

**Bethesda Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting**  
**22 October 2025**  
**Saratoga Springs**

**Attending:** Fr. Charles Wallace, Rector  
Sara Manny, Senior Warden  
Rick Wissler, Junior Warden  
Karen Finkbeiner  
David Harper  
David MacVane  
Marge Verrigni  
Timothy Holmes, Clerk  
**Regrets:** Marcia MacDonald, Holly Sofarelli  
**Guests:** Peter Brooks, Mary Withington, Field Horne

The regular meeting of the Bethesda Episcopal Church Vestry was called to order at 3 Beacon Hill Drive, 7:00 PM on 22 October 2025.

**Opening Prayer** led by Fr. Charles Wallace

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

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 24 September 2025 were approved as distributed. (K Finkbeiner, movant; Rick Wissler second)

Mary Withington gave an update on HGS and Charitable Aid Society. Following a real estate transaction, HGS will continue to manage properties. Missions common to the CAS and Bethesda were discussed towards the possibility of resources becoming available.

Field Horne reported progress in planning improvements to the former rectory building in the event that it becomes accessible to Bethesda.

**Rector** Fr Wallace expressed pleasure at the evident progress.

**Warden's Reports**

**Senior Warden** S Manny reported satisfaction on meetings with parties concerning infrastructure matters.

**Junior Warden** Rick Wissler noted timeliness for addressing maintenance details at the rector's residence. Regarding environmental conditions in the church 'undercroft', improvements would require time and logistics for correction of grade outside the east wall of the church building. The elevation of the basement ceiling possibly constitutes code problems making the space unfeasible for some imagined uses.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer K Finkbeiner reported, our Operational performance Year to Date September is consistent with most of the year: Pledge and Plate income is close to budget, as are expenses, but we are not running a significant surplus (net income \$3,154). The last three months of the year have higher costs, so we are dependent on the usual high end-of-year giving to cover that and provide some surplus.

Peter Brooks was appointed Assistant Treasurer by general assent, commended by Fr Wallace.

Operational Performance, Year to Date September 2025				
	Budget	Actual	Better/(Worse) than Budget	
<b>Expense</b>				
Rector Expenses: <i>Wages, benefits, rectory maintenance</i>	106,387	96,938	9,450	Timing, Rectory repair
Church Building <i>Utilities, Maintenance and Insurance</i>	29,816	34,624	(4,809)	Utilities, repairs
Programs not uniquely funded <i>Outreach, Organ, other</i>	4,223	6,958	(2,736)	Repair to bell ringing control
Fees <i>Professional and credit card</i>	21,509	21,229	279	
Office <i>Rent, Equipment, Supplies</i>	17,534	17,668	(135)	
Diocese Assessment	40,595	40,593	2	
<b>Total Operational Expense</b>	<b>\$ 220,063</b>	<b>\$ 218,011</b>	<b>\$ 2,052</b>	
<b>Income</b>				
Pledge and Plate: <i>Pledge and plate over/(under) expense:</i>	197,988 (22,075)	197,851 (20,160)	(137)	
Other operational	-	1,568	1,568	Fuel
Total unrestricted Income	\$ 197,988	\$ 199,419	\$ 1,431	
<b>Total unrestricted Income with Div, Int</b>	<b>\$ 216,088</b>	<b>\$ 221,165</b>	<b>\$ 5,076</b>	
<b>Operational Income (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$ (3,974)</b>	<b>\$ 3,154</b>	<b>\$ 7,128</b>	
<b>Non-Operational Expenses:</b>	<b>Non-Operational Income:</b>			
Special Events 3,700	Special Event Income 12,250	Offsets summer music		
Choir 17,450	Choir 19,219	Dividend Griffith		
Altar Guild 956	Flowers/Altar guild 2,235			
Christian Ed 2,277	Christian Educ 2,077			
Summer musi 1,950	Elements 200			
	Summer Music 300	Less than expense		
	Parish History book 152			
	<i>Feb Env</i> 495	Franklin Community Center		
	<i>Mar Env</i> 644	Lifeworks Community action		
	<i>Apr Env</i> 845	Parke music fund		
	<i>May Env</i> 923	Beaver Cross scholarships		
	<i>June Env</i> 912	Habitat for Humanity		
	<i>July Env</i> 697	Racetrack Chaplaincy		
	<i>Aug Env</i> 1,024	Wellspring		
	<i>Sept Env</i> 803	Mary's Haven		
<i>Items in italics do not show in our financial statements once transferred, they are maintained in this list for information only.</i>				

There was no further Old Business and no New Business.

**Next meeting:** November 2025.

**Closing Prayer** led by Fr. Charles 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 8:05 PM.*

*Respectfully submitted, Timothy Holmes, Clerk*