

September 25, 2025 – 5:000 PM
Vestry Meeting
Youth Room, Conkey Hall
The Church of the Holy Faith

DRAFT MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Fr Robin Dodge, Preston Stone, Steven Shore, Rebecca Tobey, Georgie Case, Jackie Walker, Kaki Grubbs, Charles Rountree

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mike Morrissey, Pam Jones

NON-MEMBERS PRESENT: Mtr Lynn Finnegan

- **Call to Order**

Fr Robin called the meeting to order at 5:04 PM and led the Vestry in prayer.

- **Acceptance of the Agenda**

George moved, and Preston seconded acceptance of the agenda as amended. *Carried unanimously.*

- **Disposition of the August 28, 2025 Meeting Minutes.**

Steven moved, and George seconded the acceptance of the August 28th, 2025 minutes, *Carried unanimously.*

- **Bible Study – Mtr Lynn Finnegan**

Mtr Lynn led the Vestry in a study of Luke 16:19-31

- **August 2025 Financial Reports – Charles Rountree**

Charles reported that we close August 2025 with a deficit of \$(26,856) and, after considering expenses that will be offset by a year-end draw from the endowments, we close the year-to-date with an adjusted deficit of \$(26,021). For the month, overall giving and other sources of funding total \$70,724 falling below the budgeted total of \$82,016. Total clergy and staff compensation exceeds budget by \$4,484 due to the staffing transition from Donna Lukas to Eli Herrera. Overall expenses of \$85,168 align closely with the budgeted total of \$82,090. It was noted that contributions slump between Easter and Advent and increased giving is anticipated as we approach the final months of the year.

The Fair Share support for the Diocese for August 2025 is \$10,496 reflecting July 2025 contributions.

The reconciled cash balances as of August 31st compared to the beginning of the years 2024 and 2025:

	<u>@1/1/24</u>	<u>@1/1/25</u>	<u>@8/31/25</u>
• Century Bank	\$174,682	61,860	26,754
• First Citizens MM	\$191,035	41,172	
• First Citizens CD		155,953	
• Sunflower Checking	\$ 2,500	2,500	2,500
• Sunflower MM	\$138,405		
• <u>Sunflower CD</u>		141,919	144,706
	\$506,622	403,405	303,401

The value of the Northern Trust endowments are:

	<u>@1/1/24</u>	<u>@1/1/25</u>	<u>@8/31/25</u>
• Article VI	\$ 9,155,543	9,297,097	10,102,746
• Article VII	\$ 551,798	1,268,457	1,430,801
	<hr/> \$ 9,707,341	10,565,554	11,533,54

The Vestry accepted the Finance Committee's Report as recommended by the Finance Committee, unanimously.

Fr Robin reported to the Vestry that, as a member of the Legacy Society, the late Marty Buchsbaum named Holy Faith in his planned giving. According to his instructions, his generous bequest, estimated at \$133K, will be distributed 40% to the Article VI endowment, and 60% to the Article VII endowment divided equally between music and a new subaccount to supplement salaried clergy discretionary funds. Following the Vestry's authorization, Northern Trust will set up a sub-account establishing the Buchsbaum Clergy Discretionary Fund. Once confirmation is received that the sub-account has been created, the bequest will be transferred to Northern Trust.

In discussion, the nature of the clergy discretionary accounts was reviewed. It was noted that monthly loose-plate offerings are directed to the clergy discretionary funds which are held in banking accounts separate from the Holy Faith operating account. Funds are used to assist those in need and charitable gifts reflecting the mission of Holy Faith. The bequest from Marty Buchsbaum will supplement the monthly loose-plate offerings.

The Vestry accepted the Finance Committee's recommendation to establish the Buchsbaum Clergy Discretionary Fund unanimously.

• **Junior Warden's Report – Preston Stone**

Preston reported that work on the parking lot is almost complete. It was determined that the concrete bumpers needed replacing and the anticipated cost is approximately \$3K. There have been serious issues with the alarm system that Heights Security has addressed. The system is now back online and functioning properly. The cost to remediate the issue is approximately \$3K. A bid of \$13K to reinstall the in-ground lighting system on the west side of the church has been received.

Preston also reported that Desert Chorale communicated to Holy Faith that their staff members have reported respiratory issues that may possibly be due to air quality issues on the second floor of Conkey House. Testing of the air quality, possibly throughout Conkey House, will be undertaken shortly to address the potential issue.

The Vestry accepted the Finance Committee's recommendation to allocate funding for the concrete bumpers, alarm system, and lighting unanimously.

• **Rector's Report – Fr Robin Dodge**

Sarah Stone, Holy Haith's Family and Children's Ministries Administrator, has resigned to devote time to her expanding practice. The position will be advertised in the Episcopal News Service as Holy Faith seeks a new administrator.

The patronal festival of St Francis of Assisi will be observed October 5th with the annual blessing of the animals. The time between services that day will be devoted to a ministry fair in the Parish Hall. Participants of the many ministries taking place in our parish will be on hand to provide information of our outreach efforts and opportunities to serve.

Fr Robin and Theresa ~~ea Dodge~~ will host a party and reception at their home ~~later in~~ October 30 to welcome newcomers to Holy Faith, to which Vestry members are invited.

The annual stewardship campaign will kick off November 2nd. Kaki and Kent Grubbs have graciously accepted the role of co-chairs. The theme of the campaign this year is 'You Are the Light of the World'.

We will honor Mtr Lynn on November 4th as she concludes her service to Holy Faith before moving to Colorado. The position of Associate Rector as been listed with the Episcopal News Service and Fr Robin was pleased to report that promising resumes have already been received.

In discussion, it was noted that clergy and staff at Holy Faith serve at the ~~pleasure~~direction of the Rector. However, it is Fr. Robin's practice to consult the Vestry ~~is consulted on all~~ personnel decisions. Fr Robin will conduct first interviews for an Associate Rector. Second interviews will be on site and the Vestry will be invited to meet candidates. In addition, the Diocese will be consulted to advise on candidates.

- **Associate Rector's Report – Mtr Lynn Finnegan**

Mtr Lynn reported that Fundraising efforts for the Juarez mission trip next September continue with a wine tasting October 9th. John Adams along with Annie-Laurie and Jim Coogan are the team leaders for the building mission.

Loose plate offerings this Sunday will be designated for supplies to create kits for the unhoused. A table has been set up in the Parish Hall and parishioners are encouraged to put together kits to distribute when and where the opportunity presents itself to assist the unhoused.

- **Other Business**

There being no further business, Jacki moved and Steven seconded a motion to adjourn. *Carried unanimously*. The Vestry meeting closed with prayer at 6:17 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Rountree