

Trinity Church Pawtuxet  
Vestry Meeting  
May 10, 2026  
Minutes

In Attendance:

Mother Susan Wrathall

Class of 2026: Ann Walter- Treasurer, Kevin Cliff, Carol Deming, Ginny Simms- Secretary/Clerk

Class of 2027: Rob Duncanson- Senior Warden, Vickie Ancona, Alyson Aharonian

Class of 2028: Bob Whittaker

Absent: Cindy Castellone, Jeannette Hogan.

Meeting opened with prayer led by Alyson Aharonian.

Minutes: Minutes were sent ahead and reviewed. Correction of the name of the fundraiser liaison: Alyson Aharonian instead of Vickie Ancona. Motion to accept minutes as corrected (Rob), seconded Carol, unanimously accepted.

Correspondence: Mother Susan shared a letter received by Trinity from a neighbor- not a parishioner of Trinity- who expressed thanks for the steeple chimes and hymns. Ginny shared a thank-you note from the Edgewood Food Pantry. Trinity donated 178.7 pounds of food items.

**Reports:**

***Priest-In-Charge:***

**Motion:** There was an email vote on 4/21/26 to approve the bid of \$1,290 for the cleaning and waxing the parish hall floor. Unanimously voted yes.

- Recap Bishop's Visit: Mother Susan reported that the bishop's visit went well, albeit short (he had to leave after the service and couldn't stay for the reception). The bishop commented on the cleanliness of the church.
- Recap Vestry Planning Day: The vestry decided upon the following top priorities:
  - 1) Bathroom improvement:** Mother Susan suggested that the property committee and some vestry members visit St. Barnabas. They have rehabbed one bathroom and gutted/rehabbed a men's and women's bathroom. Possibly obtain the name of the contractor for an estimate. Mother Susan said that there might be monies from the Diocese's Congregational Development Fund for the bathroom improvement.
  - 2) Inviting, Welcome, Connect:** Nancy St. Germaine has looked at the videos. Mother Susan called for a liaison from the vestry to work on this team.
  - 3) Connecting the 8am and 10 am service attendees and having more children involved in worship were tied for third.**
- Flags in the sanctuary. Lengthy discussion about the flags in the sanctuary. Those vestry members who spoke to various parishioners shared their findings. Pros and Cons were discussed about the removal of all flags or leaving them in place as is. It was also discussed about hiring a lift to remove the flags and to fix lights, ceiling fan and clean ceiling if we had a lift.

- **Vestry Action:**

- **Ask more parishioners their opinion- It was suggested to write out their answers and share with other vestry members.**
- **Need an estimate for a lift and the repair to lights, fan and cleaning of the ceiling.**
- Jane Jellison will be arranging the altar schedules. The next one is for May 31- Sept. 6. She plans on sending the weekly bulletin to participants on the Wed before one's scheduled. If there are any changes to schedule, to let Jane know. If an emergency occurs for that Sunday, to text Mother Susan.
- Fundraising report- Alyson reported that the team has met and has a few ideas: Christmas wreaths, peppermint bark sale, BBQ in the fall.
- Mother Susan shared that Church of the Transfiguration, Edgewood is having a difficult time. They will lose their part-time priest at the end of May. She is working with the bishop to see what help she can provide for the parish. She has invited the parishioners to join Trinity for Eucharist. It was brought up that since their parishioners are elderly, Trinity will need to possibly expand the handicapped parking spaces on the street.

**Senior Warden:** Rob reported on the following:

- Kitchen door lock was fixed
- Bay Room plug was repaired. No cost to Trinity as electrician was in the building for something else.
- Electrical work done- A/C units per last month's motion.
- Backflow passed its yearly inspection
- The envelop survey was reviewed. The property team would like a breakdown of the 2 worst areas. The engineers said that the gutters were an immediate project and recommended industrial gutters for the building.
- The cleaning and polishing of the parish hall will take place on Friday, May 15th.

**Treasurer:** Ann presented the 2026 Vestry Operational Report Jan-April 2026.

- Trinity is behind in the budget by \$1,522.
- She noted that the Compensation: SECA Reimbursement (51411) has been resolved. \$5400 has been reimbursed and as of May 8, 2026 the amount is now \$0.
- While the expense for natural gas has gone up this year- \$7360 this first quarter of 2026, it is not as high as one would expect with the universal increase of gas. The trend over the last couple of years has been ranging in \$6,000 for the first quarter. In 2025 it was \$6,849/first quarter.

**Motion:** The expense for the engineering survey has gone over the approved amount (\$8,500) by \$261. Motion to approve the increase in expense, \$261 (Carol), seconded (Vickie), unanimously approved.

**Coming up:**

- May 25th- 20th Anniversary of Mother Susan's ordination to the transitional diaconate
- June 7- Last day of Church School celebration
- June 9- Gaspee Interfaith service

- June 13- Gaspee parade
- June 14- 100th Birthday party
- June 14 (after church)- June 27- Mother Susan's vacation. Rev. Peter Michaelson will supply on June 21.
- June 28- Baptism

***Adjournment:*** Mother Susan adjourned with a peace blessing.  
Respectfully Submitted,  
Ginny Simms

**Next Regular Vestry Meeting: Monday, June 8th @ 5:30pm.** (Note the different date- due to the Gaspee Service on the vestry's regular meeting time)