

Minutes

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vestry Meeting Minutes

6:30 pm - Thursday, April 16, 2026

 Attendees	Yes	Zoom	No
Anne Styx		x	
Teri Tucci	x		
Chris Francis		x	
Charles Bopp	x		
Madie Redfern		x	
David Schilling		x	
Chris Whitehead		x	

Opening Prayer

Fr. Bryan

Prior Meeting Minute Approval (*action*)

Madie Redfern

David moves to approve the March meeting minutes. Teri seconds. All approved, none opposed, motion carries.

Financials

Chris Francis

- March 2025 Treasurer's Report (*action*)

Chris Francis presented the March Treasurer's report.

Fr. Bryan noted that he and Barb Plantz discussed ways to direct giving to Lazarus fund, given how active they've been.

We discussed the uptick in Hall Rentals and the healthy budget line related. Fr. Bryan brought up the possibility of potential parking challenges now that the new bar nearby is open, as people are using our parking lot at times, which could cause an issue if there's a rental that needs the parking at the same time.

Fr. Bryan shared that there will be one payment due for lawn mowing services at the rectory, since we believed it had been cancelled, but due to a miscommunication the lawn at the rectory was mowed recently, and we will be charged.

Chris asked about what account to charge batteries for the microphones to. Fr. Bryan responded that Altar Guild is probably fine.

Fr. Bryan asked on behalf of Lauren whether the explanatory budget progress blurb shared in the printed Grace Notes should also be in the newsletter. The group weighed in on different pros and cons of sharing detailed information with the potentially more public group of newsletter subscribers, as well as alternatives like notes telling subscribers the details are available on request, or a version that speaks in generalities and percentages instead of concrete numbers.

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Bryan proposed a separate meeting to discuss the blurb, for all that are interested. We scheduled the meeting for 4/30 at 6:30 pm. Teri will put together a short google survey for parishioners to give feedback on the blurb.

Charles made a motion to approve the March Treasurer's report as presented. Madie seconds. All approved, none opposed, motion carries.

Committee Reports

- Buildings and Grounds
 - Sidewalks being repaired by the city at no cost to us.
 - Cub Scouts helped with parking lot issues, spreading gravel. May need more gravel soon.
 - Rain barrels being placed to help with water
 - (Rectory Landscaping) Fr. Bryan and Kendall request permission to add a vegetable garden and beehive in the backyard of the rectory. Vestry members inquired about the size of the garden and hives, the distance from the church, how far bees might travel, and whether there could be any implications for parishioners with allergies if more bees would be nearby. Charles made a motion to approve the garden & hive. David seconded. All approved, none opposed, motion carries.
 - Parishioner Jackie Menella joined via Zoom and inquired about requesting that the landscapers trim bushes back from the handrails on the ramp in front of the church.
 - Fr. Bryan and Kendall have been approached by adjusters suggesting that the roof be evaluated for possible damage due to recent storms. The Vestry agreed, after discussion, that a zero-cost evaluation of any possible damage is worth pursuing and the Buildings and Grounds committee is the most logical group to organize this procedure. In general, if damage will lead to further costs if not addressed, we would want to consider moving forward with repairs if possible, but would not spend money if it wasn't required.
- Grace in Action
 - Fr. Bryan shared details about the successes of the socks and underwear drive from the Grace in Action Committee. The next drive planned is for toiletries and feminine hygiene products.
- List of Committees/Groups at Grace
 - The group reviewed the list of committees available here: [Committees/Groups at Grace](#)
 - Fr. Bryan suggested that the Accessibility Committee function as a sub-committee of a larger Social Justice committee, which also encompasses the Anti-Racism subgroup, and an LGBTQ-focused subgroup.
 - Fr. Bryan asked for volunteers from the vestry to organize the Coffee hour schedules. The group discussed the need for coffee hour, what is involved in facilitating coffee hour, how to cater to allergies, the challenges of underscheduling and multiple people bringing food on days when no one is signed up in advance. Madie suggested adding the schedule to the Grace Notes to help draw attention, and the group discussed written instructions/simple training.
 - Madie volunteered to help organize. Teri will help organize as well.

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New Church Software

Fr. Bryan

As a follow up to the previous meeting, Fr. Bryan asked the Vestry to weigh in on the following two options: “Yes we would like the Instant Church Online Directory”, or “No we would like to only have a printed directory.”

Charles requested to confirm that exporting the data is possible if we choose to leave the platform. Teri confirmed that according to their website, that is possible. We also confirmed there are options to show or hide listings as active/inactive, and security features such as two-factor authentication.

Anne moves to adopt the instant church software. Madie seconds. Teri, David, Madie, and Anne vote in favor. Charles abstains. None opposed.

Collection Counting Schedule

Vestry members signed up for upcoming Sundays for scheduled counting.

Rector's Report

Fr. Bryan

- Review of Holy Week/Lent
 - Positive feedback overall.
 - Bells loud during service
 - Positive feedback about the prayer session videos shared online
 - Isolated criticism of the incense and bells
- Changes in scheduling for coffee hour/liturgical ministries
- Children's Ministry updates
 - Upcoming Children's instructional service on April 26.
- Sermon Posting
 - Fr. Bryan is moving towards getting the sermons as individual audio and/or video clips available online. Discussion of technical solutions, such as adding chapter marks to existing YouTube videos, extracting audio only, or written options only were discussed.

Pastoral Care

- Persons to be Mindful of (*closed*)

Closing Prayer

Next Meeting

Thursday, May 21, 2025 at 6:30pm

IMPORTANT DATES

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vestry Meeting Minutes

6:30 pm - Thursday, April 16, 2026

Sat. April 18, 2026
11:00am

Confirmations

at the Cathedral

Sun. April 19, 2026
4:00pm

Rectory Open House noon -

2:00pm

Caregiver's Retreat 12:00 -

Sun. April 26, 2026

Discovery Service 10:30am

Fri. May TBD

Puzzle Night TBD

Mon.-Fri. July 20-24

Vacation Bible School

9:00am-12:00pm

BRYAN AWAY DATES

none

CLOSING PRAYER & DISMISSAL - VESTRY MEETINGS

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep this night. Give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake.

Amen.

Pause for Intercessions may be offered silently or aloud.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.