



Inside

Grace to You!

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Thoughts from your Senior Warden

Annual Report Address

Being elected to serving as Senior Warden at Grace Episcopal Church Muskogee has been a great honor. Having attended Grace since 1981, I have served on the Vestry three different times under more than three different priests. I have been a faithful choir member, Sunday School teacher, volunteer Youth Sunday School Coordinator (15+ yrs), served on a Search Committee, can often be found tending the Grace landscape beds, and am a fairly recent Altar Guild member and MOW cook. So, over the years I have learned my way around Grace in a number of different ways.

The role of Senior Warden has presented new challenges for me, which became a bit more challenging with the departure of Fr. Chris Cole at the end of June 2024, but challenges can provide opportunities and possibilities when approached thoughtfully and with an open mind. So far, I am up to that challenge. Thankfully having recently stepped away from a full-time position, I have time to dedicate to Grace and a husband who understands my commitment. The Oklahoma Diocesan staff have also been a great resource when questions arise, or guidance is needed. I can assure you they are concerned about our well-being during this transition time.

For those not aware, Fr. Chis Cole accepted a full-time position at St. Dunstan's Tulsa in late May after serving a little over 2 years of an expected 3-year part-time position. It was a good move for him and sensible for someone living in Tulsa with a spouse deeply connected to the Tulsa business scene. I wish him all the best in his new position. Fr. Chris brought youthful energy to Grace and helped bring new faces and younger families into our church. These younger families are the church of the future, so we should nurture them at every opportunity and provide meaningful programs as best we can. Watch them as they take leadership roles on the Search Committee, Vestry, outreach programs and beyond.

Another recent departure from Grace is Organist/Choirmaster, Dr. Malcolm McGuire. His resignation was effective January 5, 2025. The job opening has been already posted with several different organizations and websites. Malcolm is embarking on a new entrepreneurial venture requiring more of his time, plus his commute from Tulsa was taking additional time away from family and work. "Please know that my prayers and best wishes are with Grace Episcopal Church as it continues its faithful mission. May God bless the work of this community and guide in all that lies ahead. With deep gratitude and blessings, ~~Malcolm"

Endless thankfulness is extended to the Grace Staff—Nancy Scott, and Jr. Warden—B.J. Charbonneau. They do many things for Grace behind the scenes. Just ask them to describe their jobs! To the Worship Committee and those who have led Morning Prayer on Sundays since late June, you have opened my eyes to all the awesome Lay Ministers we have in our congregation. You have truly been a blessing.

My deepest gratitude also extends to all of you who are so very committed to our church programs, serving as leaders and faithful, dependable participants. Collectively all those involved in these programs contribute to the vibrancy and work of Grace Muskogee.

Information about these programs can be found in the Ministry Reports section of the Annual Report and in the Parish Profile, found on the Grace website.

As we look ahead to 2025, consider how Grace Muskogee can better meet our own needs and the needs of others, and share your thoughts or ideas with a Vestry member or staff person. The church of the future will not be the church of the past. What exactly comes next is not clear, but it cannot be the same.

Grace 2025 Goals:

- To find the priest who is meant for us. God willing and with the work of the Oklahoma diocese, The Rev. Canon Betsy Randall and our Search Committee, that person is just waiting to be found and called.
- Address physical campus needs such as sanctuary water drainage issues (especially on the north side) foundation stones and bell tower maintenance and repair.
- Development of Margaret's Park at Grace Commons - grants being submitted, funding pending
- Further development of the Grace Community Garden - will require a small amount of funding, creative gardening knowledge and sweat equity.
- Implement meaningful programs for our congregation, especially for young families and Youth
- Offer more fellowship opportunities
- Reach out to the un-churched in our community
- Facility Safety Training - fire and medical emergency drills, how to manage potential violence such as an active shooter on the Grace campus
- Renewed focus on visiting shut-ins and meeting other pastoral care needs. We are working on developing the best way to manage this program. Please notify the church office or Vestry person regarding any pastoral care needs - your own or the needs of others.
- Build the congregation.

I personally have a long-time love for Grace and all those who have come through those red doors. It has been a sanctuary to me in many different ways and has always offered me the message of hope. I pray you find that true as well.

Peace and love.

Katherine Coburn, Senior Warden



Please join us February 22-23 for the Inaugural Diocesan Chorister & Acolyte Festival! The festival is open to all youth ages 9 - 18. All experience levels are welcome. This two-day festival will include workshops and training for choristers and acolytes as well as fun activities for all. We will sing and acolyte for a morning Eucharist and Choral Evensong at St. Paul's Cathedral. For more information, please contact Joseph Ripka at jripka@stpaulsokc.org. We hope you will join us!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



2/3	Chandler Engelbrecht		
2/5	Marlene Odom		
2/7	Kelin Stratton	3/2	Gary Dunlap
2/11	Edwynna Synar	3/7	Jennifer Frazee
2/12	Vivian Martin	3/7	Josiah Scott
2/12	Killian Stratton	3/10	Ryan Richter
2/13	Shelia Harrington	3/11	Victoria Chapman
2/13	Leo Vaughn	3/12	Larry Stick
2/14	Carla Dunlap	3/16	London Wren Woods
2/17	Trapper Green	3/20	Terra Tomblinson
2/17	Zuri Holder	3/22	Joel Cousins
2/18	Jerry Coburn	3/22	Jason Green
2/18	Cornelia Haugland	3/23	John Engelbrecht
2/19	Scott Stratton	3/30	Van Odom
2/21	Dorothy Fite		
2/21	Greg McComb		
2/23	Barbara Tobin		
2/27	Lucy Cox		



HAPPY
Anniversary

3/17 Katherine & Jerry Coburn

3/26 Mary & Terry Eddings



Ronnie, Mike, John, Stuart, Nancy, Catheryne, Jennifer, Paula, Ched, Phillip, Roger, Patricia, Leslie, Anna, Jonathan, D.G., Lester, Mark, Falling family, Joe, Connie, Dorothy, Marlene, Dusty, those impacted by war and violence, all emergency responders, United States Military, and those whose suffering is known only to God

Prayer Requests

We will keep names on the prayer for three months; if names need to be left on indefinitely, please let us know when you make the request. If you have any questions or wish to submit a request, please send an email to: office@gracemuskogee.org.

If you have family news, or if we have missed your anniversary or birthday, please let us know. Information can be submitted by calling the Grace office at 687-5416 or by emailing office@GraceMuskogee.org. Submissions for the next newsletter should be received in the office no later than March 15th.

THOSE WHO SERVE FEBRUARY & MARCH

10:30 A.M.	2/2	2/9	2/16	2/23
Officiant / Celebrant	The Rev. Kenneth Orsburn	The Rev. Tom Harrington	The Rev. Kenneth Orsburn	The Rev. Canon Betsy Randall
1st Reader /Chalice	Tim Holder	Joel Cousins	Katherine Coburn	Van Odom
2nd Reader /Chalice	Kaia Holder	Jean Lewis	David Wilcox	Tyler Martin
Head Usher /Greeter	Lance Scott	Joel Cousins	Alex Wilson	David Wilcox
Altar Guild	Melody Freie	Katherine Coburn	Pat Wilcox	Marlene Odom
Media	Nancy Scott	Alex Wilson	Tim Holder	Nancy Scott
1st Cross	Coco Cox	Danielle Jardin	Van Odom	Danielle Jardin
Torch/ Plates	Lucy Cox	Skye Jardin	Nora Pevehouse	Skye Jardin
2nd Cross	Killian Stratton	Andrew Jardin	Killian Stratton	Andrew Jardin

10:30 A.M.	3/2	3/9	3/16	3/23	3/30
Officiant / Celebrant	The Rev. Kenneth Orsburn	The Rev. Clyde Glandon	The Rev. Tom Harrington	Joshua Chapman	The Rev. Kenneth Orsburn
1st Reader /Chalice	Jean Lewis	Van Odom	Pat Wilcox	Rick Ewing	Katherine Coburn
2nd Reader /Chalice	Stephen Bradley	Tyler Martin	Alex Wilson	Chris Ewing	David Wilcox
Head Usher /Greeter	Stephen Bradley	Tyler Martin	Alex Wilson	Rick Ewing	David Wilcox
Altar Guild	Melody Freie	Marlene Odom	Katherine Coburn	Pat Wilcox	Marlene Odom
Media	Alex Wilson	Tim Holder	Nancy Scott	Alex Wilson	Tim Holder
1st Cross	Coco Cox	Danielle Jardin	Van Odom	Danielle Jardin	Pat Wilcox
Torch/ Plates	Lucy Cox	Skye Jardin	Nora Pevehouse	Skye Jardin	Nora Pevehouse
2nd Cross	Killian Stratton	Andrew Jardin	Killian Stratton	Andrew Jardin	Killian Stratton

Ash Wednesday: March 5th at 6:30 PM - schedule TBD

If you are unable to serve on your assigned dates, please find a replacement & notify the parish office at 918-687-5416 by Wednesday before your scheduled day to serve. If an acolyte cannot serve when scheduled, please contact Pat Wilcox.

On the Altar: February & March



Flowers



Bread & Wine

Feb 2:	In honor of Marlene's Birthday by Van Odom	OPEN <i>(To become a sponsor, please contact the office.)</i>
Feb 9:	In honor of our daughter Mary Catherine Bradley by Patricia & Stephen Bradley	OPEN <i>(To become a sponsor, please contact the office.)</i>
Feb 16:	OPEN <i>(To become a sponsor, please contact the office.)</i>	In memory of Margaret Cain and Marissa Wisley by Jennifer Sparks
Feb 23:	OPEN <i>(To become a sponsor, please contact the office.)</i>	In loving memory of Joe & Em Basolo by Nancy Green
Mar 2:	In loving memory of Bart and Coleman Fite by Dorothy Fite	In memory of Gary Moore by Jennifer Sparks
Mar 9:	LENT	OPEN <i>(To become a sponsor, please contact the office.)</i>
Mar 16:	LENT	In honor of my children London and Gabriel by Stuart Woods
Mar 23:	LENT	In loving memory of Ora Nelson by Barbara Haworth
Mar 30:	LENT	In memory of Tom Tobin Sr. by Barbara Tobin

Pancakes & Pajamas

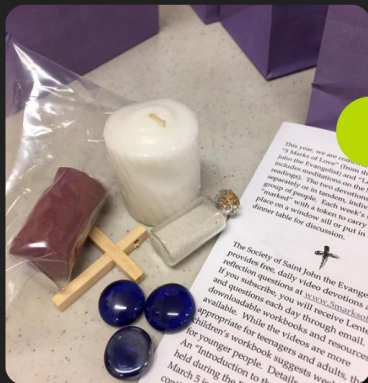
(Shrove Tuesday on Wednesday)

We're having a Pancake Party!

Shrove Tuesday is the last day before Lent, a season of fasting & reflection. Join us and have breakfast for dinner as we prepare to enter Lent.

Wednesday, February 26th at 6:30 PM

(Pajamas are optional.)



Family Activity Nights

Wednesdays in Lent

Join us at 6:30 PM February 26th through March 9th for Lent-themed family activities in the parish hall.

- Feb 26: Pancake Party
- March 5: Ash Wednesday Service (Church)
- March 12: Lent in a Bag
- March 19: St. Patrick's Day
- March 26: The Painting Table
- April 2: Pretzel Practice
- April 9: Eggs for Easter

ASH WEDNESDAY MARCH 5, 2025

Ashes to Go
11:00 AM to 2:00 PM
@ Parish Hall back steps

Worship Service
6:30 PM
Online and In the Church
With Imposition of Ashes



Confirmation and Reception

Bishop Poulson

will visit Grace Muskogee on

Sunday, June 8th.

Youth and adults wishing to be

Confirmed or Received

are invited to do so during this visit.

Classes will begin **April 16th**

Please let Katherine or Nancy
know if you are interested
or have any questions.



BAPTISM AND YOUR CHRISTIAN VISION ANGLICAN SPIRITUAL CONFIDENCE

A Lenten Retreat at Grace Episcopal Muskogee
Saturday March 29, 2025 9:00 to Noon
Led by the Fellowship of the Holy Name



“I will love him and manifest Myself to him.” John 14:21

*

**“This is that baptism with heavenly fire which enlightens and enflames.
This grace we must therefore desire, procure, and forever entertain.”**

Richard Hooker, Appendix to Book V, The Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity

*

Revive in us baptismal grace, and fan our smoldering lives to flame. (Hymn 299)

LILIES FOR THE 2025 EASTER ALTAR

**It's never too early. Order
your Easter Lilies today!**

In Memory of :

Or

In Honor of:

GIVEN BY: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

Donation to Grace Church Altar Guild attached in the amount of : _____
(Suggested donation—\$20 per lily)

Drop off at the Church office or in the offering plate by Monday,
April 14th to be included in the Easter Bulletin.





**FEBRUARY
VESTRY PERSON
OF THE MONTH:**

**David
Wilcox**

**MARCH
VESTRY PERSON
OF THE MONTH:**

**Tyler
Martin**



Vestry Meeting Minutes from Monday, November 25, 2024 5:30PM

- **In-Person Attendance:** Katherine Coburn, Van Odom, Lora Sellers, Stephen Bradley, Lance Scott, Pam Lipscomb, Joshua Chapman, Alison Miller. Absent: Sharon Moore, BJ Charbonneau, David Wilcox
- **The meeting was called** to order at 5:30 p.m. with a devotional by Senior Warden Katherine Coburn.
- **Reading & Approval** of October 28, 2024 minutes. Corrections Stifel Fund made \$283 interest in September and there was a gain of \$20,000 in common investment fund. Motion to accept Van Odom, Second Joshua Chapman, motion carried by acclamation.

• **Reports of Wardens & Committees**

A. **Rector's Reports** – N/A

B. **Wardens' Reports**

1. *Senior Warden* (Katherine)—25 surveys received, one more week to be turned in.
 - a. Follow-Up Unfinished Business
 - 1) Software with Van & Nancy will try to have this accomplished in January/February 2025.
 - 2) Cloud/Social Media—pending with Alex Wilson.
 - 3) Belltower Update—Shea & Katherine trying to reach Cook Construction, who also had some input regarding water drainage issues.
 - 4) All City Plumbing came to give an estimate (approx. \$20,000) to access the water for Margaret's Garden. Katherine will talk to the City. Okie Digs came a year or so ago but we don't know if they located any lines from when there used to be a building on that corner. We may need to see if we can get lines located.
 - 5) Foundation Leak—James Smith said he came Saturday to look but he has not provided a report yet.
 - 6) Church Membership list—office administrator is doing something with this, then will provide to Van & BJ.
 - 7) B&R Electric company is on schedule to look at outdoor lights & Parish Hall exit lights.
 - 8) Fire Department gave a pass rating to the church. The electric Panel must be closed all the way and they suggested we post where all the fire extinguishers are located throughout the campus.
 - b. HR—Lora, Van, Alison & Katherine are working on updates.
 - c. Pastoral Care—there are a few shut-ins we are trying to reach out to see how often they would like communion (Ann Gardner, Barbara Hayworth, Jean Anderson, Diamond Franklin). We would like to have a volunteer for each person to visit them at least monthly.
 - d. Priest Search—6 persons have consented to be on the (DI Wilkinson, Pam Lipscomb, Brita Cantrell, Alex Wilson, Danielle Jardin, Tyler Martin) Search Committee. Now that the parish profile is online, we are waiting for Canon Betsy to give us the official go-ahead. Canon Betsy said we could begin our own searches without the diocese. The diocese website has a process booklet for priest searches. We can ask Alex to put a priest application/request form on our website for potential priests to submit for consideration. There is a national clearinghouse that we need information from the diocese about for nationwide available priests. The search committee should get familiar with the process and Van Odom motioned acceptance of the search committee, second Lance Scott, motion carried.
2. *Junior Warden* (BJ Charbonneau)
 - a. Saturday Sextons—Van Odom gave a report to include stair rails, trimming of shrubbery. Many lightbulbs have been replaced inside and outside. New items will come up and be added as needed. There are some security cameras that need to be working again, and some additional cameras near the nursery.
 - b. Boy Scout finance report provided in writing.
 - c. List of persons with church keys has been requested and BJ is working on this. If we cannot get an active list, we may need to change locks if it becomes a problem.

C. **Finance** (Van Odom)

1. *Feedback on the church* profile received, very impressive, great photos and professional. Also feedback on the stewardship letter stating how well spoken it was.
2. *Treasurer's Report & Regular Financial Reports:* We are still behind budget, income is \$9259 under budget, expenses are \$10038 under budget, net loss \$31553 for October 2024. Motion to accept Josh Chapman, 2nd Pam Lipscomb, motion carried.
3. *Purchasing policy for nonbudgeted items.* A policy was provided for vestry review to cover all purchases, reimbursement policy, the Treasurer needs to sign purchase requests including the church credit card, vendor payment policy. Motion to accept purchasing policies Lora Sellers, 2nd Joshua Chapman, motion carried. This will be added to the Vestry Portal.

D. **Insurance Committee** (Stephen Bradley) – nothing new to report.

E. **Building & Grounds Committee** (BJ Charbonneau & David Wilcox)

1. *Saturday Sextons*—see Junior Warden report
2. *Interior light in stained glass window* – Van Odom has disconnected the interior lights to reduce electric bill.
3. *Electronic Sign*—Ronnie Boswell says his crew will be out. We have not received any report after multiple requests. Lance has two other vendors waiting on standby.
4. *AED/first aid kits*—David Wilcox provided in-service of operating instructions & location during coffee hour in November. We will ask him to instruct vestry at the next meeting to include fire extinguishers.

F. **Christian Formation** (Pam Lipscomb)

1. *Safeguarding God's Children*—everyone should print their transcript and send it in to Nancy/Katherine to show completion of the program. It is due every three years. Alison is the second contact person.
2. Sunday School is bursting at the seams last week 14-15 kids. Youth volunteers are coming in to assist. We may have a youth group beginning to form.

3. *Informing & Encouraging our youth* for diocesan programs, there are advent resources (dwelling in the word Mondays at 8:00 via zoom). Trend is acolytes/volunteers and they are beginning to become more cohesive. Wednesday night is not a good time for youth, perhaps Sunday after church would be more effective (Alison states if there were activities during/after coffee hour it might be better received). It was suggested that 1st United Methodist (40-50 kids, 7-12th grade) could be joined with our youth to co-sponsor a weekly youth gathering. It could be meaningful to everyone's benefit. Suggested was a "send a kid to camp" campaign.
4. *EfM is in progress*, will have a holiday break and resume January 12, 2025.
5. *Book Studies* will resume in January.

G. Outreach Committee (Stephen Bradley)

1. *Stewardship campaign*—person doing this needs a parish directory to be able to eliminate waste of sending stewardship documents to people who are no longer members. The mailed materials could be better designed with return envelopes and address modernization. 18 pledge cards have been submitted so far.
2. *Wheelchair ramp* (G Street Meals on Wings participant) still needs to be accomplished.

H. Nominating Committee (Katherine Coburn)

1. *Potential new vestry members* for nomination at 2025 annual meeting (Alison took BJ's place, BJ took Audrey's 2nd year, she has agreed to take under her term for 2 more years.)
2. *Class of 2028*—Pam Lipscomb will agree to serve another term. We may consider Kelin Stratton, Che Siebold is another maybe. Sharon Moore's term needs to be refilled (one year term). Outgoing vestry persons should solicit replacement suggestions (2 three-year terms and 1 one-year term needed). Pam, Lance & Van are going off.

I. Evangelism / Worship Committee (Lora Sellers)

1. *Supply Priests*: 12/1/2024—Advent 1: Rick Ewing; 12/8/2024—Advent 2: Stephen Bradley; 12/15/2024—Advent 3: Rev. Kenneth Orsburn; 12/22/2024—Advent 4 Lessons & Carols: Van Odom; 12/24/2024—evening service: Larry Rogers; 12/29/2024—1st Sunday after Christmas: Pat Wilcox; 1/5/2025—2nd Sunday after Christmas: Rev. Kenneth Orsburn; 1/12/2025—1st Sunday after the Epiphany: Lance Scott; 1/19/2025—2nd Sunday after the Epiphany: Rev. Kenneth Orsburn; 1/26/2025—3rd Sunday after the Epiphany: Brita Cantrell
2. *Vestry to provide wassail/cookies* after Christmas Eve Service.
3. *Jingle Jam* (Pam Lipscomb)—they really need ornaments & toys. Alison is doing PR and she needs flyers. Lance has banners (came in today) and Van will come in tomorrow to help Lance hang them. Katherine will be available Thursday morning if needed. Jingle Jam Dec 8 at 5:30 p.m.
4. *Volunteer Hours*: per Alex Wilson, everyone should keep track of their volunteer hours which could help us when we apply for grants (including vestry meetings).

J. Adjourn to Executive Session, motion Van Odom, second Joshua Chapman. Motion carried. Motion to issue employee bonuses Van Odom, second Pam Lipscomb, motion carried. Katherine Coburn will call Martha Smith with the diocese to ensure proper policy for bonuses is being followed. Motion to exit from Executive Session, Van Odom. Second by Joshua Chapman, motion carried.

• **New Business**

A. *Vestry Person of the Month*: November 2024: Stephen Bradley; December 2024: Katherine Coburn

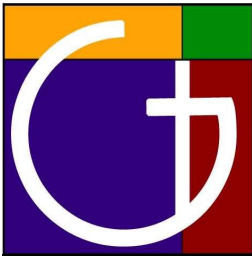
B. *Announcements*: next meeting December 30, 2024.

- *Closing Prayer* given by Joshua Chapman at 7:24 p.m. Adjournment at 7:25 p.m.

Vestry Meeting Minutes from Monday, December 30, 2024 5:30PM

- **In-Person Attendance**: Katherine Coburn, Van Odom, Lora Sellers, Stephen Bradley, Lance Scott, Pam Lipscomb, Joshua Chapman, David Wilcox, BJ Charbonneau. Absent: Alison Miller.
- **The meeting began** at 5:25 p.m. with David Wilcox demonstrating the AED for those who have no pulse. We do not have pediatric pads for the unit, we need to price them. It is located by the kitchen door. The pads have an expiry date of September 2025 (they last 2-5 years based on manufacturer). There is also Narcan by the fire extinguisher outside the kitchen. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. with a vestry prayer and a search process prayer by Senior Warden Katherine Coburn.
- *Reading & Approval of November 25, 2024 minutes*. Motion to accept Van Odom, 2nd Joshua Chapman, motion carried.
- **Reports of Wardens & Committees**
 - A. **Rector's Reports**—N/A
 - B. **Wardens' Reports**
 1. *Senior Warden* (Katherine)
 - a. Follow-Up Unfinished Business
 - 1) Church Management software—Van plans to review in February or March pending staffing updates.
 - 2) Cloud location—Katherine and Alex are working on streamlining the files in the vestry portal.
 - 3) Social media/website/FB etc—Alex Wilson is the administrator and Katherine will visit with him.
 - 4) Belltower—Che is doing the legwork to obtain an estimate for potential repairs.
 - 5) Margaret's Garden—Katherine is meeting with David (Cook Construction) to get a bid for water access. Mike Ruby is looking at his 2025 donations and wondering if we are ready to move forward which the water bid affects.
 - 6) Fountain—James Smith did not find a leak to the fountain plumbing, he thinks it is perhaps one of the drains and he has potentially repaired. He is coming Saturday to winterize our irrigation system (underground backflow does not need to be winterized).

- 7) Church membership list—Van is reviewing the contact list, then BJ will review. Van has questions for Nancy to clarify as well regarding the list (active, donors, etc).
 - 8) LED update has been completed (dusk to dawn).
 - 9) Fire department compliance—pending attic access
 - b. HR/Personnel & compensation review—in process. Alison volunteered to update our employee handbook in compliance with OK law for new employees.
 - c. Pastoral Care—Van, BJ & Katherine have contacted some shut-ins (Ann, Diamond, Barbara, etc.) and we have discussed assigning one trained person to each of 7 shut-ins. Office volunteers to manage card ministry is ongoing.
 - d. Active Priest search status—Alex & Canon Betsy have a zoom meeting January 6, 2025. A summary of Grace goes to the Episcopal Search network (nationwide) to begin the search and we do need to update our profile to state what we want our future to look like. Suggested goals should be submitted to the senior warden (dreams for the future). Canon Nate has an entrepreneurial background and could perhaps give suggestions.
 - e. Annual meeting Sunday, January 26, 2025 and potluck for coffee hour. Some programs need to be updated. The annual report should be placed on our website.
2. *Junior Warden* (BJ Charbonneau)
 - a. Saturday sextons—report anything that needs repairs to BJ
 - b. Parish directory update—BJ will work on as soon as the contact list is ready (Van)
 - c. Cameras—David Wilcox, Tyler Martin, John Edwards will be working on this project. Scott Stratton may also be assisting.
 - d. Scouts—program is doing well. Lock-in scheduled for New Year’s Eve.
 - e. facilities use—BJ has a binder to begin organizing facility use agreements.
 - f. keyholder accounting—BJ is also working on this project.
- C. Finance** (Van Odom)
1. *Treasurer’s report*—Written report provided. Pledge income is over budget for the month and expenses are also under budget. The annual net loss is \$28,427 so far before December receipts are considered. We have not taken anything from the common investment fund. Lora Sellers motioned accepting Treasurer’s Report, 2nd Pam Lipscomb, motion carried.
 2. *Pledge report*—29 pledges turned in, we need more pledges to come in. There has been discussion to put our pledge cards online. A more accurate pledge report will be shared in February.
- D. Insurance Committee** (Stephen Bradley)—nothing new to report.
- E. Building & Grounds Committee** (BJ Charbonneau & David Wilcox)
1. *next Saturday Sextons* is January 18, 2025.
 2. *electronic sign*—servicemen came, parts will be ordered, it may be months until they arrive.
 3. *Lance* contacted them for a software update and they helped him install it.
 4. *thermostat replacement* done December 18, 2024 in the church. It is wifi and a solid unit. David needs the code from Nancy to set up the thermostat wifi.
 5. *Lance* spoke with *John Edwards* to look at the monitor and lapel microphone for any potential repairs. We need more AA batteries for the lapel microphone.
- F. Christian Formation** (Pam Lipscomb)
1. *Safeguarding God’s Children*—Pam & Phil turned in their transcripts. Lance is due to retake the course.
 2. *Godly Play* is going very well. Discussion to add a children’s choir with practice during Sunday School.
 3. *We have some youth* so that program may grow if we do announcements.
 4. *Book club* restarts January 22 with the text “Cherished Belonging” by Fr. Gregory Boyle.
 5. *EfM* is scheduled to restart January 19.
- G. Outreach Committee** (Stephen Bradley)—nothing new to report.
- H. Nominating Committee** (Katherine Coburn): Lance has asked Tyler Martin to take his spot on vestry. Kelin Stratton has agreed to take a spot for class of 2028. We need to fill Sharon’s one year remaining term.
- I. Evangelism / Worship Committee** (Lora Sellers)
1. *Supply Priests*: a schedule was sent to all vestry members with homilant assignments and open dates designated. The schedule includes all service music up to Palm Sunday.
 2. *Spoke with Larry Rogers* for potential fill for Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. He will know more in another week on availability.
 3. *We need to send organist* posting to local schools for potential applicants.
 4. *Fr. Glandon* is coming March 29 (9-12) for a Lenten retreat followed by a soup lunch.
- **New Business**
 - A. **Vestry Person of the Month**: December 2024: Katherine Coburn; January 2025; BJ Charbonneau; February 2025: David Wilcox
 - B. **Announcements**: next meeting January 20, 2025
 - C. **New playground set**: Scott Stratton is considering a fundraiser (\$2500 needed) to replace the playground set. A \$2000 donation has already been received. His goal is March for potential install.
 - D. **Active Shooter plan**—wasp spray as a deterrent will be kept at the entrances. Ushers should be made aware of procedures. We may schedule a day for the police department to come out and give active shooter training to vestry and ushers.
 - **Closing Prayer** given by Van Odom. Adjournment at 7:05 p.m.



Grace Episcopal Church
218 North 6th Street
Muskogee, OK 74401

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GRACE TO YOU

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY

FEBRUARY / MARCH 2025

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Loving God, Embracing All

Ministers: All the People of God (BCP p. 855)

Presiding Bishop: The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry

Bishop: The Rt. Rev. Poulson Reed

Deacon Emeritus: The Rev. Thomas A. Harrington

Sr. Warden: Katherine Coburn

Jr. Warden: B.J. Charbonneau

Vestry: Stephen Bradley, Laura Burchfiel, Joshua Chapman,
Pam Lipscomb, Tyler Martin, Alison Miller, Lora Sellers,
Kelin Stratton, David Wilcox

Clerk of the Vestry: Lora Sellers

Treasurer/Financial Chair: Van Odom

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