

Present: Paul Bailey, Bill Bittenbender, Bill Carney, Tom Propst, Al Snell, Bryan Wester, Margaret Bearden, Deacon Pam Hayes, Rick Pearce, Steve Ammons, Don Halbert, Jim Belvin

Absent: Fr. Eric Mills

Guests: Liz Halbert and Sally Learned

The meeting began at 10:00 am with an opening prayer by Bill Carney.

The following items were discussed and/or decided:

Liz Halbert and Sally Learned presented the Outreach Board's vision for future use of the Chapel Annex building. They are proposing to change the focus of Outreach funds to increase direct contact with the community, using the annex as an "Outreach Center". A local architect has been asked to create a plan to add a second bathroom, a smaller kitchen and a larger storage area/closet, with fees expected to be in the \$5,000 range. It is not known at this point what the construction costs of the improvements would be. **Don Halbert moved to approve expenses of up to \$5,000 to cover architectural design fees for the Chapel Annex renovations using remaining capital campaign funds, with Bob Fuchs seconding the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.**

The May minutes were previously approved via email.

Rick Pearce, Interim Treasurer, is working with Karla Platt, Assistant Treasurer, and Bob Fuchs, former Treasurer, to prepare accurate monthly financial reports for March, April and May. It was noted that pledge payments and revenues are under budget through May, and will be watched as we go forward; expenses are also under budget.

Rick is expecting the results of the recent audit within the next week or ten days. Pledge statements will be emailed at the end of June.

Rick has notified budget owners of the schedule for submitting their requests for the 2026 budget, which is earlier this year.

Bill Carney reported from the Board Chair/Communicators meeting last week. He noted that there had been website updates. Father Eric's last service will be July 27 at 10 am; afterward a retirement celebration will be held with a potluck lunch. Also, the Celtic service will be on hiatus for the time being as the clergy go through this transition. An interim priest will be chosen for us by the Diocese, but the timing of this assignment is unknown at this time.

A discussion was held regarding the application of a recent bequest. **Bob Fuchs moved to use the bequest to pay down our mortgage. Jim Belvin seconded the motion, and it was approved with two opposed.** Our mortgage rate was guaranteed for five years with the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA (MIF), and will need to be refinanced with MIF another financial institution in January 2026. Bill Carney will contact MIF to look at our current options if we remain with their institution.

Don Halbert reported that all \$500 columbarium deposits have been refunded to parishioners. Two additional contributions will be refunded to donors. The Memorial Garden Fund will continue without the Columbarium joint name.

Tom Propst, Stewardship chairman, is planning his first committee meeting on Friday, June 20. Stewardship Sunday will be on November 3. and Tom has established the following tentative calendar:

Start, edit, and complete Campaign letter	Friday	August 1	2025
through	Friday	August 29	2025
First letter given to Lorraine and office angels	Tuesday	September 2	2025
Choir Returns	Sunday	September 14	2025

Ministry Fair	Sunday	September 14	2025
Stewardship Sermon 1	Sunday	September 28	2025
Pledge Cards and 4-pager given to Lorraine	Monday	September 29	2025
Stewardship Sermon 2	Sunday	October 5	2025
Mail Out Pledge Cards and Detail Report	Tuesday	October 7	2025
Stewardship Sermon 3	Sunday	October 12	2025
Blank Pledge Card Baskets in Narthex	Sunday	October 12	2025
Stewardship Sermon 4	Sunday	October 19	2025
Put out the Pledge Card drop-off baskets	Sunday	October 20	2025
Ingathering Day	Sunday	November 3	2025
Send out thank-you-for-pledging emails			
Send out reminders-to-pledge emails			

Margaret reported that the Vanguard Balanced Index Fund, as of May 12, is up 2.66% year-to-date, the FTSE Ex-USA International Fund is up 16.97%, and the Federal Money Market Fund is yielding 4.2%. Also, the plan to transfer our investment assets to the management of the Diocesan Foundation is scheduled for the end of June.

Bryan Wester reported that our three new HVAC systems for the sanctuary are still leaking. Mansfield continues to try to resolve this. In May it was also necessary to have BFPE repair the packing leak in the sprinkler system. This was a routine maintenance item. Bryan received a quote of \$7,500 from Prince Electric to replace four sanctuary track lights and all light bulbs. Bryan will secure more estimates for this 2026 expected project.

Steve Ammons, our facilities coordinator, has been unable to contract with a glass company to replace a damaged window in the bell tower narthex. A suggestion was made to contact Safelite to repair rather than replace the glass.

Rick Pearce, our Insurance Liaison, discussed a premium we are offered to add an additional \$50,000 to our employee theft coverage. **Jim Belvin moved to buy additional coverage up to \$100,000 for employee theft for an additional \$300 per year; Rick seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.** Also discussed was a policy premium to buy down the wind and hail deductible from 2% of coverage to \$50,000 per structure. **Rick Pearce moved to purchase this buyback deductible policy with premium of \$3,590 for the period from 6/20/25 to 6/20/26; Don Halbert seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.**

**Jim Belvin moved to adjourn the meeting at 12 noon; the motion was seconded by Don Halbert and was approved unanimously.**

Deacon Pam Hayes offered the closing prayer. The next meeting will be held on July 8 at 10 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Bearden

r.