

VESTRY MINUTES
Grace and St. John's Episcopal Church
Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.

Present in the Brewster Room: Bob Bergner (Rector), Renee Janes (Senior Warden), Kelly Mattox (Junior Warden), Linda Simmons (Treasurer), Candice Gray, Kim Judenis, Jessica Kott, Raymond Panther, Louis Pressman, Linda Rolstone, Cindy Turner

Guest: Kelly Park

Excused Absences: Nadia Major-Dodd

Unexcused Absences: Jenneifer Campbell

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm followed by an opening prayer led by Fr. Bob Bergner.

Agenda:

- The draft agenda was approved. (Linda Rolstone, Renee)

Minutes :

- The minutes of the February meeting were approved as amended. (Louis & Linda R)

Rector's Report:

- The endorsement for George Black to be ordained as a deacon was discussed and signed by those present. Renee will coordinate with Nadia to get her signature as clerk and then send it to ECCT.
- Bob met with Bishop Laura about his upcoming sabbatical. He needs to provide us with a detailed plan which he is working on.
- Bob has prepared a list of dates and coverage for his sabbatical. There are six open dates which Kelly Mattox is working to fill from the list of supply clergy. If she is unable to fill all the dates, a friend of Bob's who is a Lutheran pastor is available.
- The April vestry date is moving to the 22nd because our regular meeting date falls during Holy Week.

Treasurer's Report:

- No treasurer's report
 - The parochial report was submitted on time.
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Committee Reports:

Communications Committee:

- Our next projects are getting new signs and ordering t-shirts.

Worship Committee:

- Maundy Thursday: will have soup from the Soup Girls and will ask Adam to bake bread. Renee will coordinate with Sue O'Connell.
- Good Friday: Bob is leaning toward having a noon service here. There will also be a 7:00 pm service at Christ the Good Shepherd.
- Easter Vigil with Christ the Good Shepherd will be here beginning at 4:00 am. There will be a light brunch after, and our regular coffee hour after the 9:00 am service.

Dinner for a Dollar and the Food Truck:

- The free will collection on Shrove Tuesday netted \$169.00 for D4\$.
- We served 160 meals on Friday, March 14th in celebration of St. Patrick's Day.
- Kelly M thinks our numbers will rise due to federal cutbacks. We need to track any increase and she will work with Allison on this.
- Mishkan Israel volunteers one Saturday a month at Hamden Plains. They would like to switch to cooking one Sunday a month here.
- Christie, the outreach coordinator for Christ the Good Shepherd, has been helping on Friday nights.

Other Business:

Rectory Opportunities & other revenue generating opportunities

- Tabled until next meeting

Cleaning company

- Bill Menosky, Allison and Renee interviewed one company today and are trying to find another for a second quote. We are hoping to start on June 1st.

Mural

- Gretchen sent her sketch to Rise Up. She and Cindy met with Mat and Katiana on Zoom to discuss the design. They are open to using Gretchen's design. We are hoping to show a finalized design to the mural committee in April and then present it to the vestry on April 22.

Upcoming Mission activities:

- Diaper Drive: We discussed the upcoming drive which Candice Gray is coordinating for us with the CT Diaper Bank. The drive will run from Mother's Day May 11th to Father's Day June 15th. Candice will speak about the drive during announcements on May 4th.
- Memorial Day Parade: Renee will make a sign-up list to gauge support for walking in the parade. At the least, we can have the truck in the parade.
- Hamden Fest: there seems to be limited support for it this year. Swords to Plowshares will be there.

Buildings & Grounds:

- S2P is adding power to the garage with 80-amp service from the church underground to the garage. Once the increased service is in place we will evaluate the additional electric consumption.
- Several pieces of plexiglass have fallen off the outside of the stained-glass windows. Bill has a call into Artech to give us a quote on replacements.
- The organ will be cleaned prior to Easter.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday April 22, 2025.

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

Respectfully submitted,
 Nadia Major-Dodd, Vestry Clerk

Acronyms used:

G&SP = Grace & St. Peter's
 SJE = St. John the Evangelist Church
 CGS = Christ the Good Shepherd
 SPOTH = St. Peter's on the Hill
 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