

**VESTRY MINUTES**  
**Grace and St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**

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**NOTE:** The meeting was available on Zoom for those unable to attend in person.

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**Present:** Bob Bergner (Rector), Renee Janes (Senior Warden), Susan O'Connell (Junior Warden), Linda Simmons Treasurer), Robin Zenobi (Clerk), Raymond Panther, Linda Rolstone, Cindy Turner,

**Present on Zoom:** Kate Aitkenhead, Whitney Batson, Jenneifer Campbell, Kim Judenis, Jessica Kott

**Visitor:** John Anderson

**Excused Absences:** Kelly Mattox

**Unexcused Absences:** Nadia Major-Dodd

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Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm following an opening prayer led by Fr Bob Bergner.

**Agenda:**

- The draft agenda was approved. (Sue O, Linda R)

**Minutes :**

- Minutes of the January 16, 2024 meeting were approved as amended. (Robin, Sue O)
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**Treasurer's Report:**

- Linda Simmons reviewed the 1st month of 2024 vs 1st month of 2023.
  - Approved by Linda R. and Cindy, subject to review.
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**Rector's Report:**

- We hosted this year's Ash Wednesday evening service with Christ the Good Shepherd, Hamden Plains Methodist Church, United Church of Christ Congregational, and Mount Carmel Congregational Church. Those present enjoyed the service and suggested more services like this.
- Christ the Good Shepard is hosting Lent program on Wednesday evenings.
- GSJ Lent program after Sunday Service.
- Tomorrow evening, the Bishops are coming and will be at the service at CGS. Vestry and all are encouraged to attend if possible.

- Easter Service - 4:30 am service here at G&SJ with CGS. All readings with musical interludes. This will be the Easter Vigil as done in German style as requested by CGS Intern. Easter service begins @ 6am with Rev Bob providing music and Pastor Josh presiding. Another service will follow at 9am with Richard providing music as usual.
  - Holy Week will be as in the past - Monday thru Wednesday evening prayer. Maundy Thursday supper & service. Friday noon stations of the cross. 7pm service at CGS.
  - Worship Committee working on details of Holy Week.
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### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Communications Committee:**

- SJE website will be ended. Renee will have it redirected to G&SJ website as we still have the domain for one fore year. Bob has determined we do own the graceandstjohns.org URL. Transform currently holds it but it will be passed to us.
- We would like to give a gift card to Dan LeRoy for the work he has done.
- Discussed what new sign might look like modeled after SJE vs what we now have.
- Zoning said it should not be a problem to change our sign.
- New logo is now on the website.
- Name tags are in progress with possible stand or box to hold these at entry doors - front and back.
- Directional signs are being made for near front, side and Brewster Room doors. Could be a poster inside a frame.

#### **Worship Committee:**

- During Lent, we will line up at the altar rail for communion.
  - Hymn Sing of last weekend was inspired by the Worship Committee. It was suggested we continue this several times a year.
  - Renee, Linda S or Cynthia attend Worship meetings for Altar Guild.
  - 10 commandments added during Lent.
  - We will bless our garden on earth day or Rogation Sunday (1st Sunday in May).
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#### **Dinner for a Dollar and the Food Truck:**

- New refrigerator and freezer due in part to town of Hamden.
- Hoping Spring Glen Church will take other two Thursdays alternating with Christian Tabernacle
- Federal Grant it turns out we were not eligible for this year - not registered in appropriate 501(c)3. This may be able to be changed for next year.

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**Other Business:**

**Investment Committee (Reserve Fund Policy)**

- Funds generally given to Wallingford/Meriden groups (10-12 groups)
- Policy which was developed to use the money from the sale of the SJE building in a thoughtful manner – i.e. “the Towns of Wallingford and Meriden.”
- Also to be used for capital improvements.
- Bob, Linda S, Linda R, Kim J, Jessica K. will be on this committee

**Outreach Facilitator of Church Ministries:** Table until March

**Gift card program:** Sue O suggests waiting until after Easter since we have a lot going on right now. We will table until May.

We did give gift cards out at Abraham’s Tent

Let other Churches know that \$374 was collected on Ash Wednesday to be donated to Columbus House from all 5 parishes involved.

**Sanctuary flooring** - getting quote on sanding the floors

**Sidewalk**

- concern on how wide to make this.
- Asphalt will blend more with grass than concrete.
- Talk on why chair glide is on the side that it is currently

The next meeting will be March 19<sup>th</sup> at the church and on Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm (Linda R, Raymond).

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**Acronyms used:**

G&SP = Grace & St. Peter’s Episcopal Church  
SJE = St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church  
CGS = Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church  
SPOTH = St. Peter’s on the Hill Episcopal Church  
ECCT = Episcopal Church in Connecticut  
TEC = The Episcopal Church in the US  
FTAC = Food Truck Advisory Committee  
D4\$ = Dinner for a Dollar  
S2P = Swords to Plowshares