

Holy Spirit Vestry Meeting
Minutes for Wednesday, April 8, 2026
5:30pm, Parish Hall

Present: Molly Bowler (Sr. Warden), Jim Wiley (Treasurer), Leslie McShane (Clerk), Patti Beckley, Julie Benson, Lance Collister, Anne Geiger, Glenn Hladek, Keith Kuhn, Jim Taylor

Sr. Warden Bowler called the meeting to order at 5:33pm. Patti Beckley led the group in an opening prayer.

1. The Vestry meeting minutes for March 9 and March 11 were approved unanimously.
2. Jim Wiley's financial report: Through March, operating income is at 51% of our annual budget and \$35,480 over the amount budgeted for the first quarter. An important part of this is prepayment of annual pledges, but we also received a generous gift of \$6,000 and plate giving continues strong, \$4,700 over budget for the first quarter. Additionally, through March, parish expenses are below budget – \$7,100 below in total and \$14,700 below budget when we consider that we did not include Rector Transition expenses in our budget but from the start expected them to be paid out of savings from last year.

Compensation expenses are \$3,200 over budget due to overlap in the Office Administration position and to additional Tech Support payments – more time streaming services, help with the office computer problem and support to web site transition. General Office expenses (excluding Rector Transition expenses) are \$2,500 under budget and would have been around \$4,000 under budget except for some acceleration of Social Concerns allocations to programs such as the local Food Bank, the Rio Grande Borderland Ministry and Casa Maria, an immigrant support network in Minneapolis, which they decided to support. And, through March, Buildings & Grounds expenses are \$15,400 below budget due to lower capital improvement spending and the mild winter.

Cash position right now is quite strong, with over \$108,000 in checking and \$260,000 in the fixed income portion of our DA Davidson account, most of that in CDs which will mature between now and the end of May. We are keeping cash high in order to have the flexibility necessary to support the new Rector's housing assistance in a timely manner. The financial report was unanimously approved.

3. Property and Grounds Report: Work on the back entry and window well covers is beginning. Keith Kuhn noted that the updated lighting in the choir area is brighter and warms the area. Frank Sherman removed the failing arborvitae at the front/left of the sanctuary. Lupine Landscaping will be doing seeding, spot weeding and shrub work over the next weeks.
 - a. Other key repairs in Q1 included office rain gutter cleaned and bushes trimmed; ordering of replacement hydraulic closure device for west

entrance to parish hall; roof cleaned and altar lights replaced by Independent Roofing; bricks to the left of the parish hall entrance were replaced/repared by Bricks & Stones; toilet by choir room was plugged and required plumber.

- b. Also, plaster wall in the entryway to the church is bubbled up and John Rimel is checking it for asbestos. He volunteered to replaster it if there is no asbestos; then we plan to hire our handyman Michael Manhan to paint the area.
4. Transition: Molly briefly outlined plans for Reverend Nate's visit to Missoula with his family later in the week. Services on Sunday, April 12, are Morning Prayer, and coffee hours will be held after the 8am and 10:15am services so he may meet parishioners. Vestry members also brainstormed ways to assist in Rev. Nate's first weeks and months at Holy Spirit. Lance Collister brought up that many groups in the parish operate independently of the rector, and that Rev. Nate should not feel the need to be directly involved in these groups on a regular basis.
 5. Farewell Reception: Vestry approved outreach for a "thank you" purse for Reverend Terri and Reverend Gretchen upon their departure. The farewell reception committee is headed by Patti Beckley, and plans for food, beverages and gifts are moving forward for the May 31 date. Glenn Hladek agreed to be emcee at the reception and to work on a program for the event.
 6. Neighborhood parking: the city is making changes to parking regulations near the church, and City Parking Services Director Jody Pilgrim has reached out to the parish to discuss the issue. Keith Kuhn agreed to be a short-term liaison to inform Rev. Nate where things stand on that issue after his arrival.
 7. Brief Items
 - a. Molly thanked Anne Geiger, Wendy Kuhn and the Vestry for Easter hospitality assistance.
 - b. Hellgate student quick conversations: Most felt they were worthwhile, that there was good energy, thinking that more time would be more productive. We hope to engage the group with a project for Parenting Place with Holy Spirit – TBD.
 - c. Food Bank: Fundraising in March exceeded expectations with a donation of about \$4000 including the parish \$1500 match. There will be a mail stuffer event on April 14 at 4pm and a panel on food waste on April 15 at 6:30 pm.
 - d. Working for Creation will feature Rev. Terri at 6:30 on May 6.
 - e. The Vestry will be called to help with cleanup after the Spring Market on May 9.
 - f. Planning is underway for Rev. Arne Berglund's first liturgy on June 7, which coincides with the Church Picnic on that date.
 - g. Vestry will take a summer meeting break in July, resuming in August.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie McShane, Clerk of the Vestry