

**Galilee Church  
Vestry Meeting Minutes  
May 19, 2026**

*Present:* Michael Via, Wendy Pelton, Susan Freese, Bryant McGann, Linda Whitehead, Tom McAfee, Dee Oliver, Tony Zontini, Mary Fletcher, Don Clark, Fr. Buchanan

*Apologies Received:* Crystal Cameron-Schaad, Tim Stiffler

*Non-vestry members present:* Robbie Berndt (Parish Executive), Fr. Ben Randall

*NOTE: THE VARIOUS WRITTEN REPORTS REFERENCED BELOW ARE ATTACHED TO THE MEETING AGENDA AND ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.*

**1. Fellowship and Opening Prayer – Father Ben** (*Venite*)

**2. Discussion & Approval of Vestry Minutes** *Motion to approve Susan Freese, Seconded – McGann*

**3. Rector's Report, Fr. Buchanan:** Fr. Andy supplemented his written report by advising that Ezra will now report to Fr. Ben. Fr. Andy expressed his appreciation for Fr. Ben's willingness to take on this role.

**4. Senior Warden's Report - Wendy Pelton:** Wendy supplemented her written report by thanking Fr. Andy and Dana for their hospitality in hosting Friday evening of the Vestry retreat. Wendy also noted the numerous Church offerings coming up this summer and encouraged the Vestry to look for activities in which to get involved. Wendy also provided input in connection with other reports below.

**5. Junior Warden's Report - Linda Whitehead** Linda supplemented her written report by advising that we are looking at ways to discourage folks from spending the night in the colonnade/alcove area. Per the report, we hope to configure the playground on the west side of the lower lot for golf cart parking. A couple of car spaces along the curb in the blue parking area may be marked as additional spaces.

On June 15 the Vestry will have a kitchen cleaning/organization day. Crystal will send out instructions. Mishelley should be included. For clarity, this event is about organization, not disposing of food.

**6. Organ Project Update** – Linda Whitehead gave the report on the organ. She supplemented the written reports by Tim and the consultant (Kevin Kissinger) with definitions of the esoteric terms used in the report. A copy of those definitions is attached to these minutes. We remain hopeful that the organ will be fully functional by the end of August. Insurance is in place for the Chancel organ equipment, and we are obtaining quotes for a premium for a rider for the balcony equipment.

**7. Finance Report - Michael Via**

**REVENUES:**

MTD \$23K less than budget  
MTD \$26K less than last year  
YTD \$261K more than budget  
YTD \$332K more than last year

**EXPENSES:**

MTD \$30K more than budget  
MTD \$40K more than last year  
YTD \$33K less than budget  
YTD \$34K more than last year

## **NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT:**

2026 MTD Net Operating surplus \$16K  
2025 MTD Net Operating deficit \$2K  
2026 YTD Net Operating surplus \$321K  
2025 YTD Net Operating deficit \$23K

After meeting with Page Lee, Grayson Bryant, and Tim Stiffler, Michael reported that they are enthusiastic to support the development aspect of the Legacy Building Fund. The next step is to have Page and Grayson meet with the Legacy Fund Committee. Wendy suggested that Page and Grayson attend the Vestry meeting in July or August to provide their thoughts on the development aspect of the Legacy Building Fund.

The finance committee met and, besides reviewing current financials, reviewed and approved the 2023 audit and determined to skip 2024 and go to the 2025 review.

**8. Old Business** Details of compliance with Safe Church training and providing Robbie with certificates for that and the Racial Healing seminar to Robbie for his records was discussed. Andy sent a link to the Safe Church video program.

The Montessori School has a new home and will be called "Coastal Montessori". The last day of the school at Galilee is Friday May 29. The FF&E and other personal property of the school is to be removed before June 13. The Church might need to supplement that removal effort.

Bonnie Wheeler has graciously agreed to chair the committee for selection of the 2027 Vestry members.

**9. New Business** Wendy encouraged the Vestry to be mindful of the pulse of the Church and reach out to those in need. Fr. Ben's program on Islam begins on May 27. It will not be broadcast or recorded but might be repeated depending on demand.

**10. Liaison report – Tom McAfee** (Note: This report was made prior to the Treasurer's Report)

**Christian Formation** Tom supplemented his detailed written report with several comments, including the following. He interviewed Ezra, Lillie, and Ruth for the report. Tom noted differing approaches to technology—some integrate tech into their ministry, others try to minimize it and emphasize more personal time with parents. The opportunities for Christian Formation are too numerous to list, but a few were highlighted: VBS is fast approaching, as is the youth summer outreach week in Sandbridge; Alpha will be offered in the fall, with a slightly different format; the 20's and 30's single gathering and In It Together continue to be popular, as is Terry Lindvall's book club for singles; grief share was popular and much appreciated; men's prayer breakfast has doubled in size recently (special mention for Tony and his Jesus Journey initiative); the Welcome Center is being staffed on Sundays. Staffing the nursery continues to be a challenge.

**11. Group Discussion Topics** Tom plans to convene the strategic planning committee soon on physical plant and human resource planning.

The regular Meeting concluded at 7:46 PM

**12. Testimony & Faith Sharing: Michael Via**

**13. Closing Prayer & Adjournment**

**Next Meeting: 7:00 p.m., June 16, 2026**

Respectfully submitted by Bryant McGann, Substitute Register.

Attachment: Definition of organ equipment.

## **Parts of a pipe organ**

### **Definitions**

**Stops – A mechanical control that admits pressurized air into a specific row or rank of pipes, turning that particular sound on or off.**

**Thumb piston – A programmable button that allows the organist to instantly change combinations of stops (sounds produced by different sets of pipes) without having to pull physical knobs while playing.**

**Stoppers - close off pipes resulting in different sounds.**

**Windline – An airtight duct pipe or trunk that carries pressurized air from the blower and bellows system directly to the windchest where the pipes sit.**

**Windchest – The large pressurized airtight box that sits directly beneath the pipes, acting as the distribution hub that routes compressed air to specific pipes when keys and stops are pressed.**

**Chancel relay panel – An electronic control cabinet that acts as a localized “computer brain” for the pipe organ. It serves as the critical communication hub that bridges the organist’s keystrokes at the console with the physical pipes usually located at the front of the church.**

**Great and Swell chambers – are the primary internal rooms or structural enclosures within a pipe organ case that house distinct tonal families of pipes.**

**Vox Humana – Latin for “human voice**

**Zymbelstern – set of tiny high-pitched bells**