

Saint Barnabas on the Desert
Memorial Acceptance and Fine Arts Committee

January 12, 2026

Members present: Peggy Iacobelli, Marian Green, Marilyn Black, Judee Morrison, Tom Baker, Jack Wilson, Marga Fritze, Donna Piscopo and Nancy Harvey.

Call to order: Nancy read a thanksgiving prayer from the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library to open the meeting.

Minutes of December 8: The minutes for the December 8, 2025 meeting were approved as written.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Tours: Judee had a tour on Jan. 4th with 10 people. Judee's planned upcoming tours will be on Mar. 15th and May 3rd.

Buildings and Grounds: John Martin has a plan for the choir railing. Jack will find out the status at the next Buildings and Grounds meeting.

Christmas: The sanctuary trees were prepared by John, Grace and Tom. Chris and Brayden did the 3 trees in the fountain. On December 21st the poinsettias were delivered after church. Christmas Eve change-over was at 3 pm. The watering schedule was updated to every other day and there were a considerable number of leaves that fell off and had to be picked up. Grace started the Christmas report and Judee will finish it.

Lent/Easter: Ash Wednesday is Feb 18th. Phoenix Flower will send an order form to Marilyn for the lilies.

OLD BUSINESS

Green set commission: The chasuble neck was widened. JB Liturgical did the work at no charge and Nancy noted that Grace did all of the work on getting this completed.

Chapel kneeler storage: Chris was asked about moving the kneeler shelving into the music building and he didn't like that idea. Tom measured the shelving and found that it would fit into the space in the hallway behind the altar where the bookcase is now. Peggy will talk to Michael about finding a space in the music building for the shelving rack.

Saint Barnabas history book: Marga has files from Ann Hott to scan. She has the book *Archives for Congregations* and another how-to-manual, which will be helpful in developing an archiving procedure. She also asked for help in working on this project.

Did You Know articles: Marga has articles that only need some additional layout to be done before submitting to Manny. Peggy and Marga discussed the possibility of an article on the Stations of the Cross.

Website tour: John took the CD with the choir's music and generated a digital music file to be used with the video. Peggy submitted this and updates, but the completion date is unknown.

Ode to Joy disposition sub-committee: The last cutting covered an area with about 10 additional sectioned pieces of *Ode to Joy*, which amounts to about 3/4 completion of the cutting. John sewed the bias fabric Grace prepared onto the edges of the cut pieces.

Retirement gift from Ode to Joy: Tom provided Peggy with pictures showing all of the cuts completed and the remaining cuts to do. From this, a cut piece can be selected for the gift.

Written work instructions for the holidays and inventory management initiative: Donna, Marian and Marilyn have made significant progress in getting this set up. Marian showed the draft of a document for Thanksgiving decorating that will be the SOP used for each year. The website they have been working on will incorporate a sign-up genius, vendor information, information on who in the church to

notify, pictures and more. Some of the website will be public access and some will be MAFA-only access. Donna asked MAFA members for additional pictures of past decorating parties. They are also close to completing the MAFA logo.

Music and sermon stand for the sanctuary: Kent located an artist in Tucson, but he doesn't work in walnut. Peggy will go to the Fountain Hills Arts Show on Feb. 20-22 to look at wood art. Tom suggested using Steve Mosley, as he previously made the library stand retirement gift for the rector 2 years ago.

Adult coloring book: No report

Conservation project: No report.

Purple set repair: Judee reported that Nicole completed the repair. Judee wrote a note giving instructions to put the garment on backwards, zip it up and then turn it around.

Red Chasuble: Peggy has some gold thread to use for repairing the damaged top stitching.

Altar finish: Donna advised that the altar table in the sanctuary is scratched, dry, and has an area with a small separation. Tom said that Allen Ditson last applied polyurethane to the surface and it has nearly worn off. Brush marks are still visible, though. A re-sanding and recoating will address the finish, but not change the tone of the sun-bleached walnut. Nancy will research refinishing mid-century furniture.

NEW BUSINESS

Memorial book: Tom reported that he took one of the memorial books to a bookbinder on 7th St. to have 2 new books made, which will accommodate an additional 40-50 pages for future expansion. He also created text files for each page, as all of the pages done before the 1980s were done by a print shop and there were no files available.

Nancy Harvey's memorabilia: Nancy has a large collection of Saint Barnabas and Ditson memorabilia to dispose of and will bring it to The Other Cup at 10 am on February 9th. Everyone is invited to take what they want from her collection.

CHAIR REPORT

Peggy is working on the Annual Report. She needs the financial report component in order to finish it.

The next meeting is February 9th in the Other Cup. The March meeting will be March 2nd.

Let it be known that these minutes are intended to convey the spirit of the meeting and are not meant to be a literal documentation of the proceedings.