

**Galilee Church
Vestry Minutes**

17 June 2025

Vestry Members in Attendance

Wendy Pelton, Linda Whitehead, Don Clark, Michael Via, Dee Oliver, Susan Freese, Tom McAfee, Father Buchanan

Apologies Received

James Noel, Katie Denton, Betsy Cromwell, Bud Syme

Not in Attendance

Tony Zontini

Others in Attendance

Robbie Berndt (Parish Executive), Fr. Randall (Senior Associate Rector)

1. Fellowship and Opening Prayer

Father Ben opened us in prayer.

2. Approval of May 2025 Minutes

James moved to approve the minutes and seconded.

3. Rector's Report, Fr. Buchanan

Liaison Reports

These reports matter on a couple of levels.

First, they force our vestry members to do a deep dive in understanding the ministries of our parish. Often vestry members are encouraged and strengthened, and even delighted, at how God is at work.

Second, they create a useful avenue of communication between the vestry and our staff and ministry leaders. Often we discover that a ministry needs particular assistance or encouragement--and, once put before the vestry, we're able to do something to help.

So here is some guidance for presenting your report at the vestry meeting:

Please only present highlights in your verbal report at the meeting. Other vestry members will have received your report on the Friday prior to the meeting; assume that they have read and digested the information.

Select, say, 2 or 3 highlights from your report--choose a couple of encouraging/exciting things to share about what God is doing in and through that area of ministry. And if there are urgent needs in a particular ministry, highlight those. And of course, be prepared for questions.

Newcomer Gathering

The next newcomer gathering is at my home on the 22nd. This is a good opportunity to meet (usually) 15-25 people who are new to Galilee, and to make connections. Perhaps 2 or 3 vestry members might attend. Dinner included, and a short (5 minute) talk from one of the clergy.

Clergy Vacations

I will be away the week of July 7th. Father Ben will be away from 22 July to 6 August.

4. Senior Warden's Report, Wendy Pelton

Now that we are mid-way through the calendar year, the Vestry will begin shifting attention to planning for 2026. We will review our mission and ensure that our activities and resources are in line with this mission. We will also begin forming committees to help oversee upcoming tasks, such as the stewardship campaign and vestry nominations. The Vestry Nominating Committee will be composed of our four outgoing vestry members - Betsy Cromwell, Katie Denton, James Noel, and Bud Syme - along with four additional committee members.

Summer activities to look forward to include the music series on Wednesdays at noon, a dinner for newcomers on June 22 from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Buchanan home, the Galilee Youth trip to the Boys Home of Virginia June 23-28, and a blood drive and Vacation Bible School in July. Please prayerfully consider how you can assist in welcoming our new members and supporting the many wonderful happenings at Galilee.

In closing, I leave you with the thought that daily surrender and guidance from Christ are paramount to our effectiveness, both individually and as a church. Let's lean into him. Let's tap into His strength. Let's "delight in his way" as it says in Psalm 37:23, and may he "establish our steps."

Joyfully in Christ,
Wendy Pelton
Senior Warden

5. Junior Warden's Report

- During the week of June 2, Beck Roofing put a new rubber membrane on the Commons' roof due to rotted metal underneath the old membrane. When working on the roof, it was discovered that electrical repairs are needed which affect the air conditioning unit in St. Andrews.
- Assuming there are no more leaks, John Vlk has completed work on repairing the fountain in the shrubbery garden (formerly the rose garden).
- Montessori has just about finished moving their second floor classroom contents to their new classroom in the basement. Lily Tillar and the Children's Ministry will be using the vacated space.

- Montessori's children enjoyed working in the garden this spring, weeding and harvesting lettuce and radishes. The school intends to keep the garden going when the children return in the fall.
- Masonry Unlimited has completed repairs and caulking to the brick stoop at the north entrance to the church. They will return to add expansion joints when the parts arrive.
- During the week of June 2, JCI began flushing out debris accumulated in the chiller, and chemicals will be added to prevent further debris buildup. This flushing is still in progress.
- This week Stephen's Roofing began replacing the south side and north side gutters with new copper gutters. During their work, it was found that new downspouts will need to be added.
- Quimby has returned to work on the electrical system affecting the chancel pipe organ. A new electrical part was ordered, but it may not be needed.
- The Chiller continues to be fine-tuned. It consists of two sides - A and B. Each side takes turns cooling, and A is not keeping up with B. Galilee has a 10 year warranty with Johnson Controls.
- The exterior windows on the first floor, and inside the Sanctuary will be cleaned the week of June 16 by Windows Ninja.
- Galilee Gardeners continue to work on forming a committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Whitehead
Junior Warden

6. Finance Report, Michael Via

The finance committee met and reviewed the question of an endowment to support physical plant operations.

Revenue has been strong through the end of May, but Michael noted that over \$300,000 will be spent in the next few months for planned expenses related to the pipe organ installation, chiller and other projects like the copper gutter replacement.

7. New Business

Wendy asked us to review the mission statement: *Renewal: Renewing you, our Community and the World.*

Wendy also raised the question of the endowment, and how the vestry would like to proceed. Pros and cons were raised (e.g. it provides an avenue for additional giving, allows for an established resource for capital expenditures, endowments can suppress regular giving by parishioners, etc.).

8. Old Business

An email will be sent to invite vestry members to help with the food/drink for July vestry dinner.

9. Liaison Report

No liaison report tonight (Betsy was assigned).

10. Closing Prayers and Adjournment

11. Next Meeting

Next vestry meeting will be at the Buchanans at 6pm, on 15 July 2025.