

**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

Expense	Budget	Actual	Better/(Worse) than Budget
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
Total Operational Expense	\$ 220,063	\$ 218,011	\$ 2,052
Income			
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
Total unrestricted Income with Div, Int	\$ 216,088	\$ 221,165	\$ 5,076
Operational Income (Deficit)	\$ (3,974)	\$ 3,154	\$ 7,128
Non-Operational Expenses:	Non-Operational Income:		
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 495</i>	<i>Franklin Community Center</i>	
	<i>Mar Env 644</i>	<i>Lifeworks Community action</i>	
	<i>Apr Env 845</i>	<i>Parke music fund</i>	
	<i>May Env 923</i>	<i>Beaver Cross scholarships</i>	
	<i>June Env 912</i>	<i>Habitat for Humanity</i>	
	<i>July Env 697</i>	<i>Racetrack Chaplaincy</i>	
	<i>Aug Env 1,024</i>	<i>Wellspring</i>	
	<i>Sept Env 803</i>	<i>Mary's Haven</i>	
	<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