



**Vestry Meeting Minutes**  
**October 16, 2025**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**St John's Cathedral**

**Call to Order:** 6 pm

**Members Present:** Donna Walker Bell, Lewis Hunt, Lisa McKenna, Laura Jane Pittman, Louis Russo, Adam Smith, Shane Williams

**Members Absent:** John Bass, Martha Cox, John Erstling, Glenn Guiler, Paige Hakimian, Patrick Kimball

**Others Present:** John Sefton, Subchancellor; Paul Arrington, Treasurer; T.R. Hainline, alternate member

**Clergy and Staff Present:** The Very Rev. Kate M. Carroll, Dean; The Rev. Mark Anderson, Vicar; Megan Cochran, Parish Administrator

**Quorum:** Yes

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**Opening Devotion:** Louis Russo reflected on the theme of One Body, Many Gifts.

**Moment of Gratitude:** Louis Russo thanked Laura Jane Pittman for working on two publications for the Center for Wellbeing. Laura Jane Pittman expressed gratitude for the diocesan envisioning forum for allowing the diocese to celebrate differences while moving forward.

**Approval of Minutes:** After reviewing the minutes from the September 2025 meeting, Louis Russo motioned to approve the minutes as presented and Shane Williams seconded. All members present approved.

**Financial Report:** Shane Williams presented the financial reports for the year ending 8/30/25.

- Revenue is coming in ahead of budget.
- More households are pledging.
- GuideServe is working with Fr. Mark and Megan to streamline accounting strategies for greater clarity and simplicity.
- The Investment Committee is meeting soon with representatives from Episcopal Church Fund for investment updates.

**Plummer \$15,640.54 Residual Funds:** The Plummer Foundation sent a check for a residual \$15,640.54. The Finance Committee recommends depositing that money in the Plummer Endowment to honor the intent of the gift.

- Laura Jane Pittman moved to deposit the residual Plummer Foundation funds in the Plummer Endowment and Adam Smith seconded. All present voted in agreement.

**Council Reports:**

- **Center for Wellbeing-** Louis Russo will offer an objective Medicare planning workshop.
- **Formation –** The council is reorganizing and re-envisioning itself.
- **Outreach –** No Report
- **Parish Engagement-** The council is reorganizing and re-envisioning itself
- **Pastoral Care-** No meeting in October. They are trying out identification tags for intercessors so people know who is there to pray.
- **Properties-** The boilers are getting worked on after a cold couple of Sundays. Building Solutions sent preliminary findings report for the building audit. The Full report will be made available in November. A generous donor has provided funding for new security cameras to be installed and the system upgraded.

- **Stewardship and Development-** The pledge campaign is almost to \$1 million dollars- halfway to the goal. The hope is that pledges will keep up with inflation. The Legacy Society will host a dinner in December.
- **Worship, Music and Arts-** The council will meet in advance of Advent.

**Vicar's Report:** The staff is becoming more cohesive and working great as a team. A comprehensive budgeting process for 2026 is underway. Councils have been included in the planning process. A study is being conducted to better understand leadership positions and term lengths within the cathedral to support intentional leadership development vestry feedback on council functioning is helpful.

#### **Dean's Report:**

- **EPN-** Dean Kate announced she is rolling off the Episcopal Parish Network Board of Directors after serving for six years. The middle class of the vestry is encouraged to attend the 2026 conference in Charlotte in March.
- **Cathedral Non-Profits –** The call of the Cathedral is to fuel and inspire followers of Jesus to go out into the world and do what they are called to do. The Cathedral has had many parishioners involved in the formation of local nonprofits. At first these need a lot of financial support, but eventually they become self-sustaining. Back in the 1960's, former Dean, The Very Rev. Bob Parks, and the vestry at the time decided to keep the cathedral downtown despite white flight into the suburbs. They founded the Cathedral Foundation to provide housing and nursing care for low income senior citizens. Other nonprofits founded by the Cathedral or by parishioners include Episcopal School Jacksonville, Habijax, Cathedral Arts Project, The Cathedral School and Early Learning Center, the Parks at Cathedral townhomes, Cathedral District Jax, the Bookstore and the Center for Wellbeing. These entities start off needing a great deal of resources and investment, but then eventually become self-sustaining.

#### **Executive Session for Budget and Vision**

There being no more business to address, the meeting adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Megan Cochran