged Vestry members to attend and enjoy the Sunflower Music Festival which features some internationally recognized musicians.

On a separate, yet musical note, The University of Kansas Chamber Choir earned top honors at the 14<sup>th</sup> International Krakow Choir Festival. Eduardo leads that choir. They earned two First Prize awards as well as the GRAND PRIX award which is the overall prize for the entire competition of over 30 choirs. That also earned them €1,000 and a qualification to the 2026 World Choral Championship in Krakow.

## **Juneteenth Service – Sunday, June 22**

LeRoy Dagg provided an update and thanked those involved. Becoming Beloved Community members were satisfied with how the services went, especially the 10:30 a.m. service.

LeRoy Dagg also shared his observations and experience during services in recent weeks since retiring as a livestream operator. He revisited the topic of liturgical changes and how they may impact congregational participation. A discussion followed.

**Letter from the Bishop from June 12, 2025** – Copies of the letter to the diocese concerning the current political climate were provided to Vestry members for awareness in case a Vestry member is asked about it by a parishioner. The letter shares more insight into understanding her call to action in these times.

### **Canon's report**

- Canon Jody has remained canonically resident in the Diocese of West Missouri the past two years while serving at Grace. Her diocese of canonical residence was transferred to Kansas from West Missouri by permission of Bishop Amy Daffler Meaux. Canon Jody is now canonically resident in the Diocese of Kansas, which allows her to be involved in its governance and to vote at the annual Diocesan Convention.

### **Dean's report**

- We will have a couple of clergy from the Diocese of West Missouri in coming months.
  - This Sunday, a regional pulpit swap with Dean Andy Keyse from Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral in Kansas City, Missouri.
  - In November, Bishop Amy Daffler Meaux will be our preacher.
- Deborah Hill, a New Testament scholar, will preach on September 7 when we read Philemon.
- July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration at 10am – Our guest speaker is Eric McHenry, poet laureate for the State of Kansas 2015-17. We will also have a community choir, brass, and more.
- Visited with Mike and Evelyn Wilson in their new home at Brewster Place.
- We have seen a greater number of homeless persons in this part of the city. Camping ordinances start a block east of here and extend toward downtown, and we've had some tents and other items recently appear on the grounds. We want to ensure we are maintaining a welcoming environment for our parishioners and for visitors of our Saturday morning ministries. This is being done in tandem with the diocese.
- Accepted to the Search Committee for the new Bishop and will serve as Co-Chair. This is an increase of responsibility and time, so if anyone has an urgent request in the coming months, please reach out by phone or text.
- David was recently on the news talking about the Sunflower Music Festival.
- July Vestry Meeting – Does the Vestry feel the need to meet in July? The Vestry agreed that we can cancel the July meeting, and only add it back in if it is needed. *A motion was made and seconded to cancel the July Vestry meeting. Motion was approved (7 Yes, 1 No, 0 Abstain.)*
- England trip – The trip went well, and was a wonderful expansive opportunity for the youth, likely lifechanging. He is extremely glad for the way the congregation has supported and interacted with the youth.

**The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.** in the Robyn Room, unless it is determined that a July meeting is needed.

— Respectfully submitted by Cassie Carlson, *Vestry Recorder*