**Christ Episcopal Church, King and Queen Parish**

**Vestry Meeting** **Minutes**

**August 12, 2025**

Present: Fr. Peter Ackerman, Diana Donahue, Robbie Loker, Registrar, Mary Simmons, George Kennett, Mike Oliver, Donnie Morgan, Jr. Warden, Shelby Oppermann, Barbara Drumgoole, Greg Penk, Sr. Warden, Bob Donaldson, Treasurer

**Call to Order**: Fr. Peter called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with a prayer, and a quorum was present.

* **Vestry Minutes**: A motion by George Kennett and seconded by Mike Oliver resulted in a vote to approve minutes from June 10, 2025, meeting and the July 28, 2025 e-vote.The minutes were amended to reflect that George Kennett attended the June 10 meeting and voted during the e-vote on July 28.
* **Tending Our Soil Update**: David Simmons of the TOS team reported:
  + Ministry Fair is scheduled for Sunday September 7 following the joint Homecoming Service at 9:30. Vestry members were invited to find a ministry that they might be interested in participating in or helping to host at the fair.
  + The Prayers of the People version developed by the TOS team will continue until the first Sunday in Advent, November 30.
  + To introduce Christ Church to the wider community, a Pet Blessing is planned for Saturday October 4 in the Church parking lot from 9 am – 10:30 am. More details to come.
* **Rector’s report**: Fr. Peter presented his report and noted that he will be absent on Sunday September 28 as he completes continuing education requirements. Fr. Peter also announced that there will be a mid-week communion service on the first Wednesday of the month at 9:30 am beginning in September. Looking towards Sunday November 2, it will be observed as the 21st Sunday in Pentecost with a nod to All Saints Day (November 1) and an opportunity in the services to recognize those saints/loved ones that have gone before us.
* **Junior Warden’s report**: Fr. Peter and Junior Warden met and reviewed with the vestry the role and scope of the Building and Grounds committee. The focus is to keep things in good working order. This will also be shared with the B & G Committee. A motion was made by Donnie Morgan and seconded by Robbie Loker to contract to have the tree that is leaning on the well area behind the parish hall removed*.* The motion was approved.
* **Treasurer’s report**:
  + Bob Donaldson reviewed the finance reports from June and July 2025 that were distributed electronically to the vestry.
  + Expenses continue to be over budget while income from pledges and plate offerings continues to lag.
  + A motion made by Bob Donaldson and seconded by Diane Donahue to authorize the Finance Committee to determine an appropriate amount of earnings from our Endowment that could be used to supplement our operating income. That amount would not exceed $30,000 annually. The funds would be transferred from our Morgan Stanley account to PNC Bank. The motion was approved.
  + Still no check from the IRS. An inquiry was made to the Diocese’s counsel to consider taking legal action against the IRS as a faster means of recovering the funds. The Diocese’s counsel declined to endorse this action.
  + Considering the age of our HVAC systems and the general condition of the parish infrastructure Bob lead a discussion about developing a long-term solution incorporating state-of-the-art technology as a solution to reducing operating costs. Mention was made that SMECO might underwrite some of the cost of using an outside consultant. A motion to create a subcommittee to investigate and evaluate what is needed to replace our existing systems was made by Diana Donahue and seconded by Greg Penk. The motion was passed.
  + **New Members Incorporation:** No report

**New Business**

1. **Building and Grounds Committee**

Motion made by Shelby Oppermann and seconded by Mike Oliver was approved to contract with TN Bowes for kitchen A/C unit repair.

1. **Pet Blessing Saturday October 4** 9am – 10:30 am in church parking lot. TOS needs others to help host this event.
2. **Homecoming /Ministry Fair** Sunday September 7, one service at 9:30 with brunch to follow. Vestry members are encouraged to help the TOS team with talking to parishioners about opportunities to be more engaged in the life of the church.
3. **Alcohol Storage Policy**  Greg Penk explained the risks involved with leaving products containing alcohol for long term periods in the kitchen refrigerator. Others who use the kitchen would have access and this could have unintended consequences, including underage drinkers as well as adult drinkers over-imbibing.

A motion by Greg Penk and seconded by Mary Simmons authorized Greg to relay to church members using the kitchen that storing alcohol for long term in the refrigerator is no longer allowed. Alcohol can be brought in 2 -3 days prior to an event where it will be served i.e. St. Patrick’s Day Dinner. Following the event, it must be removed immediately.

1. **WARM Program** – Robbie Loker reported that Holy Angels-Sacred Heart parishes will be hosting WARM guests Sunday November 23 – November 30. They are hopeful that Christ Church will be able to support this ministry as it has in the past with laundry, monitoring for a 4 hour shift and helping with the transfer of duffel bags and cots to the next location.

**Previous Items for Updates**

1. **Cemetery –** No updated report.
2. **Updated Ministries List –** Will be available at the Ministry Fair on September 7
3. **Annual Calendar –** Blessing of the Pets on October 4 has been added.
4. **Basement Rental Readiness Project –**  will be removed from this list as no action is being taken on the carpeting or dehumidifier. As part of this discussion was the updating of the fire alarm system in the rectory, church hall and church. This topic will be further explored under New Business at the September vestry meeting.
5. **Praesidium Academy** – No report
6. **QR Giving** – Bob Donaldson reported that PayPal does not feed into the church’s “Giving System.” A motion made by Bob and seconded by Mary Simmons to adopt REALM’s mobile giving system was voted on and approved.
7. **Grace and Gratitude/ Lord’s Prayer** The gathered shared a round of Grace and Gratitude.

The meeting adjourned with The Lord’s Prayer at 7:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Robbie Loker, Registrar