

The Church of the Cross Vestry Minutes

June 30, 2025

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

PRESENT: Fr. Owens, Michael Simon, Craig Pelley, Linda Laird, Joanne Byrd, Wayne Bowerman, Laura Strange and Kevin Sevier

ABSENT:

I: PRAYER AND DEVOTION: Joanne Byrd

Joanne's devotional began with Ryan Stevenson's The Eye of the Storm. It was beautiful and full of reminders to us all. Hebrews 6:19 and Psalm 46:1 guide us to hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. Christ surrounds us in the storms of life. He is in control and He is our anchor. Find peace in Jesus' name and trust in the Lord.

II: MINUTES: Linda Laird

The Vestry Minutes for May 23, 2025 were electronically distributed to all. Craig made a motion to approve the minutes, Joanne seconded and all approved.

III: FINANCE: Kevin Sevier - **Treasurer's Report for Month Ending May 31, 2025:**

Revenue Discussions:

Income and giving continues to exceed expectations as of May 31, 2025.

May monthly income finished at \$320,356.86 to a budget of \$296,041.50.

Comparatively, April 2025 monthly income was \$338,075 also having 4 weeks.

Monthly Plate/Pledge Income was \$224,724.18 (\$86,178 online giving, 7,456 in stock gifts and \$131,090 in weekly in-service check and cash giving and checks received in the mail) compared to the Plate/Pledge budget of \$218,355

May Plate/Pledge income variance is +\$6,369.18.

Total Income for the month was higher than budgeted by \$24,315.36

Note: Total income includes Giving, Bequests, Missions, Faith Formation and Counseling Center revenue. God's Goods Net Income transferred to the Missions Fund for May was \$49,804.00 compared to April of \$69,936 as God's Goods continues to set aside funds from their store

sales/income to complete the storage building. **Expenses Discussion:** Overall Expenses in May are higher than budgeted. Total expenses for the month were \$343,349.37 to a monthly budget of \$338,620.29. The monthly expenses budget variance is over by \$-4,729.08. (mainly Mission grants disbursed were greater than budgeted and the purchase of a maintenance lift)

We are approximately 12.5% ahead of budget on income and 7.5% under budget for expenses with a YTD total variance of \$162,493.39.

Missions Board Budget Stands at the following:

The Missions Board met on Tuesday, June 17, 2025.

The Missions Reserve at the end of May was at: **\$324,399.41**

Net Working Capital for the month June: **\$40,123.41**

Monthly Set-Aside Distributions: **\$21,858.00**

Additional One-time Grant Approvals: **\$16,200.00**

For a Total of Grants for June 2025 of: **\$38,058.00**

Church Attendance for May:

May	HC 5:28	HC 8A	HC 10A	Chapel 9A	Crosspoint	Cross School	Wk. Total
4th	133	82	274	168	0/475	450	1582
11th	117	64	257	179	0/492	0	809
18th	116	68	232	156	0/477	0	1049
25th	193	103	325	157	0/395	0	1173
Mo Total	559	317	1088	660	1539	450	4613

(NOTE: Easter Sunday numbers followed by Spring Break)

Current Month: 4,613

Year to Date: 32,248

Streaming and Online:

The COTC Website daily views/visits averages 425 views per day for May. December traffic average around 850 views per day, while January dropped back to 619 views per day, February was at 580, March 500 and April was 450 views per day.

**We give thanks to Christ, our King, for everything,
Respectfully submitted Regine Johnson, Treasurer**

MOB request for June funding – Linda Laird

June 17, 2025 Disbursement Report

Net Working Capital: \$ 40,123.41

June Set Aside Distributions: \$ 21,858.00 (See Appendix A)

June Grant Approvals

(Renewals and One Time Distributions): \$ 16,200.00

Total June Distributions if Approved: \$ 38,058.00

Remaining Net Working Capital: \$ 2,065.41

June Disbursements

- Cross Schools, Faith Formation Program - Increased monthly grant from \$1250/month to \$1708/month starting June 2025 and ending May 2026. Net increase for June 2025 is \$458.00.
- Cross Schools, Scholarship Fund - Increased monthly grant from \$2500 to \$3750/month starting June 2025 and ending May 2026. Net increase is \$1250 for June 2025.
- SAMS Cambodia, Anthony Pelloni and Family - Approved \$6000 in support of their missionary work. This gift is approximately 4% of their annual budget.
- Harvesters, DR Congo - Approved \$5000 to cover \$2200 in medical costs for an orphan who was shot and has required medical care and \$2800 towards increased costs and fees following the M23 occupation of the eastern DR Congo.

- e. Mission Trip Funding Request from Janice and Rob Crowder - Approved \$2200 toward the cost of a medical mission trip to Chile with the Christian organization, Wheels for the World, Joni and Friends.
- f. Spicy Grove, Jamaica - Approved \$3000 for tools, training and remodeling the Skills Training Center under the Spicy Grove ministry in Jamaica.

Funding Renewals - Anderson Sanchez, Peru was extended to July as more information is needed to consider his grant renewal.

Appendix A

June Set Aside Commitments	
Anderson Sanchez Peru - End June 2025	\$2,250.00
Bluffton Community Kitchen - End January 2026	\$0.00
Campus Outreach Ministry, Hoffman- End November 2025	\$500.00
CBC Kenya Monthly - January 2025	\$3,000.00
Cross Christian Counseling Center - End December 2026	\$300.00
COTC Faith Formation - End May 31 2026	\$1,708.00
CS Cross Schools Monthly - End May 21 2026	\$3,750.00
Harvesters Intl Congo Monthly Orphan care - End March 2025	\$3,350.00
HELP Madagascar - End January 2026	\$1,850.00
Hope Compassion Center - End October 2025	\$1,500.00
SAMS Missionary Griffin - End Jan 2026	\$1,500.00
UCCD Burundi - End Jan 2026	\$1,650.00
Young Life New Gen Program - End July 2025	\$500.00

Total May Set Aside Disbursements	\$21,858.00
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IV: Other

a. Recap of JFAC Convocation and related events – Laura Strange

On June 16-20, TCOTC hosted the annual Training Symposium and Convocation of the Jurisdiction of the Armed Forces and Chaplaincy. The Jurisdiction is comprised of Anglican military chaplains from all services and other Anglican chaplains that serve in the community such as in hospitals/hospices and police/fire departments and other pastoral care ministries. One hundred and fifty chaplains and approximately fifty spouses and children were in attendance. The chaplains met in the gym area and Chapel while the spouses and children attended programs at the historic Chapel. In addition to fellowship and training, the week included the ordination of two new bishops and to the priesthood, TCOTC's own Dave Fisher. Multiple bishops from ACNA (and even one from Latvia!) participated in these special services. Hosting this event was truly a team effort with Nathan (also a Jurisdiction chaplain) and Rebecca putting together the required support from the other staff members to make the week successful. Volunteers from the Military Care Ministry and the Vestry served hospitality and ushering functions by providing coffee service for the meetings and support for the worship services. In addition, Ministry member, Laurie Brown was instrumental in helping to develop gift bags for each chaplain as they checked-in for the Convocation. Amazingly, while the Convocation was taking place, all other Church activities continued without interruption. Bluffton, South Carolina was certainly the center of ACNA activities that week. TCOTC was blessed to be a blessing for this group.

b. Initial thoughts on Rev. Zac Nash - Vestry

The Vestry members discussed their experiences with Zac and Lara Nash. It seemed we all had positive experiences throughout their visit. His experiences and exposures in education, teaching, leadership and preaching are vast. He is not interested in becoming a Rector. His sermons were well received at both campuses. He was quick to adjust his sermons to each audience. Everyone seemed pleased with Rev. Nash.

c. Status of Cross Schools construction project – Wayne Bowerman

The addition area is totally lockable and weather proof. The outside wall siding is 'board'n'batten', approximately ¼ completed. The lower portion of the outside walls is stucco; first of three coatings applied. Fascia is completely installed. The roofing is on hold. New roofing is not compatible with the original roofing. We are disappointed with the manufacturer that we were not advised this is a potential problem. We will meet on July 2 with Campus Development Committee and Fraser Construction on how to proceed. Foam insulation under the roof has been applied twice. Fiberglass exterior and interior wall insulation and drywall installation are complete. Drywall mudding and sanding should be finished June 30. Wall priming is scheduled to commence July 2. Final coats of paint (agreeable gray) are expected by week's end. A/C installation is complete except for compressor electrical hook-ups and t-stats. A/C start-up is expected 7/10. Excavation of 18 parking spaces and replacement with pervious concrete starts, and hopefully completed this week.

Wayne will gladly give anyone and everyone a tour as desired.

d. Update on the Chapel Columbarium and the Argent East project

The progress on the Chapel Columbarium continues at a slow pace. The Argent East project is also moving forward. A Public Hearing is scheduled in Jasper County in July.

e. Governance documents for Cross Church and Cross Outreach Ministries bringing both entities under the Vestry.

Our Lawyers have this under control and we are hoping that both entities will soon become one.

f. School Board Event on July 17 – Michael

Having 3 members of the Vestry on the School Board as Trustees allows them to participate in a seminar for the School Board members held at the Parish Hall. The seminar will be led by Dr. William Mott, PHD, who is a leading expert in governance in independent and faith-based schools. Each board member will participate and prepare for the seminar by reading his book “Healthy Boards ^Successful Schools”.

VI: Closing Prayers

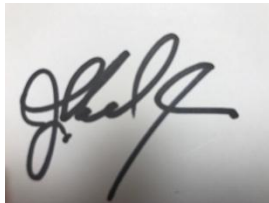
Joanne closed us in prayer and everyone said “Amen.”

Next Meeting – July 25, 2025 - 12:30pm – Conference Room in
The Chapel - Laura has the devotional and prayers.

[Meeting/Devotional schedule: August 22 – Kevin; September 19 – Craig;
October 17 – Linda; November 21 – Wayne; December 19 – Michael]

Linda Laird

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Laird, Clerk

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Michael Simon, Sr.", written in a cursive style.

J. Michael Simon, Sr. Warden