

**DRAFT VESTRY MINUTES**  
**Grace and St. John's Episcopal Church**  
**Tuesday, April 16, 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), Kate Aitkenhead, Kim Judenis, Nadia Major-Dodd, Kelly Mattox, Linda Rolstone, Cindy Turner

**Present on Zoom:** Jessica Kott

**Visitor:** Bill Menosky

**Excused Absences:** Whitney Batson, Jenneifer Campbell

**Unexcused Absences:**

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The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm following an opening prayer led by Fr Bob Bergner.

**Agenda:**

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

**Minutes :**

- Minutes of the March 19, 2024 meeting were approved as amended. (Kelly, Cindy)
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**Capital Projects:**

- Bill Menosky joined us to present a list of capital projects done in the past. We need to determine what replacements or new capital projects might need to be done, and in what order.
- Priorities include a structural engineering assessment, roof replacement, new furnaces and new thermostats.
- Renee commented that the heat in the sacristy was turned up to 74 degrees on Saturday. Bob will notify all tenants that the heating and cooling should remain at 70 degrees year round.

**Treasurer's Report:**

- Linda S presented the report for the first three months of the year. It was approved subject to audit. (Kelly, Kate).
  - Linda will schedule a meeting of the investment committee.
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**Rector's Report:**

- Kelly Park, a second-year seminarian at YDS, will join us for the upcoming academic year.
  - Two parishioners fell in recent weeks; Bob is in contact with both of them.
  - Bishop Curry is now a member of the parish and has offered to preside at worship whenever we wish.
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**Committee Reports:****Communications Committee:**

- Dan LeRoy has received the gift card we approved in thanks for his work on our new website.
- Tom Aitkenhead is working on wi-fi issues and has purchased some additional routers.
- We are meeting with Transform Computers next Tuesday.
- Sue O'Connell is working with Bill Menosky on interior signage. The signs will be printed at Staples and Bill will hang them up.
- The next meeting is May 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Worship Committee:**

- Healing service is now held every weekend when there is a Eucharist.
  - They are planning the Pentecost service for May 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - Garden ministry: Sue O attended a recent ECCT workshop and got lots of ideas. She wants to incorporate the garden ministry more into worship by having people donate plants for the garden. This includes bringing a plant on Mother's Day, May 12. Members can buy a new plant or divide one they have at home.
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**Dinner for a Dollar and the Food Truck:**

- Renee reported problems getting the stoves to light. Bill Menosky will contact a repair person for service.
- The annual Great Give is May 1 & 2; we will participate to raise money for D4\$.

**Other Business:****Sound System Upgrade:**

- We've received a bid for 1 lectern mic, 4 speakers (2 in front, and 2 in back), and an equalizer. The proposed cost is \$3,800. The vestry previously approved up to \$5,000 for this work.
- Bob will follow up on how to incorporate this work around the new floor installation.

**Vestry Clerk:** Nadia Major-Dodd graciously offered to take on this role.

**Sanctuary flooring:**

- Quotes thus far range from \$20,000 to \$30,000 for new floors. We've also received separate bids of \$5,000-\$8,000 for the chancel. The work will be done over the summer and will take approximately 5 to 6 weeks.
- The cost to remove, store and re-install the pews is \$10,000. Kim Judenis suggested Artech, the company used at SJE. She'll send the contact info to Bill.
- Kneelers are TBD.
- The large white baptismal font will move to the chapel. Going forward, we'll use the smaller font from St. Peter's on the Hill.

**Missions and Outreach:**

- Our application is in for the Memorial Day parade on May 27.
- Hamden Fest on June 8 still needs a coordinator. Linda S will look for a volunteer on Sunday, April 21.
- Bob will follow up on the Hamden Black History scholarship.
- We suggested September 22<sup>nd</sup> for the picnic. Sue will ask Helen Barajas if she wants to be the coordinator.
- Cynthia Ayers is the coordinator for the May fundraiser at Beaumont Farms in Wallingford.
- Linda R will check on a date for the fall Master's Manna collection in Wallingford.
- Linda R offered to be the coordinator for the new gift card program. Parishioners will be asked/reminded one a month to donate small dollar cards to the office.

**Parochial report** isn't complete but is on its way.

**Thrift shop:** Cindy and Allison will investigate other local charity shops. Cindy will measure the two rooms. The proposal is to be open a few hours a day, several days a week. Clothing and small household items will be sold.

The next meeting will be May 21 at the church and on Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm (Linda R, Sue O).

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**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