

Christ Church
Vestry Minutes
Tuesday, Aug 26th, 2025
5:15pm via Zoom and Formation + Arts Room #106

Present: The Rev. Thomas Reeder, The Rev Amy Slater, and The Laura Magevney; **Messrs.** Brownlee, Evanger, Gagnon, Long, Parker, Shepherd, Udelhofen; **Mmes.** Blackman, Burnside, Fouts, Loeb, Toonk, and Waller.

Absentees: The Rev Andreis Diaz, Wilson, and Zerebny

Guests: Rev Quinlan, Parker Wheeler, and Mel Johnson.

Welcome and Opening Prayer: All

- Jack Parker called the meeting to order at 5:16 pm with the Vestry prayer.
- Introduced Parker Wheeler, Youth Director

Declaration of the Quorum: Jack Parker

- Quorum established.

Spiritual Presentation/Reflection: Kathy Blackman

- Shared a reflection.

Consent Agenda: All

- June 2025 Vestry Minutes.
- June and July 2025 Financials
 - Discussed status vs budget.
 - How is monthly budgeted revenue determined – flatlined by month or other method?
 - It is based on the percentage of revenue received by month the prior year.
- 2025 KPIs – None presented
 - **Move to approve consent agenda items; seconded and approved.**

Rector's 5 Minutes: Rev Reeder

- Last week's children choir debuted.
- Recently the staff did an Enneagram event.
- Tremendous amount of activity and programming underway as we get back into the new school year.

Wednesday Night Dinner Ministry: David Gagnon and Mel Johnson

- Mel Johnson has single-handedly resurrected the Wed Night Dinners.
- Discussed the rev vs exp per semester. Reviewed typical and average attendance.
- Meals have now been planned out in advance.
- Discussion - how do we further leverage this terrific ministry to get more young families engaged?
- Mel noted that scaling the food to serve a larger group is not an issue.
- Discussed several options/ideas.
- We are resurrecting the ice cream bar and will need more volunteers.
- Discussed the idea of serving beer and wine. Some very strong opposition was voiced.
- Childcare is extremely important and is the key barrier to growth at this point.
 - Does that mean staff nursery or Christian Formation or youth volunteers?
- Three points to work on and then decide:
 - Childcare solution; maybe have nursery open for children less than 5yrs old.
 - Specific strategies/tactics to double the number of young families who attend
 - Decision on serving beer/wine

Children/Youth/Family Ministry Update: Rev Magevney

- Children Ministries:
 - Significant growth and engagement.
 - Currently have 102 active families connected with our programs.
 - Translates to an average attendance of around 200 children for larger events.
 - Amy Schmitt sends texts to families for events – best way to communicate and engage the parents.
 - Highlights:
 1. VBS: We had over 200 participants. The event was supported by a team of 62 youth volunteers and another 51 adults.
 2. Children's Church: We are consistently seeing an average of approximately 20 kids attending Children's Church on Sundays.
 3. Upcoming Events: Looking ahead to fall, we have 25 third graders receiving Bibles in September. Our Christmas pageant last year had 77 kids participating, and we anticipate a similarly strong turnout this year.
 - Amy S. is committed to growing our program, by striving to continue to build meaningful, personal connections
- Youth:
 - Discussed recent history of youth directors.
 - The numbers:
 - 74 fall, 86 spring youth not including visitors attended Wed or Sun at least once.
 - 8 avg on Sundays, high of 20 and low of 2.
 - 21 avg Wed.
 - Numbers didn't drop with the departure of Brooks, looking at 2024 KPIs.
 - Mission House is the 1st Friday of the month and there are 5-10 youth.
 - Creation of Youth Leadership Council
 - 12 in youth confirmation, 8 confirmed, hosted Diocesan Youth Retreat.
 - Youth at Happening attending or on team all 3 dates.
 - 25 youth participated in the Youth workday and Lock-in in February.
 - 56 in Hometown Mission Week (38 in previous year)

Bridge Institute – Fall 2025 Plans: Rev Magevney

- Building on last year's event.
- Eliza Griswold, daughter of Presiding Episcopal Bishop Frank Griswold. She will be here Thursday, November 13th.
 - Pulitzer Prize winning author, journalist, and poet.
 - She is fun and engaging.
- No dinner, in stead a wine and cheese book signing.
- Partnering with the Cathedral bookstore and others in the event.
- She is going to do a Podcast with Deacon Quinlan.

Strategic Plan Development Update: Jim Evanger

- The plan if to tweak and update our current Strategic Plan which was a 2020 – 2025 plan. We do not envision a major overhaul
- Committee has met several times and agreed on 4 broader themes with the goal of how does Christ Church continue to improve on our objective of making more and better disciples of Christ
 - Membership: What can we do to enhance it?
 - Offerings/Programming
 - Impacting others: community center, outreach, etc.
 - Financial management: being good stewards of our resources
- Next step is to meet with a broad cross-section of the different Christ Church constituencies to explain the 4 themes and illicit their feedback and insights. From their feedback we will determine the actionable

items over the next 5 years.

- We will be presenting those updates at the October vestry meeting.

Fall Stewardship Campaign: Mike Shepherd

- Building on last year's theme: Building Together
- This year's theme: Grow Together
- Brochure and weekly emails.
- Kick-off is Sept 21st
- In-Gathering will be Oct 16th.
- Three prongs: Church operations, church maintenance, and legacy.

Other Business and/or Questions and Answers: All

- Organ update.
 - Committee met today.
 - Met with the 2 organ companies.
 - Quiet campaign after Stewardship.
- Two Wednesday Night Dinners for the Vestry to volunteer: October 22nd and December 10th.

Prayer and Adjournment:

- Adjourned the meeting in prayer at 6:44 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda Toonk, Vestry Registrar