

Sunday, July 12, 2026
Episcopal Church of the Atonement Vestry Meeting Minutes
Draft

Time: Sunday, July 12, 2026 1:00 p.m. to 2:20 p.m.
Location: In-Person at the Church and via Google Meet
Present: Father Charles Everson (Rector), Charles Bonilla (Warden), Pam Ferguson (Warden), Ann Cassidy, Evie Coe, Tim Fox, Sena Leikvold, Charlaine Reynolds, Amanda Patrick, Br. Will White, CMJ, Tim Coe (Treasurer), Michael Waltz (Clerk)
Absent: Pauline Sachar, Alex Wyman
Guest: Jared Mosley (Seminarian Intern)

Next Meeting: Sunday, August 9, 2026 at 12:45 p.m. at Church of the Atonement and via Google Meet

Father Charles called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. following a prayer.

Aaron Johnson Discernment Update: Evie Coe presented for the committee. During the lengthy discernment process Aaron recognized that his calling is to the diaconate rather than the priesthood. The committee recommended approval. **A motion was made** (Evie Coe) **and seconded** (Will White) to approve Aaron Johnson's postulancy for the diaconate. **The motion passed.**

Review of June Meeting Minutes: **A motion was made** (Pam Ferguson) **and seconded** (Sena Leikvold) to approve the minutes. **The motion passed.**

Treasurer's Report:

June Statement of Financial Position: Tim Coe feels that, even though total assets are down by about \$12,000, we're in a better place now than we expected to be last month, but in July we'll begin to see that we're not meeting budget. We had anticipated that the second floor of the rectory building would be rented by now, which didn't happen. However, materials to start marking it to other nonprofits have been approved, so we hope to see some interest soon.

June Statement of Activity: With \$1,500 from the Chicago Chamber Choir for space rental and some donations received for the block party, total revenue was \$6,700 over budget, but July will change that because of the loss of parking revenue and the fact that the second floor of the rectory building isn't rented. Expenses exceeded budget by about \$13,000, almost entirely attributable to our payment to Sacred Spaces for the capital campaign. Tim noted that the solar panels are now operating, but because of the timing of activating them we won't see the impact until next month.

A motion was made (Charles Bonilla) **and seconded** (Pam Ferguson) to receive the June financials. **The motion passed.** *Copies of the reports are attached to these minutes.*

Organ Update: Father had a phone meeting with Ortloff Organ Company to clarify some issues with the contract, such as how they calculate CPI adjustments. Ortloff reduced the amount of the deposit required for the retainer and agreed to work with Atonement to reduce the cost, potentially revising the number of

pipes installed now but providing the possibility of adding them later. **A motion was made** (Evie Coe) **and seconded** (Pam Ferguson) to approve the revised retainer. **The motion passed.**

Repair of Exterior Doors: Two bids were received to repair the exterior doors of the church and parish house and the entrance door to the rectory building. After discussion it was decided to ask Matt Rodgers to get more detail so the bids can be compared more accurately.

Endowment Draw: **A motion was made** (Father Charles) **and seconded** (Evie Coe) to request the five percent draw (\$105,663.61) from the Endowment Fund for 2026 to cover part of the costs for the parking lot repair and the retainer for the organ. **The motion passed.**

Rector's Report:

Parking Lot: The city has responded to our proposed work on the lot. A couple questions remain that need to be answered before we can proceed.

Stewardship Chair: Father said someone is considering taking on this role and will let him know shortly.

Deacon: It is possible the Bishop will appoint an individual who has expressed interest to serve as Deacon at Atonement, primarily at the 11:00 service. Deacon Farrel will continue to serve once a month.

Coffee Hour/Welcome Guild Update: Pam Ferguson and Sena Leikvold reported that things are working well. Among other things the guild is discussing is a plan for a ministries fair this year

Block Party: No report.

Vestry Liaisons: No report.

Other Business:

Meeting Time/Day: It was agreed to start the August Vestry meeting at 12:45 and have further discussion about regularly starting meetings earlier on Sundays or changing the day of the week.

Will White reported discussions about renting Fellowship Hall for theater rehearsal space, but we need to address the air conditioning issue.

It was suggested that we hold a Christmas Concert in the church as a fundraiser. Father will research what other events are planned in December.

A motion was made (Will White) **and seconded** (Charlaine Reynolds) to approve \$800 to be used for scholarships for those needing assistance with the cost of Education for Ministry.

Dates for the Calendar:

Wednesday, July 22, 1:00 p.m. – Curt Schmitt Funeral

Saturday, July 25, 2:00 p.m. – Beatrice Reid Funeral

Sunday, August 2 and 9, 10:00 a.m. – Adult Forums on Sexual Ethics

Sunday, August 9, 12:45 p.m. – Vestry Meeting

Sunday, August 23 – Backpacks blessed

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m. following a blessing by Father Charles.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Waltz, Clerk of the Vestry