

Grace Episcopal Cathedral

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting – September 16, 2025

Present: David Woods, Rick Backlund, Arcielle Ridgeway, Eva Jenkins, Vanessa Evans, Steve Wolgast, Norman Nellis, Dean Torey Lightcap, Canon Jody Carroll

The meeting was called to order with prayer.

Opening Study: Eva Jenkins presented a lesson from Henri Nouwen.

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

Treasurer's report: For the month of August, operating income was \$55,470.05, and operating expense was \$101,928.41 resulting in a negative balance of \$46,458.36. Operating income for the year 2025 is \$728,708.82, and operating expense for 2025 is \$724,618.55 resulting in a positive balance of \$4,090.27.

The Dean's discretionary account had an income of \$545.00 and expenditures of \$100.00, leaving a balance of \$3,928.31. The Canon's discretionary account had an income of \$695.00 and expenditures of \$637.89, leaving a balance of \$2,721.11. The Curate's discretionary account was closed and the remaining balance of \$3,137.05 was divided between the Dean's and Canon's discretionary accounts. This was done two months ago.

Cash in the checking account on August 31, 2025, was \$28,067.20.

Vacancy in Vestry membership

Dean Lightcap reminded vestry members of an email previous sent on September 3, that LeRoy Dagg informed Senior Warden, David Woods, that he would be stepping down as a Vestry member. The Executive Committee discussed the letter, and clergy reached out to LeRoy in case he wanted to discuss it further. No response was received in return. Senior Warden Woods emailed him back as well thanking him for his service. Canon Carroll also sent a message. The Executive Committee discussed that the best course of action would be to leave the seat open for the remaining four months until nominations for the new year open since his three-year term ends in January. *A motion was made and seconded to accept LeRoy Dagg's resignation, and to wait until the annual meeting to fill the position. The motion was unanimously approved.*

Update on LED Conversion Lighting Project:

The project is still pending some portions, although the original goal was to have the project completed by early summer. Treasurer Lance helped get some answers from the contractors, and the project is moving forward.

Endowment Fund Update

Lawton Nuss, representative on the Endowment Trustees committee, recommends we hold tight on making any decisions on any reallocations due current tariffs and other potential financial impacts out of our control.

Prayer List Request

Lawton Nuss requested to be more specific on the reading of the names on the prayer list especially when two or more people share a first name. Dean Lightcap gave insight into why we moved to first names only during the pandemic when colleagues of his shared that there's a potential for people on the prayer list to be preyed upon if their full name is listed. Our bulletin is posted on the livestream page of our website. Dean Lightcap suggested that a good solution moving forward is to add the first initial of the person's last name to any duplicate first names.

50th Anniversary of the 1975 Fire Update

Senior Warden Wood provided an update that roughly 15 firefighters who worked the 1975 fire, and their families, will join us for the anniversary celebration on November 23. He will continue to seek out any additional firefighters who may be interested.

Diocesan Convention and Apportionment

Convention will be held in Overland Park this year. Delegates are Rick Backlund and Ruth Ohm. Alternates are Kathy Slawson and Jackie Sommers. All four clergy are going—Dean Lightcap, Canon Carroll, Deacon Chubb, and Deacon Edwards.

A book with the budget and apportionment schedule is available for download. Canon Carroll has filed for election to the Council of Trustees. When there is no bishop, the Council of Trustees fulfills the duty of running the diocese with the exception of some key responsibilities of bishop. Dean Lightcap is running for General Convention. This is his fifth time running, and would be his fourth time serving if accepted. It would be a heavier responsibility in 2027.

Dean Lightcap offered an update on the diocesan apportionment process, and his participation in working to implement a new system to capture more funding for the Cathedral's direct ministries.

Canon's report

- Created a timeline for the stewardship process.
- Adult forum is planned through end of October, and we will continue to build out through winter and spring.
- The Diocesan task force on Justice, Welcome, and Inclusion has asked Kay and LeRoy Dagg to lead a separate Sacred Gound session just for members

Dean's report

- August Update
 - Thanked Jody for all she did in August while he was away
 - Spent time writing on the topic of funeral homilies.
 - Moved his daughter to college.
 - Listed house for sale, sold with contingent offer, found a new house, with two closings now scheduled.
 - Thankful to have had enough time away to gain new perspective.
- Asked if the group was okay with moving future meetings to Bubb Room due to distractions outside the Robyn Room windows. All agreed.
- Impressed with the recent Ministry Fair. Big thanks to Ruth Ohm and Jan Irby.
- Updates to Kent's position(s) as he heads towards retirement. He currently leads three roles from finance and facilities management to Verger. He is a wealth of knowledge. Four decades of serving Grace Cathedral.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. in the Bubb Room.

— Respectfully submitted by Cassie Carlson, *Vestry Recorder*