



March 2026

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE VESTRY OF CHRIST
EPISCOPAL CHURCH-BLUEFIELD-February 18, 2026

A regular meeting of the Vestry was held on February 18, 2026. Present were Father Paul Barker, Jim Pulse, Darla Olson, Art Mead, David Kersey, Rob Merritt, Ted Lewis, Bill Denney and Peter Taylor. Dee Pucket was absent.

Father Barker called the meeting to order, declared the presence of a quorum. The meeting was opened with a devotion by Darla Olson-a reflection from Westminster Abbey on the Lenten Cross.

Father Barker welcomed Jim Pulse and Peter Taylor to the Vestry.

The minutes from the January 21 meeting were reviewed and upon motion of Ted Lewis and second of Bill Denney were unanimously approved.

Treasurer Don Kersey had provided a written summary of his financial observations for the month, along with the balance sheet and income statement and is available for questions at any time. Pledged income collected was below the monthly budget for January, but that is likely due to having cancelled church for two Sundays. Father Barker's pay has not yet been adjusted by the payroll company pay, to reflect his new contract. Upon motion of Bill Denney and second of Peter Taylor, the treasurer's report was approved.

Father Paul entertained a motion from Bill Denney that Ted Lewis be nominated for Senior Warden and he was elected by acclamation.

Ted Lewis gave the Senior Warden report. We missed two Sundays, due to cold weather, ice and snow. He, Father Barker, Keith Olson and David Kersey attended a Zoom meeting with a representative of Generis, the capital campaign company hired by the diocese to lead its capital campaign. Father Barker will attend a weekend meeting at Sandcrest later this month to learn more about the matter. Ted had also talked to a representative of Electronic Supply, which installed the catholic church sound system, and they will visit our church to look at our sound system and make recommendations.

David Kersey gave the Junior Warden report. It had been suggested that we consider upgrading the bathrooms in the church. We will try to find local contractors who can give us a quote on that potential project. Potentially, we could fund such a capital project with local foundation funds. We have experienced some water leaks on the eastern wall of the church and the sloped roof over the narthex hallway. We will have Frye Roofing come and inspect to see what the problem might be.

Darla Olson gave the parish life report. We have raised approximately \$1,000 for the luncheon for the Bishop's visit, which is scheduled for Palm Sunday. We are planning on approximately 80 people. ECW will host the March 4 Lenten lunch. We need volunteers to host coffee hour for March. We will give the Bishop and Mrs. Cowden stained glass angel ornaments, made from the original Rowley Hall windows.

Bill Denney submitted a report on Outreach. About 60 food bags were distributed at the January food pantry. Art Mead reported that the Union cancelled one of their serving days, due to severe cold. More than 100 meals were served on the other day.

Father Paul gave the Evangelism report. He spent the entire evening of the Pancake supper visiting with attendees. He gave church tours to 6 people and spoke with several people who are looking for a new church.

Rob Merritt gave the Communication report. The weekly email and quarterly Rainbow are well received. The website is being updated. There was a discussion about publishing the directory online, along with concerns about doing so. It was agreed not to place the directory online.

Father Paul reported on Education. Elizabeth Clement has lessons and will endeavor to make up the Sunday School missed due to church weather related cancellations.

Father Paul gave the Worship/Rector's report. We had 22 people for the Ash Wednesday noon service. There is a 6:30 p.m. service tonight. There will be Evening Prayer on February 25 and every Wednesday evening during Lent, except March 18. He will attend the diocesan capital campaign training at Sandscree on February 21 and 22. We need two acolytes for Palm Sunday; one for Maundy Thursday; three readers and one acolyte for Good Friday. On Good Friday, there will be noon Stations of the Cross and Good Friday Liturgy and Stations of the Cross at 5:30 p.m. At Easter, we need one reader and two acolytes. There will be a Vestry Retreat in the old City Hall on Saturday, March 7.

There being no other new business or old business, Father. Paul adjourned the meeting with a closing prayer. The next meeting is scheduled for March 18, 2026, at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, David M. Kersey, Recorder

March 2026

[April ▶](#)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 The Second Sunday in Lent 10:00 Holy Eucharist						
8 The Third Sunday in Lent 10:00 Holy Eucharist		10 5:30 Lenten Reading Zoom Call	11 4:00 Union Mission 5:30 Evening Prayer			
15 The Fourth Sunday in Lent 10:00 Holy Eucharist		17 10:30 DOK	18 4:30 Evening Prayer 5:00 Vestry 6:00 Men's Dinner	19 Saint Joseph 9:00 Food Pantry		
22 The Fifth Sunday in Lent 10:00 Holy Eucharist			25 The Annunciation of Our Lord Christ to the Blessed Mary 3:30 Union Mission 5:30 Evening Prayer			
29 The Sunday of the Passion: PALM SUNDAY 10:00 Holy Eucharist	30 Monday in Holy Week	31 Tuesday in Holy Week	BISHOP COWDEN'S VISIT SUNDAY, MARCH 29 PALM SUNDAY			

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
200 DUHRING STREET
BLUEFIELD, WEST VIRGINIA 24701

To our friends and family:



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Editor: Mimi Merritt

Contributors: Linda Ammar and Art Mead

Graphic Design: Susanne Pulse