

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Vestry Meeting Agenda

6:30 pm - Tuesday, July 21st, 2026

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

Opening Prayer

Prior Meeting Minute Approval (*action*)

Madie Redfern

David moves to approve June meeting minutes, seconded by Jackie. All approved, none opposed, motion carried.

Financials

Chris Francis

- June 2026 Treasurer's Report (*action*)

Chris highlighted the Treasurer's Report, as it was previously sent to Vestry with notes. Highlights:

- We had more expenses throughout the month compared to expected. This was expected as we were running a deficit budget.
- Expenses are right on track for what was expected, though income is about 10% higher as we have three new families pledging.
- Fr Bryan is attending a conference which has caused the continuing education number to be higher.
- Utilities, lawn and snow removal costs are also slightly higher than expected.
 - There was a discussion of what may have caused utilities to increase. Chris will review what he has input to ensure that all the numbers are accurately placed. It is very possible that this could be that the rectory has previously been used by one person, but it will be reviewed to ensure we are not having any problems (i.e. water leak)
- As of 7/20/2026 there was less than \$10,000 in the checking account, and Chris recommends moving \$20,000 to cover upcoming costs to bring the checking total to about \$30,000. This would be the first move of the year 2026, and is less than half of the budgeted deficit.
 - Charles asks about interest rates for the money market, which is a rather low rate, and it may be worth discussing a higher rate with the bank
 - Charles moves to approve the move of \$20,000 from the money market to the checking account, seconded by David. All approved, none opposed, motion carried.
 - Chris will move forward with this in the next few days.

- Software is higher, but Chris recommends keeping the same level but working with TechSoup (a nonprofit) which allows for a discount of QuickBooks which would save about \$1,600/year on the subscription. We will need a Letter of Determination proving that we are a 501c3 from the IRS in order to work with this company. We are a 501, but it is unknown if we have the c3 status. Chris will reach out to Lauren M. to see if we have what is needed to apply. If we cannot use TechSoup, we can downgrade the level of QuickBooks that we have which will save about \$1,200/year. The remaining software is stable, and it does not currently look like there is a way to decrease cost.
 - Charles mentioned that Google has an option for non-profits, though it is unknown what those services are and exactly what the discount is.
 - Anne suggests moving forward if we have the appropriate paperwork.
 - Madie suggests taking the next month to review if we have the appropriate paperwork to qualify and vote next month depending on what paperwork we have.

Jackie moves to approve June financial report, seconded by Anne. All approved, none opposed, motion carried.

Committee Reports

- Grace in Action
 - Toiletry Drive Results - appeared to be quite successful.
 - Back to School Drive - every slip that has listed items has been taken, as well as money has been directly donated.
- Finance Committee
 - Anyone interested in serving? - Anne, Teri (would like to)
 - Any ideas for members? - Amanda, Mary Wilson, Matthew, Chris (or do we take the ideas to him?)
 - We need people for fundraising, stewardship, and budgeting in the coming months.
 - Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser
 - An organization (Pumpkinsusa.com) drops off pumpkins for us to sell at no upfront cost, then split the money raised. We must commit 8 hours of someone volunteering and “manning” the sales for 2 weeks (Monday-Sunday) in October prior to Halloween. The hope would be for it to be around the time of Trunk-or-Treat. Bryan said that on days he works, he will take his laptop outside and sit there. Can we add on more things? Photo opportunities? Farmers Market? The stand must be outside, though they are understanding of bad weather. We are responsible for disposal of any pumpkins that do not sell. What happens if we sell out?
 - To prevent thieves and pumpkin smashing, we can put out a sign and perhaps actually place a camera.
 - Charles proposes making a final decision once we have all the answers, and sufficient volunteers. Outside of our questions we feel positive.

Collection Counting Schedule

Sign up please!

Rector's Report

- Weeknight Prayer Opportunity

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- Wed. 6PM service w/ Eucharist if Lay Ministers are available or Evening Prayer if no LEMs available. This would likely not have music. It is unknown if this will be livestreamed. How will collections be counted?
- Quarterly Healing Service
 - Anointing will be offered at some of the services. If there is a 5th Sunday in the month, Anointing will be offered prior to receiving Communion. Details are being ironed out for the 8AM service to allow for privacy.
- Outreach at Farmer's Market
 - \$25/week = \$100/month - this would come from the outreach funds.
 - We would need at least one volunteer for each week. We are unsure if we must be a vendor in order to have a table.
 - Thursdays 4-8
 - Are we going to give out things? We will have literature, and flyers.
 - Could we sell water?

Pastoral Care

- Persons to be Mindful of (*closed*)

Charles would like it noted that September and October are very busy times, and he will try his best.

Closing Prayer

Next Meeting

Tuesday, August 18, 2026 at 6:30pm *Bryan out of town*

IMPORTANT DATES

Fri. July 24th
calendar says all day

6:00pm - 8:00pm

Game Night church

Thu. July 23rd

9:00am-12:00pm

Children's Ministry Retreat

Sun Aug. 23rd

Slammers Game 1:10pm

Fri. Aug 28th
8:00pm

Hymn Singalong 6:00pm -

Tue. Nov. 10 & Sat. Nov. 14
@ 6:30pm on Zoom

Diocesan Convention Nov. 10

9:00am-4:30pm in

Nov. 14 @

Rockford, IL

BRYAN AWAY DATES

July 30th

Family Camping Trip

August 15th	Family Wedding	Morning Prayer that Sunday Steve Officiating
August 17th-21st	Liturgy Retreat	
September 6th	Friend's Wedding	Morning Prayer that Sunday Anne Officiating
October 7th-14th	Friend's Wedding in London	Morning Prayer that Sunday

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.