

GRACE VESTRY MEETING MINUTES

September 18, 2025

PRESENT: Pastor Steve, Bill Siewert, Ernie Simon, Sharon Potter, Martha Houser,
Mike Oakley, Mike Zubas, Dash Heath

ABSENT: Don Siefkes, Lucy Smith

OPENING PRAYER: offered by Pastor Steve, 6:32 pm.

APPROVALS

- A) June Meeting Minutes - Approved
- B) September Financials – Martha to talk with another church about MCREST
MOTION:
Mike O. Moved that \$3066.13 be transferred to Wednesday supper and leave the rest for MCREST
Second Martha
Approved
Financials Approved

UPDATES

- A) B&G
 - 1) Work done past month: Gliders put in church,
 - 2) Work to be done:
 - 3) Handyman – Lare gave Bill the name of a handyman to work on Grace projects, he charges \$60 per hour rather than ongoing, Bill will ask him to quote the repair of the ramp or do some other small projects. B&G will discuss and invite him to do some small projects.

ONGOING & NEW BUSINESS

- A) **Google Street View** – Photographer is coming on Tuesday, September 23 to take pictures. A vestry member donated the money to pay for this.
- B) **Stewardship** – Vestry members agreed to write up a paragraph about why they come to Grace and volunteer to share their time, talent and treasure. Pastor Steve will collect and include them in handouts throughout stewardship season starting on October 19 and culminating on Stewardship Sunday, November 23. He will ask Scott Satterly about making brunch on that November Sunday.
- C) **Quarters for a Cause** – Fundraiser on Saturday, September 20 at 6 pm, coordinated by Christa Carpenter
- D) **Dinner at River Crest** – Margaret Morgan coordinating a fundraiser at the Rivercrest Family Restaurant on Thursday, October 2nd, 4-8 pm.

- E) **Apportionment Pledge** – Our 2026 diocesan pledge is calculated to be \$30,389, which is up from our 2025 pledge of \$28,153. The amount is calculated by taking 10% of the average of our last 3 years of normal operating income so it fluctuates every year. Voted to approve.
- F) **Church Insurance** – Our church insurance policy renewal is from 9/1/25 – 9/1/26 for a premium total of \$19,893.
- G) **Checklist for Hall Rentals** – Marchea suggested that we have a checklist for hall rentals and coffee hours that a designated individual(s) would complete after every hall rental and coffee hour and the form returned to the office. This would show whether or not the hall was cleaned and no damage done which would give Marchea the go ahead to return the renter's cleaning deposit fee of \$100. We will be seeking to find a person to be responsible for this.
- H) **ALC Service** – Next combined service with American Lutheran Church is scheduled for Sunday, October 26 at 10:00 am at their building. They will provide us lunch afterward and Grace is invited to participate in their Trunk or Treat from 12-3 pm.
- I) **Rectory** – Discussion centered around whether we should investigate renting the rectory to a non-profit organization like Turning Point to provide transitional housing. Pastor Steve will do some research about this and report back at the next meeting.
- J) **Homeless Letters** – There has been an increase in homeless people sleeping on our two ramps and around the buildings and storing things in various places. There have been several requests by such persons to receive a letter giving them permission to do so. Vestry discussed and decided to not authorize people to stay anywhere around the building.
- K) **Autism Class** – Grace was contacted by the Macomb Intermediate School District Autism Program asking if we would be a work site for about 6 of their students to do cleaning once a week for about 2 hours. This is a training program for them and would not cost us anything. Vestry approved.

- Minutes submitted by Pastor Steve