

# EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT SEPTEMBER 20, 2022, VESTRY MINUTES

Action/Date Due  
for Review/  
Assigned To

**Date:** September 20, 2022    **Time Started:** 4:35 p.m.    **Time Ended:** 6:00 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** October 18, 2022, at 4:30 p.m.

**Members Present:** Mark Holland; Dick Jordan; Carol Van Voorhis; Pam McNally

**Members Attending Remotely:** Kathleen Phillips, Senior Warden; Nancy Larkin

**Members Not Attending:** Peggy Wilson, Junior Warden; Rebecca Sharp; Barbara Schauer

**Other Attendees:** David McNair, Rector; Bill Sewell, Treasurer; Lorrie Cooper, Clerk

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## DISCUSSION/FINDINGS/CONCLUSIONS

AGENDA ITEM: **Call to Order, Opening Prayer** (*David McNair*)

AGENDA ITEM: **Approval of Vestry Minutes** (*Clerk, Lorrie Cooper*)

AGENDA ITEM: **Approval of Financial Report** (*Bill Sewell*)

Resolution was introduced to add Business Bill Pay as an online feature to the First Bank Operating checking account ending in 0414:

Establish user accounts with permissions as follows:

Martie Carson — enter payments

William Sewell — enter/approve payments

Kathleen Phillips — approve payments

Peggy Wilson — approve payments

David McNair — approve payments

Mark Holland — approve payments

Minutes from the August 23, 2022, meeting were unanimously approved.

Resolution was voted upon and approved

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Recommended moving from Power Church online manual service to a higher level of Power Church online service, which will allow users to implement payments online. This would involve a \$450 annual payment.

**AGENDA ITEM: Sr. Warden's Report** *(Kathleen Phillips)*

The **Finance Committee** met on August 31, 2022.

**Treasurer Report:** Bill Sewell conducted a review of the July 2022 financial reports.

Of special note:

- A loss to Lake Logan due to a revised schedule for the Women's Retreat in September.
- PayPal has discontinued its free-of-charge donation policy, returning to 3% fee per transaction. There will be an adjustment to the language on our Giving page on the website to reflect that.

**Montalvo Fund:** Plans are made to deliver the remaining funds to Cuba in October.

**ECHS Technologies:** The expansion and upgrading of services is incurring unanticipated expenses and additional burden on Martie. David would like to add a new vestry liaison for communications.

**Transitions for ECHS Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer:** A task list was revised as Bill Sewell and Peggy Barnes continue to move forward. Details are available in the minutes of the meeting on August 31.

**2023 Budget:** This will be the main item on the next meeting's agenda. It was noted that monies for technology, staff and the finances contractor will be included.

**Next Finance Committee Meeting:** Thursday 9/22/2022 at 11:00AM

The **Stewardship 2023 Committee** met on 09/07/2022 and again 09/14/2022.

A theme was chosen for the 2023 Campaign "*This Our Hymn of Grateful Praise*".

A schedule was established.

Music, a newsletter article, and a letter for the pledge packets were all agreed upon.

A visual representation of our community of giving is being designed to spark interest and encourage participation. It will be featured on the Art Wall in the lobby.

- The campaign will launch on Sunday, October 9 (St. Francis Day).
- Selected parishioners will present their "Stewardship Minute" each Sunday following The Peace.
- The Packets will be prepared prior to Sunday, October 23, when they will be distributed in person at the end of the service. Remaining packets will be mailed the following day.
- November 13: Ingathering of completed pledge forms.

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The **Living Gifts Fund Board**: Next quarterly meeting 10/ 11/2022.

**AGENDA ITEM: Rector's Report** *(David McNair)*

1. Pastoral issues:

**Barbara Moloney's** mother, Janet Thompson, who lived in Michigan, died several weeks ago.

**Jim Woodruff** – is slowly improving from the bout of shingles he's had for several months, causing him dizziness and imbalance.

**Esther Moriarty** – is currently involved in a trial leukemia drug treatment via Duke University Hospital. She contacted me (David) today to say that she is experiencing some allergic reaction to the drugs which could potentially necessitate that she stop this particular trial treatment. She requests prayers for her tolerance to the drugs so she might continue in this trial.

**Dora Ramos** – (one of our La Esperanza women) She and her son and teenage daughter were in a car accident last week which totaled her car. They were transported to the ER and were released. Dora has a compression fracture of the spine in the neck and the expense of a new car is daunting.

2. Visitors to ECHS in recent weeks:

**Caroline, John (and child, Lilian) Woolard**, 88 Laurel Cove, Mars Hill NC 28754

**The Rev. Deacon Jennette and the Rev. Bob Reese**, 200 Tabernacle Road, Black Mountain NC 28711.

**Christina Hahn**, (friend of Benton Hester) visiting from Punta Gorda, FL. 25439 Barinas Drive, Punta Gorda, FL 33983. katzcorner@comcast.net

3. Jane Edwards will be moving September 27 to the St. Paul, Minnesota, area in order to be near her daughter Louise. A special coffee hour in Jane's honor will follow the service on Sunday, September 25. Jane and OC have been members of ECHS since the mid-1990's.

4. ECHS First Wednesday potluck and program will be held Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

5. The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi will be observed at ECHS on Sunday, October 9. There will be a Blessing of the Animals as part of this service. A representative from FOMCA (Friends of Madison County Animals) will be with us to share info during announcements about their work on behalf of animals.

6. The ECHS **Reckoning with Race** group will watch the documentary "**13th**" at ECHS on Saturday, October 1, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. **13th** is a 2016 documentary film by director Ava DuVernay which explores "the intersection of race, justice, and mass incarceration in the U.S." All are welcome.

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7. The Annual Episcopal Diocese of Western North Carolina's Convention is scheduled for November 11-12 at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Asheville. This is our centennial anniversary and Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will be our convention guest. All are invited to his convention address on Saturday, November 12 (time TBA). ECHS needs to elect two delegates and one or two alternate delegates.
8. Request for Vestry approval to debit PPP funds to cover the expense (\$450) of supply priest for the two Sundays in July 2022 when I had COVID.
9. Discuss the need for announcements on Sunday morning to be made in such a way that visitors will understand, have clarity about upcoming events, and feel welcome. I have noticed that sometimes "insider" language is used in announcements.
10. FYI: I will be attending the Diocesan Fall Clergy Retreat at Lake Logan on October 10-12.

**AGENDA ITEM: Outreach** *(Nancy Larkin)*

Deb Carlson has done shoe gift cards for foster kids. Shoe Carnival is GREAT!

**Update on Joyful Jars:** Carol Van Voorhis, Deidre Soileau, Nancy Larkin, Susan Sewell

We need to be aware of the ease of getting the ingredients

There have been contributions for costs, and right now we have expended only \$60.

Next two Joyful Jars Making Parties will be Sept. 10 at 11:30a.m. and Sept. 22 at 10:00a.m.

**September is Homeward Bound:**

They ask for help with Church of the Advocate (AHope)

(David made the announcement that we should be aware there's a minimum of six months to get a bed.)

**Update on lunch for Foster Care SS staff:**

Deidre Soileau will explore further.

Final decisions need to be made after getting more information.

Should we have it here or at a restaurant?

Is it possible to do a lunch and a gift card?

What kind of time is available to them for this?

The turnover of social workers is tremendous.

Need to pick a date that works for them

At least two delegates are needed from ECHS to attend the convention; Kathleen Phillips offered to attend and acceptance was voted. Another delegate is needed.

Approval was voted on for taking \$450 from the PPP fund to pay supply priest who covered for David on two Sundays when he was ill.

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**Approved** sending \$600 from Outreach Funds to Housing Development Alliance in Kentucky. (Susan has vetted this organization.) Deidre reported that Sister's Attic is and has been gathering clothes for Kentucky.

**Ingle's Cards**-Nicki Toole has offered to take on the whole project. Our thanks to Crellin for handling this project for almost three years.

**Living Gifts Fund-**

John Graeter (visitor to committee) — Chairman of Living Gifts Fund

Working not to overlap their work with Outreach Funds

Targeting areas that need support. This year is Capital Funds. Three are in the process of applying. A recommendation will be made to the Vestry.

All First Sunday recipients are unanimously approved.

Below is a list of the applicants and a brief write-up of our First Sundays for 2023. More information on any of the non-profits is available from Susan Sewell. Complete financials and more info also available from Nancy Larkin. The same nonprofits are served as in past with the addition of Madison County Homes. They will follow this order in 2023, similar to monthly order in the past:

**January: Madison County Group Home (Hot Springs)** serves adults with developmental disabilities. Their mission is to create an environment in which residents can have experiences, develop skills, and attitudes for independence and group living in order to achieve the highest quality of life possible. The home is almost entirely supported by Medicaid/Medicare and Social Security Funds. The funds they are seeking from us with provide excursions for the residents. Covid has restricted them for raising these dollars (usually raised through TrailFest). Overnight excursions are important for the mental health of the residents, especially those who do not have family or the financial means. The Outreach Funds from CHS would be to secure a rental large enough for a beach excursion. Barbara Moloney serves on the board. Bill Sewell also served several years ago. Dick Jordan has also served on the board.

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**February: Neighbors in Need:** Provides temporary assistance (heating, fuel utilities in crisis situations). These funds will be used to provide that assistance. Board members from church are Claire Gillespie, and David McNair. Ann Toney, Mark Holland, Pam McNally volunteer.

**March: Empowering Madison: Youth to Succeed** (Communities in Schools) — This organization is an in-school tutoring program at Madison Middle and Madison High School. It provides mentorship, attendance monitoring, and a support system aimed at helping at-risk students stay in school. Each school has a site coordinator. Our funding will be used to add or increase staff time for coordination of this program. The board member from our church is Ginny Koranek. There has been an issue with IRS reporting; I will share at our meeting.

**April: Community Housing Coalition** — Promote and facilitate healthy safe and affordable housing through home repair, rehabilitation and the creation of new affordable housing. Outreach funds will be used for their Neighbors Helping Neighbors program, providing urgent repairs for the elderly in our community. Susan Sewell is a board member.

**May: La Esperanza Immigration Outreach** — Provide outreach and build network of community support, funding will be used to continue programs of La Esperanza. This includes interpreting, translating services for families, fundraising events to assist with the humanitarian fund and weekly ELS classes at ECHS. The funds assist with payment of the program director (Rebecca Sharp) and assistant director (Paula White). Advisory Committee members from our church are Esther Moriarty and Mary Filiss.

**June: Rector's Discretionary Fund**

**AGENDA ITEM: Old Business** *(David McNair)*

Renewed discussion of response to an active shooter. David will check previous discussions on this topic. A concern was expressed that ECHS is vulnerable, due to its liberal stance and involvement with an immigrant community. An active shooter incident could be precipitated by certain political events.

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**AGENDA ITEM: New Business** *(David McNair)*

The 2023 budget is being prepared. Committees should communicate financial requests to Bill Sewell.

**AGENDA ITEM: Next Vestry Meeting** *(David McNair)*

**Tuesday, October 18, 2022, at 4:30 p.m.**

**AGENDA ITEM: Closing Prayer** *(David McNair)*

Respectfully submitted,  
Lorrie Cooper, Clerk