

# **THE CHURCH OF THE CROSS VESTRY MINUTES**

## **NOVEMBER 17, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by Fr. Owens at 12:30pm in the Conference Room of The Chapel.

**PRESENT:** Fr. Owens, Millard Simmons, Michael Simon, Sallie Brach, Stew Brown, Tom Durston, Linda Laird, and Craig Pelley

### **I PRAYER AND DEVOTION:** Sallie Brach

The meeting was opened in prayer by Sallie. Our devotional was titled "The Power of Prayer." Sallie included bible verses related to the importance of prayer. She shared how prayer guides us, keeps us from temptation, and demonstrates our gratitude. This devotion was special because it was Sallie's last devotional as a Vestry member. She led a special prayer time as each of us prayed individually for our fellow members and then received prayer. It was a special time for all of us.

### **II MINUTES:** Linda Laird

The Vestry Minutes for October were reviewed by electronic distribution. Michael made the motion to approve as written, Sallie seconded the motion and all present agreed.

### **III FINANCIAL REPORT:** Michael Simon

Praise God from whom all blessings flow! We continue to be amazed with the generosity and blessings we continue to receive.

Our plate income for October was \$236,770.21 (vs. a budget of \$225,559.70)

Our total Revenue income for October was \$301,378.87 vs a budget of \$274,059.70.

Our total expenses in October were \$336,704.16 vs a budget of \$312,972.46.

These total October income and expenses include the Faith Formation income, Mission Outreach Income and Donations, Cross School Scholarships, Counseling Center, Diocesan Pledge and Diocesan Blessings.

Linda shared the request for November funds for the Mission Outreach Board disbursement. She also shared the joy of meeting Father Nicolas from Zimbabwe. He shared his life story, his work, and his current needs for funding. His financial request will be posted in the December disbursements.

**The summary for the November disbursements is as follows:**

Net Working Capital: \$75,839.00  
Set Aside Disbursements: \$26,469.00  
One Time Disbursements: \$39,351.00  
Total Disbursements if Approved: \$65,820.00  
Remaining Net Working Capital: \$10,019.00

During our meeting, the Missions Outreach Board discussed and approved the following one time disbursements:

a. **Cross Schools Mission Trip to Costa Rica** – The total request was for \$17,000 of which **\$13,000** is required by December 2, 2023, and \$4,000 is required by January 1, 2024. The Board approved \$13,000 to be paid in November and \$4,000 to be paid in December. For the November payment of \$13,000, ***\$8,120 will come from the Mission Trip Reserve set aside fund and \$4,880 will come from general God's Goods funding. This is the first out of country mission trip that Cross Schools is taking.***

b. **Christian Orphan Health International** - The Board approved **\$10,000** as requested for orphan/foster children Christmas gifts to three groups of children, those housed in the Hand of Help Orphanage in Botosani, Romania, those foster children ministered to by Pastor Wally in Chernivtsi, Ukraine, and those foster children housed in the numerous Joshua houses in Lytin, Ukraine...totaling approximately 500 children which is approximately \$20.00 per child.

c. **Harvesters International Ministries, Project Hope 127, DR Congo** – The Board approved **\$7671** to provide the 176 children and youth with new shoes, clothing, and off-site Christmas celebrations/meals.

d. **Diocese of Marsabit, Kenya** – The Board approved **\$5,000** to complete the necessary funding for the first Women's Conference to bring women together from throughout this large diocese in northern Kenya.

e. **TARIRO** – The Board approved **\$8,500** to support higher education for five (5) students for the first trimester of 2024. The funding will be revisited in early 2024 for consideration of assistance for the second and third trimesters.

f. **Cross Schools Scholarship Students** – The Board approved **\$3,300** to provide one time monetary Christmas gifts for 11 Cross Schools Scholarship Students.

The MOB has committed for November funds in monthly allocations equaling \$26,469.

<b>Mission Trip Reserve</b>	<b>\$8,120.00</b>
<b>Anderson Sanchez Peru - End June 2024</b>	<b>\$2,100.00</b>
<b>Bluffton Soup Kitchen - End January 2024</b>	<b>\$833.00</b>
<b>CBC Kenya Monthly - January 2024</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>
<b>COTC Faith Formation - End May 31 2024</b>	<b>\$1,250.00</b>
<b>CS CrossSchool Monthly - End May 21 2025</b>	<b>\$2,500.00</b>
<b>DGL - Youn Life - Olena - End June 2024</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Harvesters Intl Congo Monthly Orphan care - End March 2024</b>	<b>\$3,000.00</b>
<b>HELP Madagascar - End Jan 2024</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
<b>Saint Simons Anglican Mission (Josh Lake) - End Aug 2024</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>SAMS Missionary Griffin - End Jan 2024</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<b>UCCD Burundi - End Dec 2023</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
	<b>\$26,469.00</b>

Total disbursements for November are \$65,820.00, if approved. The financial Board reviewed the request and recommended APPROVAL to the Vestry. The Vestry reviewed the request submitted and made a motion to APPROVE funding. All present agreed.

Michael reported that the November PLATE Income MTD (2 weeks) is \$114,903.98 against our PLATE budget of \$225,559.70 with two Sunday's remaining.

The Sweep accounts, under CSB Intrafi Accounts, are now in place and reflect on the Balance Sheets, as current assets, keeping our accounts protected under FDIC guidelines and earned interest in September of \$1,984.66

Streaming daily, we have an average of 200 people visiting our website, of which half are first time viewers. Streaming is extremely important. It is the most important avenue for us to reach our faithful. Just to show you the impact, this past week, our website, and streaming reached an average of 15 countries and 9 states every month. Our blessings do continue to flow for which we say, **Thanks be to God.**

In-person attendance numbers continue to increase. To date, our 2023 PEW attendance was 61,073 vs. 30,723 in 2022. Praise God. Our attendance has doubled!

Respectively Submitted, J. Michael Simon, Treasurer

#### **IV. OTHER**

##### **a. Upcoming stewardship outline**

- Father Owens shared that he would rotate to all five services this weekend to thank everyone for their generosity and commitment.
- The church will be closed from November 22-26
- We will have a first draft budget for the December meeting.
- We will have the final draft for the January meeting.
- February 13, 2024, will be the date for the pancake supper and the Parrish Annual Gathering.

##### **b. Looking ahead to 2024 staffing/budgeting**

- Staffing – We are still searching for two priests and will be interviewing soon.

- Cross Schools– Millard shared that the monthly family worship had 800 participants in attendance, including parents and grandparents. Father Owens did the Homily in 8 minutes. A group explored the swamp area for future use for an athletic complex.
- Millard also shared that there are concerns about students dropping out during the year. When the number of students decreases, the budget is impacted. Tuition Refund Plans are now available so there will not be budget problems when students leave. It benefits the parents and the school.
- Tom expressed concerns about the accidents and danger of exiting left from the church campus. Father Owens explained that there are future plans to add exits on Buckwalter Parkway and the 5B (Buckwalter Extension).
- Father Owens shared that the Historical Society wants to update our informational book, but the prices are much higher, from \$12 to \$15 each. Father Owens suggested a more economical option - an eBook that can be easily accessed by users on our website.

#### **V. CLOSING PRAYER (Sallie)**

Sallie led us in our closing prayer.

**Respectfully submitted, Linda Laird**

**Next Meeting – December 15,2023 – 12:30 – Conference room in the Chapel**

**Mill has devotional and prayer.**

**Devotional schedule: January – Joanne; February - Michael**

**THE CHURCH OF THE CROSS**  
**DECEMBER 15, 2023**

The meeting was called to order by Fr. Owens at 12:30 pm in the Conference Room of the Chapel.

**PRESENT:** Fr. Owens, Millard Simmons, Sallie Brach, Stew Brown, Tom Durston, Linda Laird, Craig Pelley, Joanne Byrd

**ABSENT:** Michael Simon

**I PRAYER AND DEVOTION:** Mill Simmons

Mill's devotional was a map presentation on the *Cedars of Lebanon*... Finding the 'Sacred in the Secular. The map presented the same areas of trouble we see today as in biblical time, reminding us of conflict at the Lebanon/Israel border where Muslims, Shiite and Christians live.

The Cedars of Lebanon are mentioned seventy five times, appearing in eleven books of the Bible and in Psalm 92. Scripture states cedars flourished in the country of Lebanon, growing tall, strong and deep rooted; much as the olive trees flourishes in Israel. David and Solomon built the temple with majestic Cedars of Lebanon. During World War II the German army down many of these magnificent trees for their use. Mill also shared about a friendship had with a thirty-one year old Lebanese Christian coworker who gifted him with a souvenir medallion made from Cedar of Lebanon. On the medallion is the official flag of Lebanon represented by a Cedar of Lebanon. (Handout)

Prayer concluded the devotion.

**II. MINUTES:** Linda Laird

The Vestry Minutes of November 17, 2023 were electronically distributed and approved as written.

**III FINANCIAL MINUTES:** Stew Brown

**IV MISSION OUTREACH BOARD:** Linda Laird

Linda gave detailed report on December MOB disbursements for Vestry consideration. Vestry approved the MOB December, 2023 recommended disbursements, without alterations, as written. Vestry thanks the MOB for their work and commitment.

## **Financial Minutes Vestry Meeting December 2023**

### **Praise God from whom all blessings flow!**

We continue to be amazed with the generosity and blessings we continue to receive.  
Our plate income for November was \$285,260.97 (vs. a budget of \$225,559.70)  
Our total Revenue income for November was \$374,596.42 vs a budget of \$274,059.70.

Our total expenses in November were \$272,107.77 vs a budget of \$265,622.46.

These total November income and expenses includes the Faith Formation income, Mission Outreach Income and Donations, Cross School Scholarships, Counseling Center, Diocesan Pledge and Diocesan Blessings.

Below is the request to approve the December funds that the Mission Board recommends for disbursement.

The Mission Board has on hand at the end of November \$335,658.82.  
They have already commitments for December (funds which they allocate monthly) \$23,023.  
The Mission Board has done their diligence and research through applications, and is requesting Grant Allocations for December for \$53,500 for a total distribution of \$76,523.  
This includes a one-time disbursement of \$10,000 for the Kairos Ministry for Christmas Dinners locally which they are asking for disbursement this week if possible to make this happen on time.

Keep in mind, any request from any Mission, needs to first have an application filed, then reviewed by the Mission Board, who discuss, pray and vote for a decision.

**The financial Board reviewed the request, filed and approved a motion to recommend to the Vestry to APPROVE the request for funding.**

Linda Laird presented and reviewed the request for funds to the Vestry. There was a motion to approve the funds disbursement, it was seconded and approved unanimously by the Vestry.

Restricted accounts remain in healthy standing and our cash position remains very strong

December PLATE Income MTD (2 weeks) is \$143,160.48 against our PLATE budget of \$354,104.47 with three Sunday's remaining.

### **Other Business**

The Women's Craft Show had a very successful event which grossed \$14,500 which will fund the Women's Ministry as well as selected charities chosen by the women as a group. This is reflected in the Restricted Accounts.

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The Sweep accounts, under CSB Intrafi Accounts, are now in place and reflect on the Balance Sheets, as current assets, keeping our accounts protected under FDIC guidelines and earned interest in September of \$2,965.45

### **Streaming**

Every day, we have an average of 200 people visiting our websites of which half are first time viewers.

Streaming is extremely important to most important avenue for us to reach our faithful. Just to show you the impact, just this past week, our website and streaming reaches an average of **15 different countries, 9 different states every month.**

**Our blessings do continue to flow for which we say, Thanks be to God.**

**Attendance Below:**

**In-person attendance numbers:**

					CROSS P 10:30	CROSS SCHOOLS	CURRENT MONTH	YTD 2023	MTD 2022	YTD 2022
SEPTEMBER	HIST 5:28	HIST 8AM	HIST 10AM	CHAPEL 9AM			5626	51,547	2892	23,734
3rd	131	89	222	118	462					
10th	125	70	197	128	428					
17th	103	72	200	132	493					
24th	119	84	220	133	465					
	478	315	839	511	1848	1635				
							CURRENT MONTH	YTD 2023	MTD 2022	YTD 2022
OCTOBER	HIST 5:28	HIST 8AM	HIST 10AM	CHAPEL 9AM	CROSS P 10:30	CROSS SCHOOLS	6433	57,980	3776	27,510
1st	105	86	197	153	368					
8th	107	76	198	146	475					
15th	123	80	267	146	485					
22nd	100	71	183	156	482					
29th	128	66	233	163	489					
						1350				
	563	379	1078	764	2299	1350	CURRENT MONTH	YTD 2023	MTD 2022	YTD 2022
NOVEMBER	HIST 5:28	HIST 8AM	HIST 10AM	CHAPEL 9AM	CROSS P 10:30	CROSS SCHOOLS	5580	63,560	3213	30,723
5th	122	89	237	182	451					
12th	129	61	208	146	468					
19th	117	62	249	159	450					
26th	116	75	287	140	432					
	484	287	981	627	1801	1400				

**To date, our 2023 in PEW attendance was 63,560 vs. 30,723 in 2022.  
Praise God.**

Submitted Respectively,

J. Michael Simon, Treasurer



## **V. OTHER**

### **A. PRELIMINARY LOOK AHEAD TO 2024 STAFFING/BUDGET: (Fr. Owens)**

Vestry viewed preliminary budget as it was explained by Fr. Chuck. The final budget will be seen at our January meeting. (Handout was returned to Fr. Owens).

### **B. HISTORIC CAMPUS SHUTTLE: (M. Simmons)**

Motion put forth to purchase a second shuttle which would help alleviate the lack of parking on the Historic Campus during services. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved for purchase. (See Handout for details)

### **C. REQUEST FROM CROSS SCHOOLS TO PARTNER IN CONSTRUCTION: (M. Simmons) See Handout**

Cross Schools is in need of a cafeteria and expansion as the students are eating in an over crowded hallway. Plans were shown with final details to come. Motion was put forth to support expansion on school up to and not to exceed \$412,825. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

### **D. THOUGHTS ON THE ARGENT EAST CAMPUS: (Fr. Owens)**

\$200,000 has been provided to work with planning and an architect for this campus. The immediate focus is to apply for permit for building on Argent East Campus property.

## **CONCLUSION**

Millard closed our meeting with prayer. The next Vestry meeting will be January 26, 2024, at 12:30pm in the Conference Room of The Chapel. Joanne has devotional and prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Byrd



## THE CHURCH OF THE CROSS

JANUARY 26, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Fr. Owens at 12:30pm in the Conference Room of the Chapel.

**PRESENT:** Fr. Owens, Millard Simmons, Michael Simon, Sallie Brach, Stew Brown, Tom Durston, Linda Laird, Craig Pelley

### **I PRAYER AND DEVOTION:** Joanne Byrd

Prayer opened our meeting. The devotion was a review of the book, *HOLY MOMENTS... A HANDBOOK FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE*, by Matthew Kelly. The book is a 21 day Day Challenge to change one's life by becoming aware of Holy Moments in our lives and others. Holy Moments are grace-filled prayer-directed actions which are activated by the Holy Spirit through a daily prayer life which is essential. Holy Moments happen when one puts others before themselves becoming Good Samaritans as in *Luke 10:30-37*. "Jesus says go and do likewise." Mr. Kelly shares examples of those who have taken the 21 Day Challenge showing how their lives were changed. They began to see the work of the Holy Spirit transforming their actions as they reached out to touch another's life with goodness, hope and encouragement. Holy Moments are about giving "Hope to All God's People". Scripture from Matthew 17...*The Transfiguration* was illustrated as is Matthew 13: 8 *The Sowing of the Seeds* which fall on four different types of soil. Some seeds multiply hundred fold, so sixty and some thirty. Mr. Kelly's hope is that all people who read his book will be transformed; as well as passing on the 6 free of charge editions he offers to the purchaser to be passed out to others touching one person at a time with God's love and hope.

### **II MINUTES:** Joanne Byrd

The Vestry Minutes for December 15, 2023 were electronically distributed and were approved as written.

### **III FINANCIALS:** Michael Simon

## **Financial Minutes Vestry Meeting January 2024**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow!**

We continue to be amazed with the generosity and blessings we continue to receive.  
Our plate income for December was \$523,481.93 (vs. a budget of \$354,104.47)  
Our total Revenue income for December was \$622,193.97 vs a budget of \$427,604.47.

Our total expenses in December were \$778,266 vs a budget of \$264,229.65.  
The 2023 Fiscal year ended with the Parish is very good financial status, with all the restricted accounts in good standing.

These total November income and expenses includes the Faith Formation income, Mission Outreach Income and Donations, Cross School Scholarships, Counseling Center, Diocesan Pledge and Diocesan Blessings.

Below is the request to approve the December funds that the Mission Board recommends for disbursement.

The Mission Board has on hand at the end of December \$278,029.86.  
They have already commitments for January (funds which they allocate monthly) \$20,583.  
The Mission Board has done their diligence and research through applications, and is requesting Grant Allocations for January for \$17,343 for a total distribution of \$37,926.

Keep in mind, any request from any Mission, needs to first have an application filed, then reviewed by the Mission Board, who discuss, pray and vote for a decision.

**The financial Board reviewed the request, filed and approved a motion to recommend to the Vestry to APPROVE the request for funding.**

Linda Laird presented and reviewed the request for funds to the Vestry. There was a motion to approve the funds disbursement, it was seconded and approved unanimously by the Vestry.

Restricted accounts remain in healthy standing and our cash position remains very strong

January PLATE Income MTD is \$195,131 with one Sunday

### **Other Business**

The Financial Board met with Padre on Tuesday and reviewed . The Budget was presented to The Vestry, a motion was raised to approve and the Vestry voted to approve the 2024 Budget.

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The Sweep accounts, under CSB Intrafi Accounts, are now in place and reflect on the Balance Sheets, as current assets, keeping our accounts protected under FDIC guidelines and earned interest in December of \$1,064.04

## Streaming

Every day, we have an average of 200 people visiting our websites of which half are first time viewers.

Streaming is extremely important to most important avenue for us to reach our faithful. Just to show you the impact, just this past week, our website and streaming reaches an average of **15 different countries, 9 different states every month.**

**Our blessings do continue to flow for which we say, Thanks be to God.**

## Attendance Below

**In-person attendance numbers please compare December 2022 to 2023 below**

					CROSSP	CROSS	CURRENT	YTD	MTD	YTD
					10:30	SCHOOLS	MONTH	2023	2022	2022
Dec-23	HIST 5:28	HIST 8AM	HIST 10AM	CHAPEL 9AM			6435	69,995	3886	34,609
3rd	110	97	235	187	467					
10th	113	89	258	152	495					
17th	95	46	150	105	382					
24th EVE	147	604	228	550	612	185	2,326			
31st	152	84	294	148	450					
Totals	617	920	1165	1142	2406	185				

					CROSSP	CROSS	CURRENT	YTD	MTD	YTD
					10:30	SCHOOLS	MONTH	2022	2021	2021
Dec-22	HIST 5:28	HIST 8AM	HIST 10AM	CHAPEL 9AM			5493	5,493	3886	3,886
4TH	96	63	228	127	436	400				
11TH	98	83	230	128	361	400				
18TH	120	66	229	128	466					
24th EVE	80	369	149	279	624	333	1,834			
	394	581	836	662	1887	1133				

**To date, our 2023 in PEW attendance was 69,995 vs. 34,609 in 2022.  
Praise God.**

Submitted Respectively,

J. Michael Simon, Treasurer

#### **IV MISSION OUTREACH BOARD: Linda Laird**

Motion brought forward requesting to bring Debra Watkins onto the Mission Outreach Board. Motion approved by Vestry and seconded by Stew Brown, unanimously approved by Vestry.

#### **V OTHER**

##### **A. NOMINEES FOR VESTRY ( Fr. Owens)**

Two names were submitted for Vestry membership. They are Wayne Bowerman and Lee Watkins, both godly men. After discussion by Vestry a motion was put forth. Both candidates were unanimously accepted to serve on Vestry. Their names will be announced at the Annual Gathering on February 13th,

##### **B. STATUS OF PROJECT TO REMODEL SUNDAY SCHOOL SPACES, PROVIDE A CAFETERIA FOR USE BY CROSS SCHOOLS**

Construction on the expansion and remodeling of Cross Schools will begin in April. It should be completed in time for the new school year.

##### **C. THOUGHTS ON ANNUAL GATHERING ON FEBRUARY 13, 2024**

The Annual Gathering is on Shrove Tuesday with our annual Pancake Dinner beginning at 5:30pm; followed by the Annual Gathering —‘Looking Back and Looking Ahead’ at 7:00pm. We look forward to a blessed turnout as TCOTC wraps up 2023 and sets the pace for 2024 with God’s help.

##### **D. MEMBERSHIP**

Vestry is welcoming two new members and as we do, Vestry says ‘Goodbye’ to Sallie Brach and Mill Simmons who have served the Lord faithfully. Vestry thanks you for your dedication, unselfish service and most of all for your love of the Lord, Jesus Christ, as you have served with

grace and wisdom. May you feel His presence as you walk through the new doors of opportunity in front of you as you step away from Vestry. Thank you again....Joanne

#### CONCLUSION

Joanne closed the meeting with prayer. The next Vestry meeting will be February 23, 2024 at 12:30pm in the Conference Room of the Chapel. Michael Simon has prayers and devotional. (Devotional Schedule: March—Linda; April—Craig; May -Tom; June—Stew)

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Byrd

**THE CHURCH OF THE CROSS VESTRY MINUTES**  
**FEBRUARY 23, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by Fr. Owens at 12:30pm in the Conference Room of The Chapel.

**PRESENT:** Fr. Owens, Michael Simon, Stew Brown, Linda Laird, Craig Pelley, Wayne Bowerman, Lee Watkins and Joanne Byrd

**ABSENT:** Tom Durston

**I PRAYER AND DEVOTION:** Michael Simon

Michael opened our meeting with prayer and then read Genesis 1:1-4...'*darkness was over the the surface of the deep and the Spirit of God hovered over the waters. And God said, Let there be light there and the light was good.*' While visiting Germany over Christmas where their day light hours are very short, 9:30-4pm, Michael noticed the people did not smile and tended to be downcast as they dealt with economic issues, the darkness and perhaps Christmas Blues. He and Sonja then traveled to Norway to view the Northern Lights where the days are even shorter with daylight hours between 11am and 2:15pm. Here they found cheerful people, houses filled with light. The city had a glow about it; there was something very special. He compared it to Matt. 5:14-15 as being a 'city on a hill cannot be hidden' and 1 John:5 speaks of Light and Darkness, Sin and Forgiveness. Ps 139:5 assures us 'even the darkness will not be dark to You; the night will shine like the day for darkness is as light to You.'

At TCOTC, the Christian Counseling Center has been a "Light in the Darkness" to many people filled with sadness giving hope. Other scriptures about Light, Goodness and Hope which come from God were found in John 1:6, 12:16; Ecclesiastes 2:14 and Revelation 21:23.

**II MINUTES:** Joanne Byrd

The Vestry Minutes for January 26, 2024 were electronically distributed and were approved as written.

**III FINANCIALS:** Michael Simon



## **Financial Minutes Vestry Meeting February 2024**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow!**

We continue to be amazed with the generosity and blessings we continue to receive.  
Our plate income for January was \$326,734.85 (vs. a budget of \$225,525)  
Our total Revenue income for January was 385,948.85 vs a budget of 293,650.

Our total expenses in January were \$257,777 vs a budget of 315,213.33.

These total January income and expenses includes the Faith Formation income, Mission Outreach Income and Donations, Cross School Scholarships, Counseling Center, Diocesan Pledge and Diocesan Blessings.

Below is the request to approve the February funds that the Mission Board recommends for disbursement.

The Mission Board has on hand at the end of January \$320,402.32.  
They have already commitments for February (funds which they allocate monthly) \$22,274.  
The Mission Board has done their diligence and research through applications, and is requesting Grant Allocations for February for \$17,300 for a total distribution of \$39,574.

Keep in mind, any request from any Mission, needs to first have an application filed, then reviewed by the Mission Board, who discuss, pray and vote for a decision.

**The financial Board reviewed the request, filed and approved a motion to recommend to the Vestry to APPROVE the request for funding.**

Linda presented and reviewed the request for funds to the Vestry. There was a motion to approve the funds disbursement, it was seconded and approved unanimously by the Vestry.

Restricted accounts remain in healthy standing and our cash position remains very strong

February PLATE Income MTD is \$186,589.07 against our PLATE budget of \$212,260 with one Sunday remaining

### **Other Business**

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The Sweep accounts, under CSB Intrafi Accounts, are now in place and reflect on the Balance Sheets, as current assets, keeping our accounts protected under FDIC guidelines and earned interest in December of \$2,336.41

### **Streaming**

Every day, we have an average of 200 people visiting our websites of which half are first time viewers. Streaming is extremely important to most important avenue for us to reach our faithful. Just to show you the impact, just this past week, our website and streaming reaches an average of **15 different countries, 9 different states every month.**

**Our blessings do continue to flow for which we say, Thanks be to God.**

**Attendance Below**

**In-person attendance numbers please compare December 2022 to 2023 below**

2024						ATTENDANCE TOTAL					
						CROSS P	CROSS	CURRENT	YTD	MTD	YTD
						10:30	SCHOOLS	MONTH	2024	2023	2023
<b>JANUARY</b>	<b>HIST 5:28</b>	<b>HIST 8AM</b>	<b>HIST 10AM</b>	<b>CHAPEL 9AM</b>				6384	6,384	2,451	2,451
7th	143	69	237	189		643					
14th	117	57	256	140		560	700				
21st	117	57	256	140		560	450				
28th	152	83	303	144		561	450				
	529	266	1052	613		2324	1600				
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>HIST 5:28</b>	<b>HIST 8AM</b>	<b>HIST 10AM</b>	<b>CHAPEL 9AM</b>		<b>CROSS P</b>	<b>CROSS</b>	<b>CURRENT</b>	<b>YTD</b>	<b>MTD</b>	<b>YTD</b>
						<b>10:30</b>	<b>SCHOOLS</b>	<b>MONTH</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>
4th	126	75	203	160		535	400	4729	11,113	5,956	12,817
11th	144	79	252	177		531	700				
18th	155	86	277	167		662					
25th											
	425	240	732	504		1728	1100				

**To date, our 2023 in PEW attendance was 69,995 vs. 34,609 in 2022.  
Praise God.**

Submitted Respectively,

J. Michael Simon, Treasurer

## **OTHER:**

### **A. THOUGHTS ON THE ANNUAL GATHERING on February 13, 2024**

Vestry thought the Annual Gathering went very well. It was streamed by many.

### **B. APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO BOARD OF CROSS SCHOOLS**

Motion was made for the appointment of Rick Harrell, Daniel Thompson and Mitch Brach to the Board of Cross Schools. Motion was put forth and approved by Vestry.

### **C. STATUS OF PROJECT REMODEL OF SUNDAY SCHOOL SPACES /CROSS SCHOOL CAFETERIA**

Work will begin on April 1, 2024 with completion in time for school to start.

### **D. STEW BROWN RESIGNATION FROM VESTRY**

Stew will be resigning from Vestry on March 1, 2024 after many years of faithful service on Vestry and serving TCOTC. Vestry says goodbye to Stew with grateful hearts for all the Lord has called him to do. He and his dear wife, Judy, are moving to KC to be closer to family.

### **E. DIOCESAN CONVENTION DELEGATES —CONVENTION —MARCH 8-9, 2024**

Delegates are Laura Strange and Mill Simmons. Newly elected Sr. Warden, Michael Simon and Jr. Warden, Craig Pelley will also attend Convention.

This is the last year the convention will be held at Cross School Campus.

### **F. CHURCH LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP II —MARCH 16, 2024—CRAIG PELLE**

Craig has organized presentation and will meet with new Vestry to bring them up to date.

### **G. ELECTION OF SENIOR WARDEN, JR. WARDEN, SECRETARY AND TREASURER**

Congratulations to our new Vestry officers: Sr. Warden—Michael Simon, Jr. Warden—Craig Pelley, Secretary—Linda Laird, Treasurer—Lee Watkins

### **H. PARKING AT HISTORIC CAMPUS.**

Cars parking for all church services must be parked in official parking spaces or they will be subject to parking tickets from Bluffton Police Department. Announcements will be

made concerning this matter during services.

**CONCLUSION**

Michael closed our meeting in prayer Our next Vestry meeting will be on March 15, 2024 at 12:30pm in the Conference Room of The Chapel. Linda Laird will do prayer and devotion.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Byrd

## **THE CHURCH OF THE CROSS VESTRY MINUTES**

**MARCH 15, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by Fr. Owens at 12:30PM in the Conference Room of the Chapel.

**PRESENT:** Fr. Owens, Michael Simon, Linda Laird, Joanne Byrd, Lee Watkins, Wayne Bowerman, Craig Pelley, and Tom Durston.

### **I PRAYER AND DEVOTION:** Linda Laird

Prayer opened the meeting and the devotion focused on "Calling Out to God." Linda introduced the book of Habakkuk to address the Question "Why does God let bad things happen?" Habakkuk calls out to God and ask him why he does not save them. Linda shared examples of how her family had reacted to events that called them to ask God "WHY." God responds to Habakkuk by telling him to look at the nations and watch and be utterly amazed. He also told Habakkuk to write down the revelations and make it plain to all. For the revelation waits an appointed time. God tells us to LOOK and WATCH. WAIT and BE PATIENT. Habakkuk had asked God why evil people prosper while the righteous suffer. God's answer: they don't, not in the long run. WAIT FOR IT. Habakkuk rejoiced in the Lord and was joyful in God his Savior. Linda shared her favorite go-to verses for difficult or low times in her life. They included: Jeremiah 29:11, Matthew 11:28-29, Psalm 23:4 and Deuteronomy 31:5-6. She closed with prayer and Romans 15:13, "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

### **II HIGHLIGHTS OF CROSS SCHOOLS SENIORS MISSION TRIP:** Pastor Nathan

Pastor Nathan provided each member of the Vestry with a copy of his daily journal from the mission trip to Costa Rica. The fifteen students were a little shy at first but were joyful and excited to be with the children. They were hosted by the SCORE International Missions. Leslie Albert prepared a wonderful program for the children. Our students were actors, performers, painters, encouragers, and deliverers of food. They accomplished a lot in a short time. One student asked to be baptized and Nathan made it happen. That moment will never be forgotten. Everyone thanked Nathan for his outstanding work with the Faith Formation at Cross School. He hopes to take every senior class on a mission trip.

### **III: MINUTES:** Joanne Byrd

The Vestry Minutes for February 23,2024 were electronically distributed and were approved as written.

### **IV FINANCE:** Lee Watkins, Financial Overview for February 2024—March 15, 2024

Monthly Income was at \$324,832 to a budget of \$280,385—24% over expectations. Plate

Income for February was \$260,682.01 to a budget of \$212,260. Year to date (First two months) Plate Income stands at \$587,416.66 to a YTD Budget of \$437,785 for a positive variance of \$149,631.86 (Two months in, generous parishioners bless us!) Total Revenue for the year is \$710,780.86 to a budget of \$574,035.00. Additional income comes from grants, bequests, faith formation and the counseling center income. Total expenses for the month were at an actual of \$294,169.04 to a monthly budget of \$327,883.19. For a variance in our favor of \$33,714.15. YTD Expenses are at \$551,954.53 to a YTD budget of \$643,361.67. For a total under-budget variance of 91,416.14. Revenue continues to pace ahead of expectations while our expenses are below budget for these first two months of 2024. We are in a season of abundance but not complacency! Looking ahead to March—we are in a month with 5 Sundays, the last one being Easter. We should expect higher revenue. Plate Income for the first two Sundays in March stands at \$100,990.00. Lee explained that the Sweep accounts under CSB IntraFi ended February at 1,652,075.20, earned interest of \$3314.02 and were moved over to the Argent account. Streaming: The COTC Website continues to attract visitors with over 4400 page views. Returning viewers made up over five hundred of these, which shows two things; first, people are returning for information, and, secondly, our parishioners are utilizing the website for church news and information. Remember that not all people watching sermons come through TCOTC web page, some will view them on YouTube as well.

#### Attendance Review:

YTD 2024 In Person attendance numbers compared with the first two months of 2023.

For February, total attendance was 7175 compared to 2023 attendance of 5956.

YTD: In the first two months of 2024, total attendance is 13,559 compared to 2023 YTD of 12,817

#### Missions Budget Stands at the following:

Beginning Balance at the end of January was \$320,402.32.

God's Goods brought in \$80,146.89 in Feb 2024 (Thanks be to God!)

Grants and distributions approved in February total \$40,974.00. Total

Funds on Hand as of the end of Feb. was \$359,575.21.

While all are impressive results, I strive to always remember that the true results are in the lives changed and needs met by the hard work of our Rector, Priests, wonderful staff, and volunteers. Praise God for the increase, He is faithful and may we all serve him with gladness! For such a time as this!

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Watkins, Vestry Treasurer

Linda Laird reported that the Missions Board met on March 11 and are requesting the following funds be approved by the Vestry.

\$25,333	for monthly commitments
\$31,250	for one-time grants
\$56,583	Total grant requested.

- Total Set Aside \$25,333.00 (See Appendix A below). This amount includes three mission trip funding requests. One request is from Drew Hamilton in the amount of \$1,600 for a mission trip to S. Korea. The next request is in the amount of \$550 from Emily Cook for a mission trip to the Dominican Republic. The final request is in the amount of \$1,650 from the Pratt family for a mission trip to the Dominican Republic. The amount also includes grant renewal for Harvesters International Ministries in the amount of \$3000 for 12 months and an additional - \$2,100 in six installments, (6x\$350) ending in August.
- Total One Time Funding \$31,250
  - a. Anderson Sanchez, Peru, for repairs to the school's roof. \$8250.00
  - b. Christian Orphan Health, supplies for VBS in Eastern Europe. \$7000.00
  - c. AFM- \$20,000 in two installments (2x10,000), \$10,000 in March and \$10,000 in April to use for their three main funds.
- d. Amboseli Project Kenya- \$6,000 for school fees, boarding and day student for one year and school feeding program relief in the amount of \$2,000.

The Financial Board met and reviewed the requests on March 12, filed and approved a motion to recommend the Vestry approve the Requests.

Lee made a motion to approve, Joanne seconded, and all approved the motion.

#### **V OTHER:**

- a. Thoughts on the Diocesan Convention (Michael and Craig)  
Craig noted that the convention was organized and well received. There were great discussions about the new camp. Michael shared the characteristics of the new logo. There was also a discussion about the parishes who lost their properties and are moving forward in new locations.

b. Staff Changes (present and near future)

Michael-Anne Land is stepping down from the Childrens' Ministry as of June 1, 2024. She will continue with the American Heritage Girls and start a Ranger group for the boys.

We will be hiring a Curate, a new leader for the Childrens' Ministry and a second youth minister.

We are also searching for an Administrative Assistant.

c. The Status of the project to remodel the Sunday School spaces to provide a cafeteria for us by the Cross Schools is on tract. However, 2024 Vacation Bible School has been canceled due to construction.

d. The Church Leadership Workshop II on March 16 is ready to go. We discussed the purpose for the training and the importance of having leaders in the future.

e. Joanne shared that coffee will be served at the chapel on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month.

**VI CLOSING PRAYERS:** Linda

Next Meeting -April 19,2014-12:30 – Conference in the Chapel – Craig has the devotional and prayers.

[2024 Meeting/Devotional schedule: April 19 – Craig; May 17 – Tom; June 21 – Wayne; July 19 – Lee; August 16 – Joanne; September 20 – Michael; October 18 – Linda; November 15- Craig; December 13 – Tom

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Laird



Appendex A	
Mission Trip Reserve	\$3,800.00
Anderson Sanchez Peru - End June 2024	\$2,100.00
Bluffton Soup Kitchen - End January 2025	\$833.00
Campus Outreach Ministry, Hoffman- End November 2024	\$500.00
CBC Kenya Monthly - January 2025	\$3,000.00
Cross Christian Counseling Center - End December 2024	\$300.00
COTC Faith Formation - End May 31 2024	\$1,250.00
CS CrossSchool Monthly - End May 21 2025	\$2,500.00
DGL - Young Life - Olena - End June 2024	
Harvesters Intl Congo Monthly Orphan care - \$3,000/month End March 2025; \$350/month end August 2024.	\$3,350.00
HELP Madagascar - End Dec 2024; \$2100/month starting January 2024	\$2,100.00
Hope Compassion Center - End June 2024	\$600.00
Saint Simons Anglican Mission (Josh Lake) - End Aug 2024	\$2,000.00
SAMS Missionary Griffin - End Jan 2025	\$1,500.00
UCCD Burundi - End Dec 2025	\$1,500.00
Total for March 2024	\$25,333.00

## THE CHURCH OF THE CROSS VESTRY MINUTES

May 17, 2024

The meeting was called to order by Fr. Owens at 12:30PM  
in the Conference Room of the Chapel.

**PRESENT:** Fr. Owens, Michael Simon, Linda Laird, Joanne Byrd, Lee Watkins, Wayne Bowerman, Craig Pelley, and Tom Durston.

### **I: PRAYER AND DEVOTION:** Craig Pelley

Craig shared his spiritual journey in service to God from childhood with his parent to today. In sharing, he challenged us to ask ourselves “What is the purpose of my life?” He felt his purposes had changed every 2 years and he knew God was leading him in different ministries. He is serving in Alpha this summer and he is excited to be part of this program. He ended with prayer and the words of the song “Be Humble and Kind.”

### **II MINUTES:** Linda Laird

The Vestry Minutes for March 2024 were electronically distributed and were approved as written. The Vestry did not meet in April.

### **III: FINANCE:** Lee Watkins, Treasurer’s Report for Month Ending April 30, 2024:

**Revenue Discussions:** Revenue continues above budgeted numbers.

Regular monthly Income was at \$358,857.37 to a budget of \$295,860.00.

Plate Income for April was \$250,714.37 to a budget of \$227,735.00. Year

To Date Plate stands at: 1,106,458.09 to a budget of \$902,100.00.

For a YTD positive variance of \$204,358.09.

Total Revenue for the year is \$1,421,071.20 to a budget of \$1,174,600.00.

Also, two months in a row, Cross Counseling revenue was over budgeted revenue for April, \$12,310.00 to a monthly budget of \$10,958.33. Great news!

Plate Income was expectedly lower in April than the previous Month of March because of Holy week and 5 Sundays in the month—but still, over budget.

March Plate: \$268,326.86 vs. April Plate: \$250,714.37

MTD Plate for May (first two weeks): \$98,787.20

MTD Plate Budget for May: \$104,412.80

**Expenses Discussion:** Expenses continue to be within expectations. Total expenses for the month were \$299,416.85 to a monthly budget of \$301,277.99. YTD Expenses are at

\$1,137,389.57 to a YTD budget of \$1,251,621.33. Expense variances of note were the charges for the HC Lighting and HC natural gas connection fee.

**Church Attendance—March and April comparisons:**

March 2024 was the “big” month at 5 Sundays and the final week being Holy Week/Easter. April 2024 had 4 Sundays. In 2023, the month of April had 5 Sundays and Easter. YTD attendance through the end of April is 2586, ahead of 2023.

APRIL	HIST 5:28	HIST 8AM	HIST 10AM	CHAPEL 9AM	CROSS P 10:30	CROSS SCHOOL	CURREN	YTD	MTD	YTD 2023
							T MONTH	2024	2023	
							5,553	29,160	8124	26,574
7th	156	90	256	159	549	400				
14th	112	90	231	151	433	700				
21st	131	89	226	154	489					
28th	133	92	244	176	492					
<b>Totals</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>957</b>	<b>640</b>	<b>1963</b>	<b>1100</b>				

**Streaming and Online:** Average Online live viewing of Crosspoint/9am Chapel is at 133. This is viewing through Facebook and the COTC website. Additionally, later viewing on YouTube is not accounted for. Visits to the COTC website continue averaging 450-475 per day.

Linda shared the request from the Mission Outreach Board for May Disbursements  
Disbursement Report Finance Board and Vestry Summary

Net Working Capital: \$79,669.84 May

Set Aside Distributions: \$21,533.00 (See Appendix A)

May Grant Approvals: \$59,910.47

Total May Distributions if Approved: \$81,443.47

Remaining Net Working Capital: \$ -1,773.63

May funding approved by the Missions Outreach Board:

1. Christian Orphan Health International: \$7,000 for VBS Camps in Romania and Ukraine
2. Y’All KANDU, TN: \$4,000 for Back-to-School night and Welcome Bags for Foster Children
3. Pine Valley Camp: Requests \$15,200
4. TARIRIO, Zimbabwe: Request \$4000 for four student laptops
5. HEAL Ministries: Request \$5,000 toward an office building for the teachers
6. CMSI, St. Luke’s Ibba, Sudan: \$8,000 toward the construction of a new church
7. St. Luke’s Preschool Scholarship Fund: \$5,000 toward the St. Luke’s Preschool Scholarship Fund

8. Missionary Expenses – \$182.47 toward reimbursement for hosting SAMS Mexico missionaries in March and Indian Ministries of North America missionaries in April.

Post Missions Outreach Board Meeting, on Tuesday, May 14, 2024, the Missions Board received an urgent request from an organization that we have been supporting in Mongolia, Youth With a Mission. Through electronic vote, the Board approved the request from Mongolia. Additionally, Harvesters International Missions advised that they had not received the funding for a request that was already approved by the Board in April. These disbursements are described as follows:

1. Youth With A Mission, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia: \$6,528 USD to assist with plumbing repairs due to a failed system which requires replacement.
2. Harvesters International Ministries, Rwanda: \$5,000 to assist with a counseling program to assist those still healing from the genocide as well as to support medical care for the uninsured.

**Missions Budget Stands at the following (Updated with Emergency Requests):**

On Hand funds:

Beginning Balance at the end of March was \$352,718.12.

Grants for April 2024 were: - \$80,333.00.

God's Goods brought in \$75,884.72 in April 2024 (another big month!)

Total Funds on Hand as of the end of April: \$348,269.84

The Missions Board met yesterday May 13 for their monthly meeting:

\$21,533 for monthly commitments (Set Aside Distributions)

\$59,910.47.00 for one-time grants (including \$11,528 emergency requests made on May 14)

Total grant distribution requests are \$81,433.47\*

\*The Finance Board asked that the Vestry get more information on the \$5000 grant proposal for St Luke's Preschool and hold the request until next month per review.

Michael led the discussions on providing these requests. All agreed.

**Respectfully Submitted, Lee Watkins, Vestry Treasurer**

**V: OTHER:**

**a. Historic Campus garage repurposing and renovation**

Our Handy Ministry members, under the direction of Roger Abney, will be repurposing and renovating the garage behind the Counseling Center. It will become a one bedroom apartment for our new Curate, Bennett Ellison. We are providing his apartment as part of his salary.

**b. The Deacon and the Curate**

Dave Fisher, our current Chaplain, will be ordained as Deacon on June 28, 2024. Bennett Ellison will be ordained as a Deacon and will report to work on July 1, 2024. He comes to us from Asbury Theological Seminary.

**c. Status of the Chapel Columbarium project**

Permits for construction on the columbarium project have been obtained and the project may be completed by December.

**d. Status of Jasper County Campus project**

Father Chuck shared the drawings of the proposed project. It follows the same plan as Cross School but on a smaller scale. There will be twenty identical classrooms so that flexibility in grade placement and activities can be achieved. There are large inner rooms for indoor activities when it rains. There is also a Worship Center/gym that can accommodate 450 people. The kitchen and nursing care are on the sides of the Worship Center. We are excited to begin this project, but it will not happen quickly. Permitting and approvals are slow to come.

**e. Construction details at Cross School**

Father Chuck reviewed construction progress at the school. The current nursery will become a classroom for autistic students from Monday through Friday and a nursery during church services. There will be three additional classrooms and an office created on the second floor.

\*Wayne shared that a cross country track may be ready by fall.

**V: CLOSING PRAYERS: Craig**

Next Meeting -June 21, 2014-12:30 – Conference room in the Chapel –

Wayne has the devotional and prayers.

2024 Meeting/Devotional schedule: April 19 - Craig; May 17 - Tom; June 21 -

Wayne, July 19 -Lee; August 16 - Joanne; September 20 - Michael,

October 18 - Linda; November 15- Craig; December 13 - Tom

Respectfully Submitted

Linda Laird

Appendex A	
<b>Mission Trip Reserve</b>	\$0.00
<b>Anderson Sanchez Peru - End June 2024</b>	\$2,100.00
<b>Bluffton Soup Kitchen - End January 2025</b>	\$833.00
<b>Campus Outreach Ministry, Hoffman- End November 2024</b>	\$500.00
<b>CBC Kenya Monthly - January 2025</b>	\$3,000.00
<b>Cross Christian Counseling Center - End December 2024</b>	\$300.00
<b>COTC Faith Formation - End May 31 2024</b>	\$1,250.00
<b>CS CrossSchool Monthly - End May 21 2025</b>	\$2,500.00
<b>DGL - Young Life - Olena - End June 2024</b>	
<b>Harvesters Intl Congo Monthly Orphan care - \$3,000/month End March 2025; \$350/month end August 2024.</b>	\$3,350.00
<b>HELP Madagascar - End Dec 2024; \$2100/month starting January 2024</b>	\$2,100.00
<b>Hope Compassion Center - End June 2024</b>	\$600.00
<b>Saint Simons Anglican Mission (Josh Lake) - End Aug 2024</b>	\$2,000.00
<b>SAMS Missionary Griffin - End Jan 2025</b>	\$1,500.00
<b>UCCD Burundi - End Dec 2025</b>	\$1,500.00
<b>Total for March 2024</b>	<b>\$25,333.00</b>

## THE CHURCH OF THE CROSS VESTRY MINUTES

June 21, 2024

Fr. Owens called the meeting to order at 12:30PM  
in the Conference Room of the Chapel.

**PRESENT:** Fr. Owens, Michael Simon, Linda Laird, Lee Watkins, Wayne Bowerman, and Tom Durston.

**ABSENT:** Joanne Byrd and Craig Pelley

**I: PRAYER AND DEVOTION:** Tom Durston

Tom's devotional was from Max Lucado's Grace for the Moment. Tom is part of the Rooted classes on Wednesday night, and he is excited about his experiences thus far. Today's scriptures focused on spiritual warfare, our society and how we keep our faith strong through tough times. If God is for us, who can be against us? Amen

**II MINUTES:** Linda Laird

The Vestry Minutes for May 2024 were electronically distributed and corrected. Michael made the motion to approve the minutes, Wayne seconded the motion and all approved.

**III: FINANCE:** Lee Watkins **Treasurer's Report for Month Ending May 31, 2024:**

**Revenue Discussions:** Monthly revenue continues to be slightly above budgeted numbers.

Regular monthly Income was at \$338,402.59 to a budget of \$269,325.00.

Plate Income for May was \$235,586.62 to a budget of \$201,200.00.

Year To Date Plate stands at: 1,342,044.71 to a budget of 1,103,300.00.

Total Revenue for the year is \$1,759,473.79 to a budget of \$1,443,925.00.

**April Plate: \$250,714.37 vs. May Plate: \$235,586.62**

MTD Plate for June (3 out of 5 Sundays): **\$145,716.67**

MTD Plate Budget for June: **\$181,300.00**

The tax refund (exemption) was received for the Argent property on the property taxes paid in March 2024. The total was 15,255.90.

Counseling Center revenue continues to be at budget for three months running.

God's Goods and staff continued their tremendous work with \$69,570.10 being added to the mission's budget. The current Missions Reserve Fund sits at \$348,269.84.

**Expenses Discussion:** Expenses continue to be within expectations.

Total expenses for the month were slightly down from April for an actual of \$291,940.71 to a monthly budget of \$305,677.99. Under budget by \$13,737.28

YTD Expenses are at \$1,429,330.28 to a YTD budget of \$1,557,229.32.

Expense variances of note were the charges for the HVAC repair to the counseling center \$1880 and expenses will continue to come in for the Apartment re-model at #3 Allen Street—which according to Roger is ahead of schedule and will be done by the deadline of July 1 (although he might not appreciate me quoting him on this)

**Revenue (income) continues to pace ahead of expectations while our expenses are on track as we approach mid-year.**

**Church Attendance—April and May comparatives:**

May 2024 attendance increased over May 2023 by 351 attendees. April '24 to May '24 increase was 56 attendees. Attendance for the first session of Rooted (May 29) was 280. Cross School Graduation attendance was 250.

							CURRENT MONTH	YTD 2024	MTD 2023	YTD 2023
					CROSS P	CROSS				
MAY	HIST 5:28	HIST 8AM	HIST 10AM	CHAPEL 9AM	10:30	SCHOOL	5,609	34,539	5,258	31,832
5th	105	70	233	157	546	400				
12th	99	92	230	184	485	400				
19th	139	83	238	157	494	400				
26th	99	84	310	154	450					
Totals	442	329	1011	652	1975	1200				

**Streaming and Online:**

Average Online live viewing of Crosspoint/9am Chapel is at 133. This is viewing through Facebook and the COTC website.

We are now receiving data from YouTube—May average Sunday viewing of the Chapel service is 147 views.

Visits to the COTC website continue averaging 400-465 per day.

**As we enter summer and our halfway point for 2024, the Church of the Cross continues to grow and be blessed. May we always strive to return that blessing to our Lord and Redeemer!**

**Respectfully Submitted**

**Lee Watkins, Vestry Treasurer**

Linda shared the request from the Mission Outreach Board for June Disbursements.



Net Working Capital:	\$94,829.47
June Set Aside Distributions:	\$24,533.00 (See Appendix A)
June Grant Approvals:	\$64,800.00
Total June Distributions If Approved	\$89,333.00
Remaining New Working Capital:	\$ 5,496.47

**June Funding approved by the Missions Outreach Board:**

1. Cross Faith Formation Application: \$15,000 approved for one year payable at \$1,250/monthly for 12 months (new end date of 5/31/2025 added to set aside list)
2. SAMS Mexico: Funding request approved for \$4,700 to replenish funds due to unexpected benevolence costs and travel expenses.
3. Diocese of Marsabit: Funding request approved for \$5,000 which is a matching gift through ARDF to provide for a multi-purpose hall and kitchen in the complex of the St. Andrews Boys High School
4. Olamayiana Village, Amboseli, Kenya: \$9,500 approved to start Phase One of the Christian School Building Project
5. Anthony Pelloni, SAMS Cambodia: Grant Renewal approved for \$12,000 which is applied toward the ongoing expenses to serve in Cambodia.
6. Harvesters International Ministries: \$13,600 approved as follows: \$5,600 to replace the metal roof and complete the exterior brick for the church at Remera Rwanda and \$8,000 toward the completion of 4 classrooms at the Free Life Christian Academy which serves the orphans of the Free Life Children's Home in the DR Congo
7. Anglican Diocese of South Carolina: Approved \$20,000 toward the Camp Jubilee Property Acquisition campaign.

Michael made a motion to approve the disbursements, Tom seconded and all agreed.

**IV: OTHER:**

- a. Historic Campus garage repurposing/renovation: The renovation is close to complete and should be ready for occupancy by July 1.
- b. Lisa Wilson is joining us as Administrative Associate. Lisa worked at God's Goods and the Island Packet. She will start work next week.
- c. Cross Schools activities: Wayne described what we can expect on the back 40. Progress is very slow. Scott Thomas is chair for campus development and busy with permits and deadlines. We wait, wait, and wait some more. We can look forward to seeing a cross country trail, concessions, baseball, and football fields, etc. Next year start times will be different for elementary and high school students due to difficulties with campus traffic. The renovation in the middle school is underway, increasing the number of classrooms and offices. The nurse remains on the ground floor but has moved from the pre-school side of Phase 1 to the K-1<sup>st</sup> side of Phase 1. The addition of a cafeteria, Church offices and classrooms is one project. The alleged donation will be applied to the total project. Wayne will be taking us on a tour of the school after the

meeting. Fr. Owens mentioned that we hope to have a classroom for students with autism. Wayne provided a tour of the area after our meeting.

d. Camp Jubilee: Bishop Edgar has shared his Camp Jubilee Property Acquisition campaign and challenged the diocese to support the fund raising efforts to purchase land for Camp Jubilee. He has asked TCOTC to donate \$100,000.00 in two years. The land is seventy acres, and 50 acres are buildable. After discussion the board suggested to send \$30,000 with the \$20,000 from the Mission Board this year and send \$50,000 next year.

Michael made a motion to send \$30,000 this year and \$50,000 next year. Tom seconded the motion and all agreed.

e. Preschool on Argent: Father Owens described the schematic building plan for Argent East. It will look like Cross Schools on a smaller scale. The facilities will be sufficient and flexible in use for both preschool and worship.

f. Wayne described the area of the playground near Shell Hall that is completed and being thoroughly enjoyed by our little tykes. This upgrade was made possible by a \$70,000.00 donation from the family of one of our young students whose father was killed in an unfortunate accident. The bench on the playground bears the father's name.

g. Michael recently connected with Millard, Stew and Sally to catch up on their lives after Vestry. He also gave them a beautiful glass cross as a thank you for their service. He shared Judy's latest report and asked us to pray for them both during Judy's recovery.

h. Request from St. Lukes Preschool director After revisiting the details of the request, the Vestry voted to approve the request.

**V: CLOSING PRAYERS:** Tom closed us in prayer from Streams in the Desert. Next Meeting - August 16, 2024 -12:30 Conference room in the chapel – Lee has devotion and prayers.

2024 Meeting/Devotional schedule: – September 20 – Joanne;

October 18 -Michael; November 15- Linda; December 13 – Craig

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Laird

Appendix A	
Mission Trip Reserve	\$0.00
Anderson Sanchez Peru - End June 2024	\$2,100.00
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Campus Outreach Ministry, Hoffman- End November 2024	\$500.00
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Saint Simons Anglican Mission (Josh Lake) - End Aug 2024	\$2,000.00
SAMS Missionary Griffin - End Jan 2025	\$1,500.00
UCCD Burundi - End Dec 2025	\$1,500.00
Total Set Asides Disbursed June 2024	\$24,533.00