

Present: Margaret Bearden, Bill Carney, Jim Belvin, Fr. Eric Mills, Bob Fuchs, Bill Bittenbender, Paul Bailey, Bobbie Fuchs, Susan Chase, Don Halbert, Bryan Wester

Absent: Al Snell

Guest: Rick Pearce

The meeting began at 10 AM with an opening prayer by Bill Carney.

The following items were discussed and/or decided:

- **Bob Fuchs moved to approve the July minutes, Bobbie Fuchs seconded the motion, and it was approved.**
- Bob submitted his Treasurer's report via email and noted the following: Revenues for August are less than expenses by \$21,051 and greater than expenses YTD by \$86,434. Revenues for August are less than the budget by \$5,283 and greater than the budget YTD by \$37,386. Pledges for August are less than the budget by \$8,016 and greater than the budget YTD by \$32,752. Expenses for August are less than the budget by \$15,838 and less than the budget YTD by \$20,248. Assistant Priest's Continuing Education is \$1,370 over budget YTD. Landscaping is \$1,539 over budget YTD. Substitute Clergy is \$3,470 over budget YTD. Assistant Priest categories, Rector's Continuing Ed, Maintenance & Repairs, Electric & Water, Diocesan Convention, Safety & Security, Welcome Ministry, Stephen Ministry, Music Program, Flower Expense and Summer Ministry Expense are all more than \$1K under budget YTD. 2025 Budget spreadsheets were distributed the first week of August and budget requests were received. The initial cut at the budget will be discussed at the monthly Finance and Facilities Board meeting and then forwarded to the Vestry. Lightning strike repairs continue. Expenses, less the \$5,000 deductible, will be submitted to the insurance company for reimbursement.
- Pledge statement were mailed out in early September.
- Bill Carney reported that two facility requests have been received. A progressive dinner party has been proposed by Parish Life, to take place in the Parish Hall. No date has been set. Also, ECW is now planning a second rummage sale, expected to be held annually, for March 15 next year. These events should be scheduled on the calendar through Lorraine Beamer.

- Margaret Bearden will email her report on Investments, as follows: Year-to-date through August 12, the Vanguard Balanced Index Fund is up 10.48%, the Vanguard FTSE All-World Ex-US Fund is up 8.12%, and the Vanguard Federal Money Market Fund is currently yielding 5.22%.
- Bobbie Fuchs, for Stewardship, reported that the initial pledge request letter would be mailed before September 15. The letter will include information related to proposed staff changes and additions to staff and services, recommended by the “Structure for Growth” vestry strategy team.. The pledge card and budget narrative will follow in a separate mailing.
- For the Ministry Fair on September 15, each board will present a poster detailing its committees/activities, accompanied by a board member who will be able to answer questions.
- Don Halbert reported that the City of Southport had approved our request regarding the Columbarium and the height of the proposed niche wall on Dry Street.
- The remaining time during the meeting was reserved for reviewing and discussing the preliminary 2025 budget, as requested by budget owners and vestry strategy teams.
- The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 am followed by a prayer by Fr. Eric.
- The next meeting is scheduled for October 8 at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Bearden