



The Episcopal Church of St Thomas the Apostle

Monthly Vestry Meeting - Minutes April 21, 2026

IN ATTENDANCE

Rector

Father Christopher Thomas

Clergy, Staff/Guest**Ex-Officio Officers**

Jerry Knight, Treasurer
Rusty Rippamonti, Chancellor *
Bob Stutz, Clerk

Vestry Members

Hampton Burwick *
Tom Files
John Billingsley
Jami Mifflin
Joe DeuPree - Senior Warden
Steve Sale – Junior Warden
Jack Sartin
Shelly Turner *

Absent *

Parishioners

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN AND SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- Approval of March 17, 2026 Minutes
- Finance Committee Report
- Mission – Outreach Committee Report
- Building & Grounds Report
- Rector's Report

NARRATIVE

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Fr. Christopher Thomas, and the meeting began with an opening prayer led by Fr. Christopher.

II. Resource Person for Meeting**Tom Files****III. Spiritual Reflection****Fr. Christopher Thomas**

Examples of distance and instances of closeness / awareness that allows change in us breaking down the distances and sharing our personal experiences.

VI. Prior Meeting Minutes Approval**Joe DuePree, Senior Warden**

- a) The meeting continued with a review of the previous month's minutes. Jack Sartin moved, and Tom Files seconded, a motion for approval of the March 17, 2026 meeting minutes. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

V. Finance Committee

Jerry Knight, Treasurer

- a) Finance: Review of the Financial Summary Report: about 1% under budget on revenue and about 1% overbudget on expenses, review of the Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2026 and review of the Income Statement for the period March 1 – March 31, 2026. Copies attached.
- b) Columbarium Status Report: Committee will consist of John Billingsley, Steve Sale and Joe DeuPree.
- c) Audit Committee: Tom Files currently reviewing the Audit Procedures and developing his committee.
- d) Attendance Information: Good visitor attendance, we need to work on follow up.

VI. Mission Outreach

Jack Sartin

Giving during Lent was successful although it should be noted that much of the donated items were provided by the Rector Fund. There was a suggestion for a "Giving Tree" with specific items for the various projects (diapers, toiletries, food, etc) so the congregation could see the specific needs and take ownership. The Flaming Dish dinner with dessert auction will take place on Pentecost Sunday. The School Supply drive will be starting soon.

VII. Building & Grounds

Steve Sale

The water bill is down about 50% from the prior month and the new water fountains in the Parish Hall have been installed! Bids will be taken for the tree trimming and will go to the Finance Committee for funding. The tree trimming can be done in stages and suggest annual fall and spring trimming to avoid large costs going forward. Looking into the parking lot restriping.

X. Guild Liaisons Reports

- **Acolytes/Eucharistic Ministers** (Steve Sale)
- **Eucharistic Visitors** (John Billingsley)
- **Altar Guild** (Joe DeuPree) Two new members. Many of the current members are older with physical limitations so younger members would be encouraged.
- **Greeters/Ushers** (Hampton Burwick)
- **Kitchen/Social:** (Jami Mifflin) Chili CookOff April 29th and Kathy Carson's Celebration of Life May 2nd at 4:00.
- **Lectors (Readers)** (Jack Sartin) Going well.
- **Music** (Joe DeuPree) The new organ is ready and the expenses will be reimbursed from the Knight/Flake fund.

XI. Rector's Report

Fr. Christopher Thomas

- a) Vestry Vacancy: Joe DeuPree, Steve Sale and Jami Mufflin will vet members to fulfill Rene's remaining term.
- b) Website Update: The current platform is old and has security issues. Since most visitors find St. Thomas through the website it should be updated reflect who we are today.

- c) Pentecost Sunday / Flaming Dish will be May 24th
- d) Update from Clergy Retreat: The Bishop was very engaging during the three-day conference. The Bishop's three-point plan is to find common ground including race and reconciliation; developing leaders to flourish; and develop youth ministries.

XII. Resource Person for May 19, 2026 Meeting

Shelly Turner

XII. Compline & Dismissal

Fr. Christopher Thomas

The meeting was closed with Compline by Fr. Christopher at 9:21 pm.

XIII. Other Business

Rusty Rippamonti, Chancellor

Vestry vote by email for "Monica Haver Sargent to be elected by the Vestry to fill the vacancy on the Vestry created due to the resignation of Rene Aguire and serve as a Vestry Person filling the unexpired term ending December 31, 2027."

Motioned by Joe DeuPree and seconded by John Billingsley. The vote by email passed.

APPENDIX

- Vestry Meeting Minutes – April 21, 2026
- Financial Report Summary for the Month of March 2026
- Balance Sheet – as of March 31, 2026
- Income Statement – March 1 to March 31, 2026
- 2025 Attendance Report
- The Baptismal Covenant

Meeting Minutes prepared by Bob Stutz, Clerk