

Trinity Vestry Meeting minutes

August 9, 2026

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

Approve previous minutes – The minutes of the previous June meeting were reviewed. Patrick made the motion to approve the June minutes and David seconded it.

Adopt agenda – Agenda reviewed and amended by adding the mobile kitchen proposed lease or purchase document. Motion to accept agenda by Lisa and 2nd by David.

III. **Reports:**

A. **Rector's Warden: Construction:** Bill stated construction progress is good.

Connector (Narthex to Family Center): Bill stated plumbing is in progress.

Window out front: One of the windows out front has been broken. Terry Thompson, our lawn service man has stated that his lawnmower may have caused it. He has stated that his insurance will cover the cost of replacement.

Bell Tower: Another transportation and crane company has been engaged to install the bell tower since the last one fired himself.

People's Warden: David said we need to have another work day in September. A list of tasks follows:

1. Deck water proofing.
2. Remove tree debris. Chain saws will be required.
3. Adding mulch to flower beds.
4. Deck sail shade. Another grommet needs to be added to create an additional pull point for the sail shade on the west side.
5. Upstairs exterior door. The upstairs exterior door, which is on the east side, needs a lock.

Downstairs exterior door on the east side: The downstairs exterior door on the east side has been painted Tom Farmer.

Parking lot: Part of the existing parking lot will be torn up to make way for the parking lot addition. We should begin collaborating with Bill & Walter to plan for additional temporary parking to be available while the addition is being worked on.

B. **Treasurer:** Teri distributed the Treasure's report and pointed out several things.

1. **General Fund:** We ended May with \$14K in the general fund.
2. **Scholarship:** There is a donation yet to be given for Riley's school cost, which is the reason for a negative balance in the line item.
3. **Art Management & Nigerian School:** Donations have been promised and are yet to be given. This is the reason for the negative balance.

4. **Rental Income:** Rental income is below 50% since St. Mark is no longer renting building space from us.
 5. **Bank & Merchant Fees:** Fees are above budget due to online giving, which adds to our cost.
 6. **Non-pledged income:** This line is above budget or expectation due to new members giving.
 7. **Living Stones:** Stephen asked what is the cost over-run for Living Stones? Bill answered that it is not possible to give this number since there are more expenses coming. We might need to borrow from our funding sources by the next meeting in September. Bill said that he will try to have some completion numbers by the next meeting.
 8. **Pendant Lights:** Peter has been working on lowering the cost. Fourteen pendant lights x \$5,000 each is \$70,000. Peter believes that he can be successful.
 9. **Audio Visual System:** The Audio Visual system for the new sanctuary will be about \$100,000. We may want to encourage third year contributions.
 10. **A/C Repairs:** A/C repairs have not been settled yet.
- C. **Care Guild:** Peter spoke.
1. Peter and Scotty have discussed the Care Guild program for next year. Scotty may make a presentation in the next Vestry meeting.
- D. **Outreach & Missions**
1. **Ministry to community children:** The “Pack the Back-Pack” campaign to provide school supplies went well. Angel Tree will be coming to make a presentation about their ministry. Gifting Grace may provide more names of children to support. Gifting Grace is growing fast and seems to resist good counsel. Developing good relationships with persons in these organizations would be helpful. We could seek other local non-profit organizations in New Iberia or Lafayette that are working to benefit children in our community. Teri, Stephen and Anna Maria may have some suggestions toward that end.
- E. **Rector:**
1. **Home Group:** In order to reduce the load on home groups, there will be a weekday meeting for the whole church in the beginning of the Fall sermon series. This will take place after Labor Day. Peter said this is to be a test to see how well a whole church meeting works with the subsequent home group meetings.
 2. **Trinity Scholars:** The Trinity Scholars will study “The Faith & Imaginations of C.S. Lewis” for 12 weeks in the fall and 12 weeks in the spring. There will be a moderate charge for the sessions. This is to be held in the Family Center meeting room.
 3. **Welcome videos:** A “Welcome” series of videos will be produced as an introduction to the church services.
 4. **Staff:** Margaret has moved on. Riley has taken a teaching job at Westminster and will now be volunteer. Riley will do some diocesan work and is considering ordination as a deacon.
 5. **Future Staff:** Looking forward to the church size doubling, potentially, Peter is encouraging the Vestry to consider future staff and the roles they would have.
 - 5.1. **Music Director:** This position would be a top priority and full time. The proposed salary could be \$24-48K.
 - 5.2. **Art Ministry Director:** This position doesn’t have to be full time. The proposed salary could be \$24K. This person would develop the art ministry & leverage the resources we

have. Kevin Lindholm may be a good candidate. He has found a job as an art teacher in San Antonio at a charter school. He is teaching 240 students in two grades. He is doing art in the near future for our Fall sermon series. He would also like to move to Lafayette sometime in the future.

5.3. Communications: The proposed salary could be \$24K. Lisa Fruge and Peter have been sharing this job. We should consider two positions for this work: Volunteer co-ordination and Communications.

5.4. Church Planting Curate: The proposed salary could be \$48K plus residency funding. This would be a priest having a 3 year residency. Outside funding for the position would be raised from a church planting non-profit organization and our church.

5.5. Youth Director: Peter feels that this role could include organizing and evening prayer service led by youth of the church. Attendance by all ages would be encouraged. The prayer service could have several features: youth leaders wearing cassocks, candles, incense, choir, drink refreshment after.

5.6. Book Keeper/Accountant: This paid staff position is not yet budgeted, but will be necessary, considering that revenue may be doubled.

6. 2030 Goals: Peter recommends that our 2030 goals be written down.

IV. Old Business

- A. **Kitchen Trailer:** Pat got a call from Amy U. who said she would like to buy the kitchen trailer for \$12K. Amy offered this price considering she will have to make improvements to it. Leasing the trailer to Amy was considered, but there will be some risk to the church if leased. Bill would like to offer a purchase for \$17.5K. Pat suggests purchase of \$15K. Donna stated that lease agreements with church members are in the by-laws. Peter likes the sale idea at \$17K, and added that Amy may counter with \$15K. Bill moved that Pat is authorized to negotiate and sell the kitchen trailer for \$17K and accept counter-offer of \$15K. Lisa seconded it. Bill of sale is to stipulate that the kitchen trailer is sold as is, paint over the Trinity name and pay in cash (meaning in full). A vote was taken and was unanimous in favor.
- B. **Home Group:** Bill has noticed that attendance at home group meetings at his house have tapered off in attendance and wonders why. He wondered also about the goal of the questions for discussion. Peter stated the first question was for knowledge and the next three questions were for application. Bill & Teri wondered if additional content not contained in the sermons could be included.

V. Closing Prayer: by Peter.