

**Galilee Church  
Vestry Minutes  
June 16, 2026**

**1. Fellowship and Opening Prayer - Father Ben**

*Present*

Wendy Pelton, Susan Freese, Bryant McGann, Linda Whitehead, Tom McAfee, Crystal Cameron-Schaad, Dee Oliver, Tony Zontini, Mary Fletcher, Don Clark, Fr. Buchanan

*Apologies Received: Tim Stiffler, Michael Via*

*Non-vestry members present*

Robbie Berndt (Parish Executive), Fr. Randall

**2. Discussion & Approval of Vestry Minutes**

*Tom moved, Linda second*

**3. Rector's Report, Fr. Buchanan**

May was a strong month in terms of activity and attendance. For June we expected, and are seeing, a normal downward trend in summer attendance. Average attendance this month has been around 600, but that is higher than the same period last year.

We had a very good turnout for the Hospice House Fundraiser; thank you to the vestry members who attended. Our pickleball team handily outplayed the other teams, and Fr. Ben and I donated \$10,000 from the discretionary fund to the HospiceHouse on Galilee's behalf.

The staff and I are now working on next year's calendar and the programs and events we'll offer. We look forward to sharing these with you in August; we expect to take full advantage of the space available downstairs, and are excited about the opportunities.

Ideas include using classroom space downstairs for additional programming on Sunday mornings ranging from Bibles studies, life issues and other thematic topics.

**4. Senior Warden's Report - Wendy Pelton**

In the past month, our parish has remembered our veterans and celebrated our graduates. We have seen steady attendance at our services, with an average all-service attendance of 662 year-to-date. Opportunities for prayer and Christian formation abound, with morning and evening Contemplative Prayer, Visio Divina, and a special study on Islam hosted by Fr. Ben. Choir rehearsals and Women's Bible Study will break for the summer but have been replaced with other opportunities for engagement, such as the Summer Book Club.

Ministry opportunities for all parishioners continue. Our mission partner featured for this month is Equipping Ministries Global. Local ministry opportunities include meal preparation for a Judeo-Christian

Outreach Center dinner on June 23, and youth volunteering for a special needs camp. Regular ministries such as Tender Loving Carriers and the Galilee Knitting and Crochet Ministry continue to bless our parish and our community.

Organ project updates will be more thoroughly spelled out in vestry minutes, but we have experienced additional delays due to personnel changes at Quimby. Nevertheless, progress on consoles and cabinetry continues, and we are fortunate to have capable parishioners and staff members helping us navigate this monumental project.

Other grounds and building projects are being contemplated by the vestry as we consider the needs of our growing parish and how to make the best use of our building and grounds. A strategic planning sub-committee has been formed to inventory our current operations and help make long-term recommendations.

This summer, let's look for ways to be refreshed and refresh others. We often have tourists and out-of-town guests in our summer services, and you never know what impact a kind word or a shared inspiration can have on our visitors.

"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."- Proverbs 11:25

## **5. Junior Warden's Report – Linda Whitehead**

- The east fencing on the lower playground has been removed in anticipation of having a designated area for golf carts to park on Sundays and other occasions. Galilee may put a temporary ramp in place before deciding to install a more permanent one.
- Costs comparisons are being made between using well water (which requires chemicals to be added) or city water for Galilee's outdoor sprinkler system.
- The Montessori school garden boxes outside of FrAnd's and FrBen's offices will be removed in the next few weeks.
- The light poles and lights on the front parking lot have been replaced.
- The new chiller continues to experience one of the two units shutting down due to filtration clogging. The pipes continue to be flushed and treated with an acid wash to clean them out.
- Montessori will be moved by July 1\*, though they are already boxed up and the two rooms we plan to use are already empty.

## **6. Organ Project Update**

Conversation about pipe organ progress. Written report attached to the meeting agenda and is available upon request.

## **7. Liaison Report – Susan Freese (Galilee Women)**

### **Mission & Values**

Our mission is to encourage women to follow Jesus and become more like him as they grow in love and grace.

- **STRENGTHEN:** Weekly Bible Studies and intentional prayer gatherings.
- **CONNECT:** Small groups, monthly circles and church-wide volunteer opportunities.
- **REFRESH:** Special events where newcomers can "come and see."

### **Core Values**

- Relationships over program
- Grace over performance
- Being Real over Being Spiritual
- "Wanting" to attend over "Having" to attend

### **Ministry Impact & Attendance**

God is crushing it! The teams we have: Hospitality, Greeters, Small Group Leaders, Communications, Curriculum, and Prayer Team- all so good! This season brought spiritual growth, increased connection, and high engagement. We welcomed many first-time Bible Study participants, including both long-time Galilee members and newcomers. We are grateful!

*Full written report attached to the meeting agenda. Available upon request.*

## **8. Finance Report**

### **REVENUE:**

MTD \$74K more than budget

YTD \$335K more than budget

### **OFFERINGS:**

MTD \$78K more than budget

YTD \$388K more than budget

### **EXPENSES:**

MTD \$5K more than budget

YTD \$28K less than budget

### **NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT:**

2026 MTD Net Operating deficit \$47K

2026 YTD Net Operating surplus \$342K

## 9. Old Business Discussion

- Legacy Fund
- Vestry Training – reminder June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline for Safe Church training.

## 10. New Business

- Prayer Walk Ideation
  - General Discussion
- Upcoming Galilee Events
  - Review upcoming events
  - VBS
- Security questions – VB has stopped providing officers over the past 4 weeks. Leadership is looking into VB Sheriff's office or private security options – per Robbie
- Jordan Hall Projector – needs to be replaced with VBS and Alpha coming up. It's the oldest technology in the building. Not a planned capital expenditure. Quote \$21,606. *Susan moved, Crystal second.* Motion passes unanimously.
- Kitchen cleanout – Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup>

Meeting Adjourned: 8:05pm

Respectfully submitted by Crystal Cameron-Schaad, Register