

Trinity Vestry Meeting minutes

May 3, 2026

- I. **Opening Prayer** – Fr. Peter Johnston
- II. **Confirm Quorum & Secretary** – Members present: Fr. Peter Johnston, Bill Cober RW, David Brammer PW, Teri Cober, Treasurer, Pat Briney, Jeff Townsdin Secretary, Stephen Aguillard, Donna Guillory.

Approve previous minutes – The minutes of the previous March meeting were not reviewed, due to the Secretary being unprepared. A copy of both the April and May meeting minutes will be distributed prior to the next meeting to facilitate approval at the next meeting.

Adopt agenda – Agenda received and reviewed. Motion to accept agenda by Pat and 2nd by Bill.

III. **Reports:**

- A. **Rector's Warden: Bell Tower:** Bill stated that the bell tower steel has been received. Metal studs will be used in the bell tower due to the fire rating. The bell is being refurbished and the gimbal retrofitted for installation in the bell tower steel. **Entry Extension:** The architect has finished the revision to add a 14 foot extension entry (which will include hip roof) replacing the recessed entry. The wall encasing the entrance doors is load bearing, therefore requires other additional load bearing beam and columns. The structural engineer has handled this very well. This revision will be submitted to the parish government and fire marshal for approval.
Loan: Our loan expired in March and has been reapproved. We have paid for windows, doors, and concrete bringing funds on hand to 50K. Borrowing on the loan will be soon, in order to continue construction. **Funding & Cost:** Donna wondered if we should let the congregation know where funding is at. Peter replied that giving has been strong and far ahead. Construction expenses have exceeded projections. The construction scope has expanded. But, a cost savings was found by re-routing plumbing relative to the original drawings.
Possible Congregational meeting: Teri suggested that we combine the arrival of the Bell Tower with a congregational meeting in about 2 or 3 weeks.
- B. **People's Warden: Grounds Tending:** David said that resealing the deck and landscaping up front needs to be done. Wood piles in the back need to be picked up before Camp Hosanna. A work day is needed. It was agreed that a work day should be announced next Sunday for the following Saturday, May 16. **Overflow seating:** Peter suggested that we provide overflow seating in the currently used sanctuary. Just extra folding chairs next to the pews, one each end of each pew.
- C. **Treasurer:** Teri gave several reports: Consolidated Financial Position, Activities by Fund, General Fund Budget Analysis, Financial Position Summary, Activities Summary.
Insurance: Worker's Comp. carrier is withdrawing from LA. Our cost is likely to double. Current cost \$500, increase to \$1100 to \$1200.

Utilities: Electric, Water, garbage all are going up in cost.

Garbage: Teri fought with our service provider and had to refer to an attorney. We are now out of the contract. AWS is now our provider with 1 bin and twice a week pickup.

Assistant Treasurer: Teri has a big work load and has hired a person (at her cost) to help her with the church treasurer duties. Which means we will have an additional person with access to our financials.

- D. **Care Guild:** This is Scotty Weeks' position, but Peter will speak at this time. Steve asked for the scope of the Care Guild. Peter replied that it is to help persons of the congregation and to stay in touch with the congregation's needs. Peter suggested that prayer requests be connected with congregational needs, through the Trinity app.
- E. **Outreach & Missions:** For Peter's 40th birthday, we have scheduled a "40 for 40" celebration and fundraiser to assist a school in Nigeria to expand it's facility to accommodate 500 students with a goal of \$40,000.
- F. **Rector:**
 - 1. **Reflections:** Peter asked for reflections on Holy Week & Easter. Pat said he enjoyed the Holy Week activity which was more than he was used to. Bill said the themes for each night of Holy Week was by far the greatest.
 - 2. Peter said that he will be starting a 1 Cor. 15 sermon series which will bring to the home groups fun conversations and weekday activities.
 - 3. Gallery Night will be May 8 Friday and will be in the meeting room.
 - 4. Trinity Series & Wednesday night book study will begin in June for the whole church. 6:30 – 7:30 or 7-8. Books for this series will be on sale.
 - 5. Directory & videos are being worked on.
- G. **Alarm system:** Pat said Jak's Donuts was burglarized this week. Has there been any talk of a getting an alarm system? Bill answered no, but we might need it. Bill added that the fire marshal has not said anything about needing an alarm in the new construction. It was mentioned that the church's I-pad was stolen and perhaps we need to get a new I-pad for this purpose. Teri said no, she believes she has old one that could be use for that purpose.
- H. **Long Term Giving Endowments:** Peter said that a worthwhile formal way to give long term is a fund named Oak Planter Society, which is a strategic long-term giving endowment. This is food for thought.

IV. Closing Prayer: by Bill.