

December 11 2025 Vestry Minutes

IN ATTENDANCE

Sue Bowron (via Zoom)
Jim Bradley
Jo Brewer
Jim Brim (via Zoom)
Steve Carlson
Stuart Deaderick, Sr. Warden (via Zoom)
Cheryl Kelley (taking notes)
Helen Scovill
Anita Smith
Jason Voyles
Jeff Whalen (via Zoom)
Rob Harris

ABSENT

Kimberley Boyd, Jr. Warden
Amy Munn, Treasurer

STAFF PRESENT

Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham - Rector
Rev. Dr. Brandon Nonnemaker - Assoc. Rector

Rev. Dr. Stuart Higginbotham opened the meeting with a prayer and benediction at 6:30 p.m.

APPROVALS

1. The appointment of Rob Harris as Vestry Clerk was approved unanimously. (Higginbotham/Voyles)
2. The financial reports for October and November 2025 and minutes from October 2025 were approved unanimously with one amendment from Jason Voyles to substitute Jeff Whalen's name for outgoing member Darlene Hauserman. (Carlson/Brewer)
3. The Vestry unanimously approved via email on 12/24/2025 the 2026 clergy housing allowance of \$40K for Higginbotham and \$25K for Nonnemaker. (Voyles/Kelley)

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Formation & Discipleship: Nonnemaker and Higginbotham provided update

- Youth Friendsgiving and wreath making events were well attended in November
- Caroling party at Lanier Village Estates Christmas Pageant coming up this month
- Parish members attended Godly Play training at Cathedral in November and five parishioner confirmations done at Cathedral early December
- Stuart investigating van rental to take parishioners to Cathedral Evensong for parish outing
- New Sunday 12-week forum focusing on imagination and creativity starting January

2. Building/Grounds: Carlson provided update

- November meeting recommendations to be presented to Finance: proposed approximate \$60K budget to cover safety and appearance repairs including but not limited to: plaza sitting wall, playground, HVAC, parking lot, lighting and alarm system
- Higginbotham noted there may be a surplus available from 2025 budget to help cover aforementioned items that can be moved into the Building Reserve Fund
- Higginbotham led discussion on potential changes to physical key and keypad systems on campus

3. Stewardship: Higginbotham provided update

- Pledge totals are outpacing last year's YOY
- Carlson noted the need to have key points on stewardship calls and to be able to assist parishioners who may have trouble using church website resources
- Higginbotham and Carlson led discussion re: Pals and prospects lists and outreach to parishioners with a history of pledges who have not yet pledged
- Working group plan analyzing compensation comparables for clergy and staff and budget to present recommendations to Finance committee next month
- Slate of vestry nominees has been set for next year

4. Outreach: Higginbotham provided update

- WeGo voucher support system has been successful
- Bradley reported that Unity Project has been effective connecting homeless with medical care

5. 2026 Vision & Planning: Higginbotham provided update

- Annual Meeting scheduled for February 1 at 9:30 a.m.; 2027 & 2028 Annual Meetings planned evening

- 2026 Vestry will conduct vision & planning sessions to coincide with bicentennial
 - Items discussed will include reimagining worship services, membership growth opportunities, and other relevant topics
6. Other items:
- Higginbotham noted the Athens trip incurred extra travel costs that may require a voucher amount from the designated formation fund. Voyles stated that the voucher would require a vote
 - Voyles mentioned a proposal that Wilheit Fund at the Community Foundation switch into a different type of investment fund and expects a presentation in January

Meeting was closed with a prayer by Nonnemaker at 7:33 p.m.