

**Vestry Minutes, V2**  
**Tuesday, April 15, 2025 – 6 pm**  
**Calvary Episcopal Church**

Zoe, Andy, Clay, Bill E., Scott, Steve, MJ, Allison, Bill B., Matt, Madge, MC, Paul, Franklin, Erik, Jessica,  
Christinia, Katherine, Ginny

**Opening Prayer – Bill Bangham**

***Mother Brandon's Opening Words at Ash Wednesday Mass . . . Pdraig O'Tuama***

*Darlings, look around.  
Next to you's the nurse, the cleaner, the doctor, the child-  
minder, the waiting, the hoping, the barely surviving.  
The can't-get-out-of-bed-can't-sleep-can't cope.  
There's the teacher out of work, the disaffected  
priest, the taxi driver, the shopkeeper, broke stockholder,  
tourists, retirees, waitresses, bankers, administrators,  
the tired and committed, the excited and the stressed.*

*I know you expect me to bless you in the mysteries of God,  
but I prefer the strangeness of each other, darlings.  
Look around.*

*In the name of whatever  
brings you here. In the name of anything  
that works. In the name of nothing.*

*Are you burning yet? You will be.  
Take this cup and drown your sorrows.  
Take this bread and butter. Lick it.  
Taste the salt. Nothing made you come here.  
Nothing stops you going.*

**Approval of March Minutes**

**Scott / Jessica**

Clay; Bill moved acceptance . . . Unanimous approval

**Financial Report**

**Erik / Steve**

- Discussion of fees for use of Calvary spaces by parishioners and non-members for weddings and other events
- Updates on discussions with Samaritan Counseling Center re: use of space at Calvary
- Erik – Balance Sheet; Income Statement . . . Mention of a generous gift under “Events”;
  - Kitchen Actual will continue to be higher than budgeted; Refrigerator maintenance should have been listed under Bldgs. / Grounds; Parish Hospitality is / can be a different line item from Kitchen . . . Discussion of cost of cups / coffee / Sunday morning coffee hour
  - Formation Hour Expenses . . . Katherine does not invite speakers during Lent so Honorarium fees are not at play during this time . . .

- Office / Admin up this month . . . Chronicle was late this time; refresh order this month for all materials in the pew backs
- Music expenses lower most probably because of when Easter falls this year (so much later than usual)
- Capital Campaign pledges still coming in steadily
- Franklin and Allison moved approval . . . Unanimous

#### Steve – Space Use Guidelines / Fees

- Handout distributed covering use of spaces by for-profit and non-profit groups; events requiring security and/or staff members, etc.
- Fees / Agreement Guidelines determined after extensive review and discussion with other churches, both Episcopalian and other denominations . . . And fees can be waived . . .
- May be added to website
- Questions for insurance . . . is additional liability insurance required by those renting space? Steve meeting with insurance agents 4/16/25 to discuss this

#### Welcoming / LGBTQ Inclusion

**Clay**

- Committee members polled for meeting times / places; will most likely meet after 10:30 service in late April, early May
- Newcomer welcome party scheduled for the Fall – 9/27 at 4:30 @ Clay & Brooks' house

#### Listening

**Allison**

- Discussion of the importance of listening with your whole body and the intentional capturing of conversations.
- Listening as a Vestry Goal from the Retreat . . . In any of our various activities at Calvary, each of us should tune in our listening ears and ask questions of the groups in which we're participating (i.e., Baguette Brothers, DOK, Altar Guild, Ushering, etc., and at each Vestry Meeting, we can share what we've heard

#### Poverty at a Systemic Level

**Bill E.**

- Micah's Issues Conference
- Housing Equity; Education Equity; Racial Justice
- Discussion of various aspects of Housing Equity . . . lots of talking about issues. The question is, "What can we do?" . . . Susan Neely-Barnes and John Welcher (Calvary) are Micah members; Bill E. is now a member . . . focusing on what efforts are already being made; what can we do?

#### Rector's Report

**Scott**

- **Construction Updates**
  - Signed completion document 3/20 with Montgomery Martin
  - MM recarpeted Vesting areas and repaired leaks, on their dime
  - Still on target to be under-budget
- **LPS / Waffle Shop Updates**
  - Document distributed with numbers for speakers / online / etc.
  - 2023 was 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, so those numbers were higher - - - take those numbers out and you'll see numbers are not declining - - - staying on target
- **Chronicle Article re: Sabbatical**
  - Official announcement to the Parish will appear in the Summer Chronicle

- Eyleen Farmer, Gabbie Munn, Buddy Stallings, and others will be guest clergy throughout the summer
- June 6 – Aug 28

## State of the Economy

Erik

- Impact on Donors
- How We Draw from the Endowment
- Economy was strong coming into 2025; interest rates were steady; all up-ended by high / sweeping tariff announcements of a couple of weeks ago . . . will slow down economy . . . Recession likelihood unknown, although chances are higher than before tariff announcements
- Business earnings are volatile
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- Wealth Effect - - - when people are comfortable with their market holdings and “general wealth”, line items such as church pledges continue to grow
- Endowment Committee Updates – as of 4/11, the Endowment was down only about 4%, so it hasn’t moved much . . . we take 3 – 5% of 36-month trailing average . . . amount given monthly is consistent over a year’s period

## Safety Forum

Scott

- May 10, 9am – 3pm at Calvary
- Safety Task Force will begin work following forum

## Adjourned 7:11pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Madge Logan Deacon  
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## Next Meeting:

**May 20, 2025 – Ginny Webb, Opening Prayer / Meditation**

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## 2025 Vestry Shared Values

Community

Listening

Sanctuary

Inclusion