



The Episcopal Church of St Thomas the Apostle

Monthly Vestry Meeting - Minutes September 16, 2025

IN ATTENDANCE

Rector

Father Christopher Thomas

Vestry Members

John Billingsley
Daniel Hall – Junior Warden
Jami Mifflin
John Van Buskirk
Jack Sartin

Ex-Officio Officers

Bob Stutz, Clerk
Rusty Rippamonti, Chancellor
Joe DeuPree, Treasurer

Clergy Staff/Guests

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN AND SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- **August Vestry Minutes were approved as amended**
- **Financial Reports**
- **Mission Outreach**
- **Building and Grounds**
- **Guild Liaisons Reports**
- **Rector's Report**

NARRATIVE

I. Call to Order and Opening Prayer**Fr. Christopher Thomas**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by Fr. Christopher Thomas, and began with an opening prayer led by Fr. Christopher.

II. Resource Person for Meeting**Jami Mifflin****III. Prior Meeting Minutes Approval****Dan Hall**

The meeting continued with a review of the previous month's minutes. Dan Hall moved, and John Van Buskirk seconded, a motion to approve as amended the August 19, 2025 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

IV. Finance Committee

Joe DeuPree

The August 2025 Income Statement and Balance Sheet were presented. Income is approximately \$2,300 less than budgeted for August. Interest income is nearly double what was budgeted. Finance Committee Report is attached.

The upcoming Stewardship Campaign will Kick Off September 28th. There is already a prepaid pledge of \$25,000! Amy Raines offered to assist with the pledge drive and will speak at the September 28th service.

V. Mission – Outreach Committee

Janet Elsea

The Homecoming Dessert Auction was successful raising over \$1,100. It was suggested the proceeds from the auction be donated to Gateway of Grace. Jami Mifflin moved and it was seconded by Dan Hall. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee wanted to formally thank those who participated in the Dessert Auction.

It was suggested to conduct a clothing and eyeglass drive for the Gateway of Grace in 2026.

VI. Building and Grounds (B&G) Committee

Dan Hall

Dan Hall reported the roof repair was done. A recent storm showed a small leak in the roof over the rector's office that will be fixed. There was discussion the roof repair is short term and the full roof needs to be redone which will require a Capital Campaign.

Atmos has completed the landscaping and sprinkler repairs needed due to their repair work on the neighborhood gas lines.

FastSign will come to St. Thomas to refresh the church sign at the corner when Atmos is finished.

VII. Guild Liaisons Reports

- **Acolytes/Eucharistic Ministers** (John VanBuskirk) – No additional Eucharistic Ministers are needed at this time.
- **Eucharistic Visitors** (John Billingsley) – No report.
- **Altar Guild** (Rene Aguirre) No report.
- **Greeters/Ushers** (Hampton Burwick) – No report.
- **Kitchen/Social:** (Jami Mifflin) – The Ice Cream Social will be Sunday September 28th after the 10:30 service. There will be a sign-up sheet for the event. There was discussion of a Thanksgiving Dinner. Last year the dinner had low attendance so there will be a need to determine interest. Linda and Jack will meet with Jami to discuss social ideas for December.
- **Lectors (Readers)** (Jack Sartin) – The schedule is set until November.

- **Music** (Dan Hall) – Dan reported on the great success of having Alan Raines as Music Director and the addition of his family to the St. Thomas Family. The new organ software is installed and Alan will work with SMU students on the use. The software is scheduled to go "live" on All Saints Sunday.

VIII. Rector's Report

Fr. Christopher Thomas

- Interfaith Migration Alliance has begun and is expanding beyond St. Thomas with Dallas Respond and Oak Lawn United Methodist Church wanting to participate with a joint meeting at 7:30 on September 17th. Any interested individuals should speak directly with Fr. Christopher.
- The Fall Class began September 10th. At the end of the 5 week course, everyone should know their part in being the "Church of Resistance"
- Michael Legacy is coordinating St. Thomas participation in the Church of the Transfiguration annual Faith Dinners with Guided Conversations. Several individuals from St. Thomas have already signed up to participate.
- Visitor and Attendance report was in the meeting Agenda package as well as the Church Visitor Track System that was developed. Copies are attached to the minutes.
- Nominating Committee for the Vestry will have recommendations soon. The current members whose terms expire are Dan Hall, Janet Elsea and John VanBurkirk. The new members will be voted on at the Annual Meeting will be on October 26th. Vestry Members must be confirmed and in good standing with St Thomas. Rusty Rippamonti compiled the Legal Notice.

IX. Resource Person for September 16, 2025 Meeting

Rene Aguirre

X. Compline & Dismissal

Fr. Christopher Thomas

- The meeting was closed with Compline by Fr. Christopher at 7:52 pm.

APPENDIX

- Vestry Meeting Minutes – August 19, 2025
- Balance Sheet – August 31 2025
- Income Statement – August 1 to August 31, 2025
- Finance Committee Report
- Mission Outreach Report
- Saint Thomas the Apostle Attendance Report

- Church Visitor Tracking Guide
- St. Thomas the Apostle – Rector's Ministry Fund Report
- Interfaith Migration Alliance
- The Baptismal Covenant
- Vestry, Ex-Officio Officers, Clergy & Staff, Endowment Fund Committee

Meeting Minutes prepared by Bob Stutz, Clerk

The Episcopal Church of St. Thomas the Apostle
Balance Sheet

As of: Aug 31st 2025

Assets

Current Assets

Cash

1013 Inwood National Bank	201,595.47
1014 Inwood Bank-Operating	36,686.22
1015 Inwood Nat'l Bank-RMF	2,844.11

Total Cash	241,125.80
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Total Current Assets	241,125.80
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Investments

1045 Episcopal Foundation of Dallas	378,320.74
1050 Fidelity	114,997.73

Total Investments	493,318.47
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Prepaid Expenses

1095 Prepaid Expenses	2,245.00
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Total Prepaid Expenses	2,245.00
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Total Assets	\$ 736,689.27
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Liabilities & Net Assets

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	
2399 Income/Expense Clearing	7,368.91

Total Accounts Payable	7,368.91
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Total Current Liabilities	7,368.91
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Deferred Revenue

2405 Prepaid Pledges	18,449.60
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Total Deferred Revenue	18,449.60
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Total Liabilities	25,818.51
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Net Assets

Fund Balance

3000 General Fund	(15,296.29)
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Total Fund Balance	(15,296.29)
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Temp Restricted-Church Designated

3005 Spec svc Flowers/Music	2,694.24
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3010 Reserve Fund	18,735.11
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3020 Mission Outreach	2,169.25
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3030 Rector's Speaker Fund	3,996.90
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3040 Rector's Ministry Fund	4,832.09
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3060 Memorial Fund	244,904.60
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Total Temp Restricted-Church Designated	277,332.19
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Perm Restricted

3070 Columbarium Fund	4,179.02
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3090 Endowment Fund	284,042.95
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3091 Knight-Flake Organ/Garden Fund	46,505.13
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3093 Ewing House	(1,112.62)
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Total Perm Restricted	333,614.48
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Temp Restricted-Accum Surplus

8998 Investments Mark To Mkt	115,220.38
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Total Temp Restricted-Accum Surplus	115,220.38
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Total Net Assets
Total Liabilities & Net Assets

710,870.76
\$ 736,689.27

The Episcopal Church of St. Thomas the Apostle
Income Statement

Date Range: Aug 1st 2025 - Aug 31st 2025

Accounts	Actual		Actual YTD	Budget YTD	2025 Budget
	Aug 01, 2025 - Aug 31, 2025	Aug 2025 Budget			
Revenues					
General Receipts					
4000 Pledge Income	27,061.38	29,383.17	230,028.78	235,065.36	352,598.00
4010 Plate Income	91.00	208.33	2,023.00	1,666.64	2,500.00
4012 Non pledged donations	694.00	416.67	9,232.00	3,333.36	5,000.00
4013 Prior year pledge	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
4092 Easter	0.00	0.00	679.00	500.00	500.00
4093 Christmas Day	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
4094 Maundy Thursday	0.00	0.00	70.00	0.00	0.00
Total General Receipts	27,846.38	30,008.17	243,032.78	240,565.36	361,098.00
Other Income					
4030 Interest Income	660.65	500.00	4,983.50	4,000.00	6,000.00
4040 Other Income	0.00	8.33	342.16	66.64	100.00
Total Other Income	660.65	508.33	5,325.66	4,066.64	6,100.00
Misc Income					
4020 Building Use	11.25	166.67	1,129.81	1,333.36	2,000.00
Total Misc Income	11.25	166.67	1,129.81	1,333.36	2,000.00
Total Revenues	\$ 28,518.28	\$ 30,683.17	\$ 249,488.25	\$ 245,965.36	\$ 369,198.00
Expenses					
Personnel Expenses					
5000 Rector-Stipend & taxes	8,750.00	8,750.00	70,000.00	70,000.00	105,000.00
5002 Rector-Pension	1,500.00	1,575.00	12,000.00	12,600.00	18,900.00
5003 Rector- Benefits	1,343.48	1,298.33	10,747.84	10,386.64	15,580.00
5004 Rector- Travel & Telephone	0.00	333.33	579.11	2,666.64	4,000.00
5006 Rector-Continuing Ed	0.00	83.33	75.00	666.64	1,000.00
5009 Rector-Miscellaneous	322.45	83.33	598.62	666.64	1,000.00
5020 Supply Clergy	0.00	66.67	500.00	533.36	800.00
5030 Parish Admin	1,977.60	2,142.50	17,056.80	17,140.00	25,710.00
5035 Organist	2,145.83	2,145.83	11,073.32	17,166.64	25,750.00
5037 Supply Musician	0.00	166.67	300.00	1,333.36	2,000.00
5039 Payroll Taxes	334.57	328.33	1,641.15	2,626.64	3,940.00
5040 Lay Staff-Pension	177.98	192.83	1,535.11	1,542.64	2,314.00
5041 Lay Staff- Continuing Ed	0.00	125.00	0.00	1,000.00	1,500.00
5042 Audio Visual Svcs	250.00	250.00	2,250.00	2,000.00	3,000.00
5105 Managing Financial Reports	700.00	687.50	5,650.00	5,500.00	8,250.00
Total Personnel Expenses	17,501.91	18,228.65	134,006.95	145,829.20	218,744.00
Office Expense					
5100 Office Supplies & Paper	184.16	250.00	2,155.06	2,000.00	3,000.00
5102 Office Equipment Maint	393.80	416.67	2,639.64	3,333.36	5,000.00
5104 Technology	456.50	333.33	2,521.93	2,666.64	4,000.00
5106 Postage	0.00	100.00	643.75	800.00	1,200.00
5107 Bank & Paychex Charges	16.20	83.33	140.47	666.64	1,000.00
5108 Credit Card Donation fees	139.78	250.00	1,743.80	2,000.00	3,000.00
5109 Miscellaneous	0.00	25.00	550.95	200.00	300.00
Total Office Expense	1,190.44	1,458.33	10,395.60	11,666.64	17,500.00
Insurance					
5110 Property & Liability Ins	2,235.00	2,625.00	18,755.67	21,000.00	31,500.00
Total Insurance	2,235.00	2,625.00	18,755.67	21,000.00	31,500.00
Worship Expense					
5120 Altar Supplies	381.60	100.00	1,803.16	800.00	1,200.00

Accounts	Actual		Actual YTD	Budget YTD	2025 Budget
	Aug 01, 2025 - Aug 31, 2025	Aug 2025 Budget			
5125 Organ/Piano	0.00	83.33	0.00	666.64	1,000.00
5127 Choir Music Supplies	0.00	41.67	1,022.54	333.36	500.00
Total Worship Expense	381.60	225.00	2,825.70	1,800.00	2,700.00
Parish Life Exp					
5130 Convention	0.00	37.50	0.00	300.00	450.00
5131 Christian Education	18.02	41.67	364.38	333.36	500.00
5132 EPN Membership Dues	0.00	0.00	500.00	900.00	900.00
5133 Vestry Retreat/Other	0.00	100.00	1,551.00	800.00	1,200.00
5134 EPN Conference	0.00	250.00	1,668.87	2,000.00	3,000.00
5135 Social	0.00	166.67	341.44	1,333.36	2,000.00
5136 Coffee	83.17	66.67	526.86	533.36	800.00
5137 Parish Life Other Exp	0.00	125.00	1,623.80	1,000.00	1,500.00
5138 Choir Dinner	0.00	16.67	0.00	133.36	200.00
5139 Vestry	0.00	83.33	172.07	666.64	1,000.00
Total Parish Life Exp	101.19	887.51	6,748.42	8,000.08	11,550.00
Buildings & Grounds					
5140 Custodial Supplies	0.00	41.67	495.38	333.36	500.00
5144 Capital Improvement Exp	0.00	416.67	0.00	3,333.36	5,000.00
5145 Maint-Bldgs & Equipment	1,200.50	958.33	8,081.56	7,666.64	11,500.00
5147 Janitorial Service	848.72	1,066.67	6,789.76	8,533.36	12,800.00
5148 Maint-Grounds	1,210.00	1,666.67	12,575.00	13,333.36	20,000.00
5149 Pest Control	96.00	166.67	1,023.85	1,333.36	2,000.00
Total Buildings & Grounds	3,355.22	4,316.68	28,965.55	34,533.44	51,800.00
Utilities					
5150 Telephone & Internet	353.77	416.67	2,859.56	3,333.36	5,000.00
5152 Electricity	1,087.81	916.67	5,748.23	7,333.36	11,000.00
5154 Water & Sewer 6525	419.82	416.67	2,456.82	3,333.36	5,000.00
5155 Water- 6529	379.75	833.33	443.03	6,666.64	10,000.00
5156 Natural Gas	187.00	166.67	1,496.73	1,333.36	2,000.00
5158 Safety, Security, & Fire Alarms	197.06	583.33	3,869.07	4,666.64	7,000.00
5159 Waste services	354.89	333.33	2,779.77	2,666.64	4,000.00
Total Utilities	2,980.10	3,666.67	19,653.21	29,333.36	44,000.00
Outreach					
5162 Advertising/Welcoming	100.00	208.33	822.51	1,666.64	2,500.00
5164 Social Media/Web	0.00	208.33	1,960.00	1,666.64	2,500.00
5165 Diocesan Assessment	2,871.94	2,871.92	22,975.52	22,975.36	34,463.00
5171 Invite, Welcome, Connect	402.41	108.33	402.41	866.64	1,300.00
5180 Outreach Grants	0.00	641.67	6,500.00	5,133.36	7,700.00
Total Outreach	3,374.35	4,038.58	32,660.44	32,308.64	48,463.00
Total Expenses	\$ 31,119.81	\$ 35,446.42	\$ 254,011.54	\$ 284,471.36	\$ 426,257.00
Net Total	(\$ 2,601.53)	(\$ 4,763.25)	(\$ 4,523.29)	(\$ 38,506.00)	(\$ 57,059.00)

The Episcopal Church of St. Thomas the Apostle
Special Funds

Date Range: Aug 1st 2025 - Aug 31st 2025 | Includes Open Transactions

Accounts	Beginning Balance	Income	Expense	Ending Balance
Restricted Net Assets				
Temp Restricted-Church Designated				
01-3005 Spec svc Flowers/Music	2,519.24	175.00	0.00	2,694.24
01-3010 Reserve Fund	18,735.11	0.00	0.00	18,735.11
01-3020 Mission Outreach	2,169.25	0.00	0.00	2,169.25
01-3030 Rector's Speaker Fund	3,996.90	0.00	0.00	3,996.90
01-3040 Rector's Ministry Fund	5,856.47	395.00	1,419.38	4,832.09
01-3060 Memorial Fund	244,879.60	25.00	0.00	244,904.60
Total Temp Restricted-Church Designated	278,156.57	595.00	1,419.38	277,332.19
Perm Restricted				
01-3070 Columbarium Fund	4,179.02	0.00	0.00	4,179.02
01-3090 Endowment Fund	284,042.95	0.00	0.00	284,042.95
01-3091 Knight-Flake Organ/Garden Fund	47,222.76	0.00	717.63	46,505.13
01-3093 Ewing House	(1,112.62)	0.00	0.00	(1,112.62)
Total Perm Restricted	334,332.11	0.00	717.63	333,614.48
Temp Restricted-Accum Surplus				
01-8998 Investments Mark To Mkt	114,066.35	1,154.03	0.00	115,220.38
Total Temp Restricted-Accum Surplus	114,066.35	1,154.03	0.00	115,220.38
Total Restricted Net Assets	\$ 726,555.03	\$ 1,749.03	\$ 2,137.01	\$ 726,167.05

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Income for the month of August was approximately \$2,300 less than what was budgeted for the month and about \$5,000 under for the eight months. A reminder that the budgeted income is divided evenly by 12 which is not the way it is actually received. Interest income for the period is nearly double what was budgeted for the 8 month period.

Conversely, the expenses for the year to date are approximately \$30,000 or 10% what was budgeted which is excellent.

Mission and Outreach Committee

September 9, 2025, 6:00-6:25 PM

Attendees: Janet Elsea, Steve Sale

Our committee of two discussed the success of the dessert auction on September 7th. Randy Hering did a wonderful job as auctioneer as usual. The next question was where to apply the proceeds of well over 1100 dollars. Last year's funds went to Gateway of Grace. For this year we discussed the various non-profits we became more familiar with during our recent Lenten Season of Giving. At this time of hardship for many, we wondered if our collection might go the furthest through the efforts of Now Forward (formerly North Dallas Shared Ministries). Their ESL programs make a huge difference in the lives of recent immigrants, and their food pantry and clothes closet are sorely needed during this economic downturn. We decided (as a committee of two) to ask the advice of the Vestry.

Saint Thomas the Apostle Attendance Report

Visitor List for August 2025

		8/3	8/10	8/17	8/24	8/31
Bowling	Katherine	X			X	
Brittain	Julieanne			X		
Clark	Blake				X	
Germain	Megan					X
Hale	Gabriel				X	
Harris	Barbara		X			
Lamb	Megan					X
Lee	Mia Jane			X	X	
Lusk	An			X		
May	Ann	X				
May	Will	X				
McDanel	Sue		X			
Richard	Mack				X	
Stewart	Ella		X		X	

	8/3	8/10	8/17	8/24	8/31
Members / Reg Attendance	65	55	53	61	52
Visitors	3	3	3	6	2
Total From Red Books	68	58	56	67	54
Usher Count: 8:00 a.m.	12	11	12	12	8
Usher Count: 10:30 a.m.	59	52	43	60	51
Total Usher Count	71	63	55	72	59

Church visitor tracking:

1. Visitor Arrives:

- **Action:** Each visitor is welcomed by a Welcome Minister (wearing official church apron) at the narthex door.
- **Method:** The blue apron makes the Welcome Minister obvious to the newcomer. There is a Welcome Minister always stationed at each of the two outside narthex doors.

2. Information Collection:

- **Action:** The Welcome Minister escorts the visitor to the Welcome Desk to meet another Welcome Minister.
- **Method:** This second Welcome Minister does the following:
 - **Name Tag:** Provides a lanyard with a place for a temporary name tag.
 - **Clipboard:** Has the visitor fill out the clipboard page to get a permanent name tag next Sunday, if they plan to return.
 - **Attendance Notebook:** Shows the visitor an example of the red attendance book. They may fill it out at the welcome desk or wait to fill one out at their seat. *Remind them to print clearly.*
 - **Offer a St. Thomas swag bag.** (Inside a bag emblazoned with our church logo, perhaps have a thermal cup, a map of the campus, a pride pin, etc...)
- **Goal:** Collect name, email, phone number, and optionally, family members' names and ages.
- **Second Action:** The original Welcome Minister escorts the visitor to a seat in the nave or hands the visitor over to an usher to do this.
- **Third Action:** The original Welcome Minister (still wearing their apron) meets the visitor after church to escort him/her/them to the parish hall for coffee hour and also makes introductions.

3. Data Entry and Tracking:

- **Action:** Input visitor information into the attendance detail tracking log.
- **Method:** Keep a record of all communications with newcomer.
- **Goal:** Create a visitor profile for each new guest, noting the dates of their first through fourth visits and all communications.

4. Initial Follow-up (after 1st visit):

- **Action:** The IWC Minister further engages the visitor.
- **Method:** Choose one
 - **Card:** Send a card expressing thanks and a desire to connect.
 - **Personal Phone Call:** If appropriate and comfortable, a brief phone call to check in and answer any questions.
 - **Email/Text:** Provide information about relevant ministries, events, or resources.

5. **Second Follow-up (after second visit):**
 - **Action:** Rector initiates contact with the visitor by sending the “About St. Thomas Letter”.
 - **Method:** USPS or email.
6. **Third Engagement (after third visit):**
 - **Action:** The Senior Warden makes a phone call or sends handwritten card
 - **Method: General Church Communications:** Ask if we may add them to the church's regular communication channels (Doubter, email announcements).
7. **Fourth Engagement (after fourth visit):**
 - **Action:** Send an invitation to a newcomer's reception.
 - **Method:** Have a reception at a member's home or in the Atrium of the church.

**St. Thomas the Apostle - Rector's Ministry Fund
January - December 2025**

Number	Date of Charge	Vendor	Description of Charge and Purpose	Amount
1	1/13/2025	Walmart	Stroller & Baby Bounce	\$506.61
2	3/19/2025	Amazon	Toilet Paper & Convenience Kits	\$303.36
3	3/19/2025	Amazon	Travel Toiletries Kits	\$237.25
4	4/3/2025	Sam's Club	Dog food and treats for Ops Kindness	\$298.28
5	4/8/2025	Transfer to Ops Acct.	Used for Camp Scholarships	\$2,100.00
6	4/14/2025	Transfer to Ops Acct.	For Now Forward	\$402.39
7	5/25/2025	Paine Museum	Badge of Pride Exhibition Preview Event & Fundraiser	\$150.00
8	7/28/2025	Abundant	Bishop ordination gift - St. Thomas portion	\$650.00
9	7/30/2025	Walmart	School Supplies for KB Polk	\$354.14
10	7/30/2025	Walmart	School Supplies for KB Polk	\$168.20
11	8/5/2025	Our Democracy	Guns 2 Gardens (CK issued)	\$250.00
12			Total	\$5,420.23
13				
14				
15				



Interfaith Migration Alliance

This alliance was formed in response to recent inhumane actions, including the abduction and separation of families by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Guided by the call of our faiths to love the stranger and uphold human dignity, the Interfaith Migration Alliance walks together in sacred solidarity with migrants and refugees, advocating for a world where all may find welcome, safety, and hope.

The objective of this alliance is to establish a network of dedicated Neighbors who provide immediate support to individuals facing deportation and their families. This support will help ensure humane treatment and protect their Constitutional rights.

Each participating Neighbor will undergo a vetting process and self-select a committee, where they will take on specific responsibilities.

Committees and Duties

- **Community Outreach Committee:** Creates opportunities for education on immigration issues and the importance of advocacy.
- **Legal Committee:** Provides legal counseling and assistance.
- **Demonstration Committee:** Organizes peaceful demonstrations to ensure due process is upheld.
- **Resource Assistance Committee:** Collects resources for families with detained members.
- **Phone Banking Committee:** Contacts elected officials to advocate on behalf of individuals.
- **Public Relations Committee:** Drafts public statements, holds press conferences, and develops media content in support of affected individuals.
- **Court Support Committee:** Accompanies and supports individuals at immigration court hearings at the Dallas Federal Building, embodying the principle: *Love thy neighbor—no exceptions.*

We welcome churches, organizations, and community members to join the Alliance. Members are encouraged to join a committee with the expectation of attending trainings and weekly meetings.

VESTRY

Rene Aguirre

John Billingsley

Hampton Burwick

Janet Elsea

Dan Hall

Jami Mifflin

Steve Sale

Jack Sartin

John Van Buskirk

EX-OFFICIO OFFICERS

Joe DeuPree

Rusty Rippamonti

Bob Stutz

CLERGY & STAFF

Laura Giffin

Virginia Holleman

Jerry Knight

Andy McCarthy

Jennifer Smith

Steve Sprinkle

Lee Swift

Christopher Thomas

ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE

Keith Carney

Ken Lee

Wynne Voorhees

The Baptismal Covenant

A Prayer for Daily Use

Holy and gracious, life-giving God,
Creator, sustainer, and redeemer of all:

- Help me today to continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers;
- Help me today to persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever I fall into sin, repent and return to you;
- Help me today to proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ;
- Help me today to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving my neighbor as myself;
- Help me today to strive for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every single human being;

For it is in doing these things that I become more and more like your Son Jesus Christ, transforming myself, and the very world around me.

Amen.