

**Bethesda Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting  
23 March 2025  
Saratoga Springs**

The meeting was held at the church.

**Attendance:** Fr. Charles Wallace, Priest in Charge

Sara Manny, Senior Warden

Rick Wissler, Junior Warden

Karen Finkbeiner, Treasurer

David Harper

Marcia MacDonald

Holly Sofarelli

Marge Verrigni

Timothy Holmes, Clerk

Regrets: David MacVane

**Opening Prayer** led by Fr Wallace

*Come Holy Spirit, and fill the hearts of your faithful people, and kindle in us, the fire of your love. Amen.*

The regular meeting of the Bethesda Episcopal Church Vestry was called to order at 11:40 AM on 23 March 2025, at the church.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 23 February 2025 were approved as distributed. (D Harper, movant; K Finkbeiner, second)

***Priest-in-Charge Remarks***

Fr Wallace will be away for a time following Easter services.

***Treasurer's Report: K Finkbeiner, Treasurer***

There were just a few timing differences between budget and actual often encountered at yearend. Our income remains over budget, and is fully funding our Operational expenses.

**Operational Performance, Year to Date February 2025**

<b>Expense</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Better/(Worse) than Budget</b>
Rector Expenses: <i>Wages, benefits, rectory maintenance</i>	21,455	20,885	570
Church Building <i>Utilities, Maintenance and Insurance</i>	5,697	12,266	(6,569) Insurance timing
Programs not uniquely funded <i>Outreach, Organ, other</i>	784	347	437
Fees <i>Professional and credit card</i>	4,436	4,457	(21)
Office <i>Rent, Equipment, Supplies</i>	4,093	3,819	275
Diocese Assessment	9,021	9,021	0
<b>Total Operational Expense</b>	<b>\$ 45,486</b>	<b>\$ 50,794</b>	<b>\$ (5,308)</b>

**Income**

<b>Pledge and Plate:</b>	<b>47,767</b>	<b>60,697</b>	<b>12,930</b>
<i>Pledge and plate over/(under) expense:</i>	<i>2,281</i>	<i>9,903</i>	
Other operational	-	868	868 Fuel
<b>Total unrestricted Income</b>	<b>\$ 47,767</b>	<b>\$ 61,565</b>	<b>\$ 13,798</b>
<b>Total unrestricted Income with Div, Int</b>	<b>\$ 52,474</b>	<b>\$ 66,678</b>	<b>\$ 14,204</b>
<b>Operational Income (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ 6,988</b>	<b>\$ 15,884</b>	<b>\$ 8,895</b>

**Non-Operational Expenses:**

Special Events	-
Choir	5,005
Altar Guild	180
Christian Ed	400

**Non-Operational Income:**

Special Event Income	600	
Choir	9,610	Dividend Griffith
Flowers/Altar guild	440	
Christian Educ		
Summer Music	1,200	
<i>Feb Env</i>	<i>495</i>	<i>Franklin Community Center</i>

*Items in italics do not show in our financial statements once transferred, they are maintained in this list for information only.*

**Senior Warden:** S Manny reported that Lenten and other events are going well and are well received in the growing congregation.

**Junior Warden:** R Wissler reported that mechanicals will be switched to warm weather HVAC. Organ tuning will occur on schedule in April.

Fr Wallace noted due to a recent general electrical outage several functions in his home (the Rectory) will require resetting.

**Old Business / New Business** There was affirmation of support for accepting the offer of the former rectory as reported by D Harper to the Vestry recently. Mr Harper was empowered to follow this opportunity.

Motion: Mr Harper is requested and authorized to communicate to the offeror that the church will accept the donation on mutually agreeable terms. ( D Harper, K Finkbeiner)

Mr Harper is requested and authorized to arrange architectural experts including Steven G. Rowland, RA to examine and assess planning for the Rectory building and its relocation to Bethesda property. ( D Harper, K Finkbeiner)

There was discussion of the long anticipated outcome of work by the Charitable Aid Society / Home of the Good Shepherd to monetize some of the property managed by that Board. D Harper complimented CAS / HGS management for their obdurate persistence.

Motion: Mr Harper is authorized to continue requesting documentation from the Charitable Aid Society / Home of the Good Shepherd Board so as to provide a more complete understanding of its history and standing. ( D Harper, R Wissler)

**Next meeting:** To be determined.

**Closing Prayer** led by Fr Wallace

*The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore. Amen.*

Meeting adjourned 12:26 PM

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Timothy Holmes, Clerk*