Grace Episcopal Church
AGENDA ANNUAL MEETING for Year 2025
Held on January 18, 2026

I. Opening Prayer

II. Minutes of Last Annual Meeting

III. Elections
- A. Vestry Officers: Sr. Warden, Jr. Warden, Clerk, Treasurer
- B. Vestry Members
- C. Convention Delegate & Alternate Convention Delegate

IV. Financial Reports
- A. Review of 2025
- B. Presentation of Budget for 2026

V. Oral Reports
- A. Clergy
- B. Others from the floor

VI. Other Business:
- A. Other from the floor

VII. Adjourn with Closing Prayers and Singing of the Doxology

Vestry Officers Slate for 2026

Senior Warden: John Baldwin
Junior Warden: Robert Luppert
Clerk: Steve Kimball
Treasurer: Paul McGlinchey

Vestry Members Slate for 2026

Ben Smith
Dawn Erardy
Erica Mattie Langdon
Kevin Harkins
Bill Small

Convention Delegate: John Baldwin
Alternate Convention Delegate: Judie Blackman-Cochran

MINUTES FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING for 2024
Grace Church Yantic, CT
Held on January 21, 2025

Attendance: 18 people in attendance for Annual Meeting

I. **Call to order:** John Baldwin called the meeting to order at 11:18 am. Rev. Mark opened the meeting with prayer.

II. **Presentation of Voting Members Roll:** The vestry approved Voting Members Roll was presented to the parish. There were no changes.

III. **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of January 21, 2024:** A motion was presented, seconded (T. Gardner, D. Erardy) and carried To approve the minutes of the January 21, 2024 meeting as presented.

IV. **Reports by Title:** Most reports were presented by title.

V. **Oral Reports:** Sr. Warden. John noted a special focus; We being many are one body. This focus highlights what strengthens us here at Grace Church. John noted Rev. Mark's able pastoral leadership. John thanked the Diocese for its continued leader ship and support. He also noted that our parish is considered a Parish in Good Standing with the diocese. John said that we will continue to focus on our goals. Publicity. Kevin Harkins commended the parish by reminding all that "You are a member of the publicity committee. Word of mouth continues to be the most powerful method of communication." Mission Council. Judie Blackman-Cochran noted that the council meets quarterly at different parishes or The Commons in Meriden to discuss business that is happening within the diocese. Outreach. Judie noted that we supported Reliance Health, St. Vincent de Paul Place, and Church World Services/Crop Walk. She said that three dates will be scheduled for community meals in the near future. Clergy. Rev. Mark thanked everyone for doing the work we do, and working well with each other. He will undergo knee replacement surgery on January 30. He said that he will be watching over us during his recovery in February.

VI. **Financial Reports:** A. Review of 2024. Paul noted that he may not write checks or move money. This is a safety measure. He noted that more organ speaker work will be done. The Memorial Summary includes money donated to the parish to be used as needed. Annual giving was $63,891, more than $4,000 over budget. Operating revenues for 2024: $75,375. Operating expenses were $65,336. A motion was presented, seconded (J. Blackman-Cochran, T. Gardner) and carried to accept all reports. B. Budget for 2025. Paul presented the vestry approved budget for 2025. Paul said that no capital expenditures are included in the budget. Operating revenue for 2025: $71,500. Operating expenses for 2025: $68,352. John thanked Paul for his work, and thanked all who submitted giving estimates.

VII. **Elections:** John thanked Deb Baltzell, Terry Gardner and Sheila Maudsley for their service on the vestry. The proposed slate for 2025: Officers. John Baldwin-Senior Warden; Robert Luppert-Junior Warden; Paul McGlinchey-Treasurer; Stephen Kimball-Clerk. Vestry Members: Dawn Erardy, Kevin Harkins, Erica Mattie Langdon, Sue Small and Ben Smith. Convention Delegate-John Baldwin. Alternate Convention Delegate-Judie Blackman-Cochran. There were no further nominations. A motion was presented, seconded (W. Small, J. Blackman-Cochran) and carried to instruct the clerk to cast one ballot electing the entire slate as presented. New members Dawn Erardy, Kevin Harkins and Sue Small were welcomed to the vestry.

VIII. **Other Business:**

A. Parish event dates for 2025. A tentative schedule for major parish events for 2025 was presented. The schedule will be distributed and amended, as a general guide of events throughout 2025.

B. Other. There will be a parish picnic on 9/7/25 at the pavilion at Mohegan Park.

C. Parish members contact list. John distributed a contact list for review. Parishioners were asked to review the list and amend as required.

IX. **Adjournment:** A motion was presented, seconded (R. Luppert, S. Kimball) and carried to adjourn the meeting at 11:58 am. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer led by Rev. Mark, and the singing of the Doxology.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen E. Kimball

Parish Clerk

Annual Meeting Financials/Budget

	2025	2025	2026
OPERATING REVENUES	**Budget**	**Actuals**	**Budget**
1. Loose plate (cash or checks)	$2,000.00	$2,401.00	$2,000.00
2. Envelope Payments (no giving estimate card)	$0.00	$360.00	$0.00
3. Giving Estimate Payments	$63,500.00	$65,700.00	$68,000.00
4. Other Donations For Operations (*includes event revenues)*	$4,000.00	$4,469.40	$3,500.00
5. Flowers, other misc.	$2,000.00	$1,431.00	$900.00
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	$71,500.00	$74,361.40	$74,400.00
NON-OPERATING REVENUE	$0.00	$14,222.03	$0.00
1. Other Donations	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
3. Other Non-operating Revenue	$0.00	$10,122.03	$0.00
TOTAL REVENUE	$71,500.00	$88,583.43	$74,400.00
	2025	2025	2026
OPERATING EXPENSES	**Budget**	**Actuals**	**Budget**
1. Clergy	$19,437.60	$20,534.37	$22,914.43
a. Cash Salary/SSA	$0.00	$12,684.57	$22,451.43
b. Expenses (Travel)	$1,237.60	$499.80	$0.00
c. Non-Sunday meetings/events	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
d. Supply Priest	$18,200.00	$7,350.00	$0.00
e. Pension Expense	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
f. Clergy CE and Approved Expense)	$0.00	$0.00	$463.00
2. Organist	$5,954.00	$6,067.50	$5,954.00
3. Utilities	$12,200.00	$11,995.92	$10,535.00
a. No. 2 Fuel Oil	$5,500.00	$7,063.82	$6,200.00
b. Electricity/ water	$3,000.00	$2,836.40	$2,900.00
c. Propane Gas	$800.00	$280.28	$400.00
d. Telephone/Internet/WiFi	$2,900.00	$1,815.42	$1,035.00
4. Property	$21,060.10	$23,360.61	$22,099.10
a. Repair and Maintenance	$1,300.00	$1,052.45	$1,000.00
b. Common Mission Support	$6,479.10	$6,479.16	$6,479.10
c. CIAC - All insurance	$11,716.00	$15,065.00	$13,355.00
d. Heating System Service	$500.00	$320.00	$400.00
e. Organ Maintenance	$265.00	$0.00	$265.00
f. Kitchen Hood Maint. Inspections	$800.00	$444.00	$600.00
5. Administration	$4,300.00	$3,542.00	$4,400.00
a. Office	$3,000.00	$2,242.00	$3,000.00
b. Postage	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
c. Audit - annual	$1,300.00	$1,300.00	$1,400.00
6. Worship	$2,800.00	$2,278.57	$2,450.00
a. Altar Guild	$300.00	$118.88	$250.00
b. Worship Other (Inserts, etc)	$1,300.00	$1,337.05	$1,300.00
c. Flowers	$1,200.00	$822.64	$900.00
7. Education	$200.00	$190.00	$200.00
8. Fellowship - fundraising expenses	$1,200.00	$2,119.73	$2,000.00
9. Outreach - operating budget	$1,200.00	$659.36	$1,200.00
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	$68,351.70	$70,748.06	$71,752.53
NON-OPERATING EXPENSES	$6,332.00	$59,515.78	$9,962.00
a. Other	$0.00	$52,844.25	$0.00
b. Other - includes non-operating outreach	$6,332.00	$6,671.53	$9,962.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	$74,683.70	$130,263.84	$81,714.53

Save the Date

Tuesday, February 17	**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, February 18	**Ash Wednesday Holy Eucharist** 12:00 noon
Tuesdays, February 24 - March 24	**Lenten Simple Suppers and Compline** 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, March 29	**Palm Sunday Parish Breakfast** 9:00 a.m. **Palm Sunday Holy Eucharist** 10:00 a.m. (begins in Martin Hall)
Thursday, April 2	**Maundy Thursday Service and Supper** 5:30 p.m. in Martin Hall
Friday, April 3	**Good Friday Liturgy** 12:00 noon
Sunday, April 5	**Festal Easter Holy Eucharist** 10:00 a.m.
Saturday, May 17	**Tea Party** 3:00 p.m.

Watch for in the Fall:

Parish Picnic	Chicken Pie Supper	Blessing of the Animals
Chowderfest	Holiday Fair	Christmas

Priest-in-Charge Report
January 2026

Grace: Don't just say it, Be it!

That's the message on a button many of us have been wearing for the past several months, and I think it sums up my annual report. It tells us who we are; it tells us what we strive to do; and it tells us the source of all our hopes and accomplishments. We dare to hope to be people of Grace. We work in our parish and community to increase the presence of Grace. And we give thanks for the source of all our will and power, the Grace of God.

Thanks be to God, and to all members of the parish, for all that we have been able to accomplish. We have gathered week by week to worship God, and we have gone forth into the world to love and serve the Lord. We have baptized new saints. We have prayed for ourselves and others. We have broken bread together around the altar, around tables in Martin Hall, and in Mohegan Park. We have honored those who have died. We have loved and cared for one another and reached out in love to our sisters and brothers in need. We have visited the sick and lonely, fed the hungry, and given aid to those in need. Thanks be to God, and to all of you who have been God's messengers of Grace, God's angels on earth.

I especially want to thank the Wardens, officers and vestry members. Thanks to John Baldwin for his able leadership as our Senior Warden. Thanks to Bob Luppert for his skill, knowledge and the incredible amount of work he does for Grace Church. Thanks to Paul McGlinchey for keeping us on track financially. And thanks to Steve Kimball for his work as the Clerk of the Vestry. Thanks to all the faithful members of the vestry: Dawn Erardy, Kevin Harkins, Erica Langdon, Ben Smith, and Sue Small who is retiring from the vestry. I give to you all my personal thanks and the thanks of the entire parish.

Special thanks to our organist, Alan McNeely, who adds so much to the beauty and meaning of our worship. Thanks to Kevin Harkins who fills in so ably on the organ bench. I am grateful to Paul McGlinchey and John Baldwin for leading worship when I am absent. Thanks to all our servers, readers, and ushers for their contribution to our devotions. Thanks to the Altar Guild and Flower Guild. Thanks to Dawn Perras who types and prints our bulletins. And heartfelt thanks to everyone gathered together each Sunday morning to praise God in happy voices.

By the grace of God, I have been pleased and honored to serve God and this parish as priest for three years, this past half year as Priest-in-Charge. We have prayed together, we have worked together, we have laughed together, and on occasion, we have cried together. We have lived in a Spirit of thankfulness. We have walked with one another in good times and bad, and we have walked with our sisters and brothers in our community and the wider Church. Thank you for walking with me and for letting me walk with you. We walk together by the Grace of God. As the gathered people of Grace Church, we don't just say Grace, we work to be Grace.

May the Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Submitted by Rev. Mark Santucci

Senior Warden Report for 2025

Our collective work this past year has focused on what we have realized *together towards our shared calling*, as evidenced by the accomplishments outlined in this report and those that follow. Please read the reports for detail to this overview. Collectively, the reports paint a clear picture of what we are about at Grace Church.

First off though, a major milestone in our parish journey this past year is the choosing of Fr. Mark Santucci to be our Priest-in-Charge. The Rt. Rev. Laura Ahrens, our Bishop Suffragan, led A Celebration of Mutual Ministry with the welcoming of the Rev. Mark Santucci as Priest-in-Charge on this past October 21, 2025. The service featured Bp. Ahrens as our celebrant, guest preacher The Rev. Virginia Army, favorite hymns and trumpet music from our own Paul McGlinchey. This was our chance to rejoice in the ministry we all share, and give thanks for the choosing of Mark as our official Priest-in-Charge. The well-attended celebration was followed by a reception in Martin Hall.
That reception was a time to recognize the Godly work we all share here at Grace Church.

In my role Sr. as Senior Warden these past couple years, I would like to note some items regarding our working relationship with the diocesan office in Meriden. The Episcopal Church in Connecticut (ECCT) office has wholeheartedly supported us at Grace Church throughout the years in many ways:
Some items of note just this past year:

- The Episcopal Church in CT (ECCT) has ensured that we have steady clergy at Sunday.
- Grace Church is recognized by the ECCT as a "*member in good standing*" which requires annual completion of many documents.
- We have again been awarded a **Parishes Serving Low-Income Communities (PSLIC) Grant**. Read the Outreach reports to see how we have served the community in need with it's funding.
- Mark, Judie, Paul and I are in regular communication with ECCT leadership depending upon our parish and diocesan roles.

Throughout the year church members have contributed towards the overall parish mission in many ways: The Finance Team, ably led by treasurer Paul McGlinchey, solidified our financial operations, the Altar Guild, acolytes, servers, Chalice bearers, ushers, scheduler, cleaners, snow removers, singers, volunteers, worshipers and cooks are too numerous to name, but THANK YOU. Another *stable* component of the parish is the music program led by director and organist, Alan McNeely since August 1982 and assisted by substitute organist Kevin Harkins. We are blessed to have Alan as director, organist, tuner, repairer, builder, and personality at Grace Church. Vestry members have also carried out their various responsibilities diligently. Leading our various Outreach initiatives are Judie Blackman-Cochran and Teri Gardner. Our focus on a manageable number of hospitality events throughout the year has been led by Dawn Erady. Stewardship of our facilities has been supported wholehearted by the Vestry, congregation and most ably carried out by Bob Luppert. We are blessed to have his diligence in the upkeep of the Church and Martin Hall infrastructure on almost a daily basis. ***See all their Annual Reports on the church website for details***.

We continue to pursue our parish mission *" . . to honor the past, celebrate the present and welcome the future"*, most notably by focusing on our relationship and support to our area *Communities*. Here in the SE CT region, we continue our support for local needs by our contributions to many non-profit organizations along with our neighborhood focus on the Fitchville Convalescent Home residents.

We now *"welcome the future"* with a focus on our 2026 goals: Continue worship and prayer, clarify our mission, fulfill outreach opportunities, foster stewardship of resources, and collaborate with our communities to discern God's Will for us in this region! *Submitted by John Baldwin*

Junior Warden Annual Report for 2025

Cleaning and maintaining of the buildings continued, as usual. The Church is maintained as it is every year. It is cleaned every week. Hymnals and Prayer Books are wiped down regularly with water and bleach. Floors are washed and waxed, carpets vacuumed and repairs are done, when needed. The carpets and cushions are sprayed down with Lysol.

Snow removal was done by John Baldwin, Bob Luppert and Bill Small. The Martin Hall Parish House is also maintained every year. The floors are washed and sealed. Repairs are made, as needed.

The kitchen floor is cleaned four times a year. The stove is cleaned at least three times a year; as well as after each Chicken Pie Supper.

The Fire Alarm System has to be inspected annually. The report is sent to the City Fire Marshall. Special Class D fire extinguisher installed in kitchen and inspected by the stove vendor Shipman's annually.

There are a couple of ongoing concerns. One is the Narthex floor in the Church. I have been watching this for several years, and it has been sinking a little more each year. The floor will have to be repaired from the Narthex, not from the basement. There is a crawl space under that floor only. Tiles will have to be removed. The subfloor will have to be replaced. Presently, much work was done to brace the floor up. Some new floor joists will be replaced. I will give you updates, as needed. New roof was put on the outside of the tower in addition to the roof below the bells. Steel braces were added to the existing beams to ensure structural strength. An engineered study was done and approved by the Norwich Building Inspecter. An extra drain was added to the top roof. Masonry work was done to the upper part of the tower. The wall around the church was repointed. The ceiling in the Narthex was repaired. All tower and masonry work was paid for by insurance. Work continues on the portable grill acquired from Christ Church.

I have Value Oil, our oil company, put us on automatic delivery for the Church only. The Columbarium is maintained every year by Shari Drake, Bob Luppert, Peter Konow and Cathy Capsolars. Flowers and mulch were donated by Shari. The upkeep and watering is done by Robert Luppert. Liz Baldwin also assists with watering when I'm unavailable. These are some of the highlights of my Jr. Warden duties. There are numerous other tasks that are performed routinely that are too many to itemize. The church was decorated for Christmas with the help of myself, John, Liz, and Heather Manter. A new eternal candle was installed in the church.

Of major note: An insurance claim for water damage to the tower and organ in January 2024 resulted in approximately $106,000 tower repair and about $34,000 organ repair funded by insurance. The work was to be done in the summer, but due to unexpected delays the tower work is scheduled for the spring of 2025. The organ replacement is 95% done as of January 2026.

Bob Luppert

Bob Luppert

Junior Warden

Grace Episcopal Church

Chapel Hill Road, Yantic, CT 06389

Grace Church Music, 2025

2025 was a busy year at Grace Church as services became normal again following the Covid years. Hymns are selected to match the weekly lessons and Psalm.. We continue to use the "Notre Dame" Psalm tune which is sung by many Episcopal Churches the USA. We change the Music setting from Proulx to Powell often and occasionally sing the "Hymn of Praise"- All Glory be to God on High in place of the Gloria. The "Lift every Voice and Sing Hymnals are from Christ Church, which contain some of the hymns many older people know and love.

Musical highlights from the past year were:
March 5: Ash Wednesday Service at noon.
April 13: Palm Sunday
April 17: Maundy Thursday Service
April 18: The Good Friday Liturgy
April 20: Easter Day Festival Resurrection Service
May 11: Baptism Service
October 11: Funeral for Pat Huband October 18: Funeral for Sandra Luppert.
October 21: Festival Service of Installation for Father Mark as Priest in Charge of Grace Church. This included his favorite hymns and Paul McGlinchey played trumpet. Bishop Laura Ahrens also visited us, and Fr. Mark's friend came to Preach!
Special Music was selected for Advent and we had a magnificent Festival Christmas Eve Service on December 24.
On September 7. The Annual Grace Church Picnic was again held at Mohegan Park. Father Joseph Tito of St. Joseph Church, Occum, kindly gave permission to borrow the electronic keyboard and Bob Luppert and John Baldwin assisted moving it. On that Sunday, I began my 44th year as your Organist-Choirmaster! This is almost a record in the Connecticut Diocese! As most of you know, I am also the Organist at Sacred Heart Church in Taftville, St. Joseph Church in Occum and occasionally at the Franciscan Friary of the Immaculate in Griswold!

I greatly enjoy Father Mark who is a joy to work with. We all were deeply saddened for the deaths of Pat Huband and Sandra Luppert who were very active long-time members of Grace Church and Sang in our Choir for at least four decades! When Father Mark is away, we have Services of Ante Communion. I am occasionally working down south and we are grateful to Kevin Harkins for playing the organ in my absence. The fine digital Rodgers organ from Christ Church is a pleasure to play and minor adjustments to it will be completed in the near future.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan D. McNeely

Alan D. McNeely

Clerk's Annual Report for 2025

It has been an honor to serve as parish clerk/clerk of the vestry for 2025. As set forth in the canons of the Episcopal Church, the clerk is responsible for the proper keeping of parish archives and reporting to the Vestry and Vicar as appropriate. Files have been transferred from the office to a storage location upstairs. I am thankful to those who have provided me assistance in my duties.

Respectfully submitted by Stephen E. Kimball - Clerk

Hospitality Report for 2025

Our first event was Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. We had 30 people in attendance. Followed by 5 soup suppers during Lent March 11, Judie and Elaine provided the soup, approximately 15 attended. March 18, Dawn and Paul provided the soup, approximately 10 attended. March 25. April 1, Deb K. and Elaine provided soup, approximately 11 attended and April 8 approximately 8 attended.

We had our annual Palm Sunday Breakfast on April 13 planned and executed by Bob. Approximately 30 people attended and our Maundy Thursday supper took place on April 17, 2025.

Our annual Tea Party was canceled.

The next event was the annual picnic which was held on September 7, 2025 at Mohegan Park Pavilion. We had a baked bean contest. Bob Luppert and James Adams were the chef's. Approximately 45 people were in attendance including Bishop Laura.

On October 21, 2025, we hosted the Celebration of Mutual Ministry for the installation of Father Mark with the Rt. Rev. Laura Ahrens presiding, with 30 people in attendance, which food was provided by Irene's Restaurant.

Our annual Chicken Pie Supper took place on October 25, 2025. Supper was planned and executed by Paul and John with many volunteers. Take out meals were approximately 187.

The Chowder Fest was canceled.

Last but not least was our annual Holiday Fair on December 6, 2025. Many people worked hard to host this event. Deb Kimball and Deb Baltzel made the soups, Bob made the grilled cheese and Sue, Elaine and Terry made sandwiches. We had 11 vendors and over 25 raffle baskets.

Submitted by Dawn Erardy

Outreach - Fitchville Home

We had another great year with our friends at the Fitchville Home. Our goal again this year was to increase interaction with the residents to assist in socialization and provide added seasonal stimulation.

In April a group of parishioners spent an afternoon with our friends at Fitchville to dye Easter eggs. Easter candy and a fruit basket was given and is always appreciated.

Our spring project was again gardening. We worked on the pollinator garden we planted last year and planted pots of vegetables for the residents to care for and water. Flower pots that

were left last year were updated with fresh flowering plants. All plants and seeds were donated by Grace Church participants. Judy Blackman Cochran directed the planting and gave our friends instructions on watering and weeding.

Even though autumn was busier than usual for Grace Church, we made the time for a Halloween pizza party at the Fitchville Home. We had Big Y Pizza, veggie trays, fruit, cookies and Halloween candy. There was again a costume contest, fellowship and fun.
We finished the year with caroling and gift giving during the Christmas season. We sang carols under the direction of Paul McGlinchey. Each resident received a hat and gloves set. The Fitchville Home provided refreshments during our visit.

At times it appears our friends at the Fitchville Home are not interested in our visits, but there are always at least a few that show their excitement while we are there. We always get feedback from the staff and the director, Jessica Kaczynski, that all are appreciative of our visits, even those that stay in their rooms. We are hoping to continue our friendship and fellowship visits in 2026. *Respectfully submitted,Terry Gardner*

Outreach Report for 2025

Outreach Activities for 2025: Grace Church members have been busy this past year being present in our community using the monies we receive from the Diocese to minister to the low-income residents in the Norwich area. This last January we received over $6000 to spend on organizations with which we have been involved in the past and feel we can have the most impact. Several parish members volunteer their time and skills at St Vincent de Paul.
We also have budgeted Outreach monies to use on **Fitchville Home** to foster our longtime commitment partnering with those residents to help with seasonal activities and socialization. Terry will discuss those activities.
These organizations continue to be ones where our help and donations can have the most influence:

1. **Reliance Health** received $1500 this year for the mental health work they do in Norwich.
2. **St Vincent De Paul Place** received a donation of $3000 to add to a matching grant supporting their capital fund raising. We gave them $325 to use for a children's party and school readiness giveaway in August. We participated in the Adopt- a- Family program for Christmas this year which involved our parishioners' buying gifts for four children. This program also received $465. We gave $725 to support the Christmas Day meal deliveries.
3. **Church World Services-Crop Walk** received a check from Grace for $500, adding to individual contributions totaling more than $1900 this year. Although our team of Grace and St James only had about eight walkers, our contributions were the biggest in our whole area. Our goal was to raise $3000 and we surpassed that.

Other Outreach activities this year:

- **Community Meal Program in Norwich** – our partnership with St James in Preston continues with working together to plan, prepare, and serve 3 Sunday meals a year at St Marks Lutheran Church. We served an average of 70-80 meals each week and we predict

that number to grow this year. Grace members continue to help with the planning and preparing the meals we serve.

- **Our Chicken Pie Supper in October** continues to be a success as we have not raised our price of $10 in years!!!! We prepare and serve 170-180 drive-up meals, with most of us participating in this event. *Submitted by Judie Blackman-Cochran*

Publicity Report for 2025

Major church events including suppers and holiday fairs continue to be publicized through area media outlets. These include radio and television stations, newspapers, cable TV, CRIS Radio, Hartford Health Care publications and social media.

Last minute cancelations and closings due to weather are dispersed to the public via Channel 3 TV News, which recently took over managing such notifications on behalf of local Hall Radio Group stations. The Senior Warden and I both have posting instructions and confidential passwords assigned to Grace Church for this purpose.

Currently, an announcement appears on the local Channel 14 public access cable service advising of Sunday worship and social activities, along with location and contact information for the church.

Parishioners are reminded that YOU are a member of the publicity committee. Word-of-mouth continues to be the most powerful method of communications today just, as it was in the early days of The Church. Be a friend—tell a friend, good things are happening on the rock in Yantic
Submitted by Kevin Harkins

Mission Council Report for 2025

As I look back on 2025, the Mission Council of ECCT was busy looking at the big picture of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut. I agreed to continue my term in the MC as it has taken me 2 years to fully understand my role, so I will be a member for 3 more years. We continue to meet quarterly at different parishes in the state and Camp Washington and the Cathedral in Hartford.

All our meetings focus on Camp Washington updates, Finance committee reports, ECCT properties, parish mergers or closures, Human resources reports, our investments, and Finance/ Operations. This year we focused on updating Clergy and Supply Priests compensations to align with our neighbors in NY and Boston, Diversity and improved hiring practices, ECCT missionary properties needing special considerations, and Intentional Episcopal Communities in CT – how are they different than regular churches and how do they fit in ECCT.

We brainstormed together on what ECCT **is** paying attention to in these times of turmoil in our world – a shortage of Priests, deepening our Faith in God, Diversity in our churches. What do I **want** ECCT to be paying attention to, and what do I **need** ECCT to be attending to. We all agreed on our paths for ECCT – using our Priests more effectively, Faith in God, Diversity, promoting more children in churches, helping the elderly in our churches.

These are impressive goals to continue working toward in the next years. I am proud to be part of the MC working with them.

Submitted by Judie Blackman-Cochran

PSLIC Grant Report for 2025

(Parishes Serving Low Income Communities)

Excerpts in a letter written by our Treasurer Paul McGlinchey to the Diocesan Canon for Mission Finance outlining how the grants were distributed by Grace Church to the local community.

The letter described how we distributed the grant funds in our community. The funds have been distributed to the following local social service organizations in the Norwich community that provide basic human services to those in need:

Reliance Health - A Non-Profit Community Mental Health Center With A Mission Of Enhancing Health Through Mental Wellness -**$1,500.00**

St. Vincent De Paul Place - Also a non-profit organization. Their Mission is to serve those in Norwich and the surrounding areas who are Physically, Mentally, or Spiritually Impoverished: **$325** to support a family/kids day for handing out school supplies and providing lunches for families; **$3,000** for to support the annual capital fund which was matched dollar for dollar resulting in an overall impact of **$6,000**; **$465** to go with matching parish outreach funds to support a holiday "adopt a family" program where the parish provided gifts for four children in a single parent family: **$725** to support their Christmas Day meals deliveries to families who would otherwise have no holiday meal.

Crop/Church World Services - is a faith-based, non-profit organization transforming communities around the globe through just and sustainable responses to hunger, poverty, and disasters. Local funds are provided to the Gemma E. Moran United Way/Labor Food Center which feeds families and individuals facing hunger and food insecurity throughout southeastern Connecticut - **$500.**

We are very thankful to have received this grant to enable us to further God's Mission in our local communities.

Respectfully submitted by Paul McGlincheyTreasurer

Grace Church Treasurer's Report Account Summary
Calendar Year 2025

Checking Account Summary *1/1/25 - 12/31/25*

		Account Number
Beginning Balance	$27,807.29	
		940001919
Deposits/Credits	$147,940.61	
Checks/Charges	-$144,060.84	
Service Charge	$0.00	
Interest	$0.00	
Ending Balance	31,687.06	

Regular Savings Summary *1/1/25 - 12/31/25*

Beginning Balance	$67,838.50	
Deposits/Credits	$9,962.00	**370013344**
Checks/Debits	-$59,357.18	
Service Charge	$0.00	
Interest	$11.68	
Ending Balance	$18,455.00	

Memorial Savings Summary *1/1/25 - 12/31/25*

Beginning Balance	$983.59	
Deposits/Credits	$3,835.00	**360024903**
Checks/Debits	$0.00	
Service Charge	$0.00	
Interest	$0.45	
Ending Balance	$4,819.04	

Discretionary Savings Summary *1/1/25 - 12/31/25*

Beginning Balance	$1,852.87	
Deposits/Credits	$0.00	**360024938**
Checks/Debits	$0.00	
Service Charge	$0.00	
Interest	$0.57	
Ending Balance	$1,853.44	

D&B Savings Summary *1/1/25 - 12/31/25*

Beginning Balance	$0.03	**Account Closed 3/18/25**
Deposits/Credits	$0.00	**360024954**
Checks/Debits	-$0.03	
Service Charge	$0.00	
Interest	$0.00	
Ending Balance	$0.00	

Columbarium Savings Summary *1/1/25 - 12/31/25*

Beginning Balance	$546.16	
Deposits/Credits	$0.00	**360024962**
Checks/Debits	$0.00	
Service Charge	$0.00	
Interest	$0.12	
Ending Balance	$546.28	

D&B Investment Summary ***1/1/25 - 12/31/25***

Beginning Market Value	$121,468.11	
		04526 (Manning Fund)
Investment Earnings	$3,378.70	**04527 (GC General Fund)**
Realized Gain/Loss	$3,196.24	
Unrealized Gain/Loss	$7,690.21	
Management Fee	-$627.11	
Ending Market Value	$135,106.15	

THE END