

CHRIST CHURCH CHRISTIANA HUNDRED

Finance Committee Meeting

April 15, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 11 AM by Christine Cook.

Finance Committee members in attendance: Bob Reardon (Assistant Treasurer), Christine Cook (Convener), Allison Ayers, Terri Carpe (Finance Manager, Breakwater), John Olsen (vestry), Barbara King (vestry), Ran Barton (Sr. Warden), Jaqueline Whalen (vestry), Mark Parsells (Treasurer), Hardy Drane

Absent: Ruth Beresford (Rector)

With a quorum of the Finance Committee, Mark opened the meeting with a prayer. The minutes of the March 18, 2026 meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved.

Mark reviewed the Treasurer's Report for the year-to-date through April 13, which showed the church is performing close to budget, coming in 2.2% ahead of prior year and 1% behind on budget. The committee discussed concerns about stewardship, noting only 394 pledges compared to 400 last year and 422 the previous year. There was debate about whether to prioritize growing the church membership to 750+ before undertaking capital projects, with some arguing for focusing on transforming existing facilities and marketing efforts first. The committee agreed to schedule a presentation from the Invite, Welcome, Connect team about marketing efforts at the June meeting.

Terri presented the March 2026 financials, noting pledge income is under the seasonal budget by 2% or \$10K. In addition, several timing differences have caused breaks with the budget, and the church has paid higher than expected maintenance costs. Terri noted that trust money and Green Show income exceeded budget, while overall income was slightly behind due to lower spending, particularly in global missions. Terri also discussed changes to payroll systems, including new automated processes and noted that merchant fees now apply to all donations rather than just pledge payments.

Terri reported ongoing issues with M&T Bank, particularly regarding delays in transferring funds and sought recommendations for a new banking institution. The group agreed to consider Chase, Bank of America, and WSFS as potential options, with Mark and Bob planning to evaluate these banks based on their service and willingness to handle CCCH's transaction needs.

Bob closed the meeting with a prayer, and the meeting adjourned at approximately 12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Cook