

St. David's Episcopal Church
January 25, 2026
Annual Meeting Minutes

The 2026 Annual Meeting was called to order at 10:50 AM and was presided over by the Very Reverend Katherine Lewis. The meeting started with prayer led by Reverend Guy Drake, Deacon Emeritus.

Approve Minutes, January 26, 2025

After a motion and second, the 2025 Annual Meeting minutes were approved as written.

Year End Reflections-Senior Warden David Niles Reported

- Thanks to everyone for being here today and for the honor to serve as your Senior Warden.
- Reflections have 3 Key Components: Gratitude, Love and Community
- 1. Gratitude-** Thank you to the Vestry for their hearts and hands. So grateful to vestry members Nan Drake, Andy Harvala and Cathy Schwichtenberg as Junior Warden. A special thank you to Huldah and Emery. Grateful for the leadership of the Very Reverend Katherine Lewis.
- 2. Love-** Encourages us to live as Jesus' example to EVERYONE and to seek out new ways to show love.
- 3. Community-** Huldah attending another faith community has given David a deeper appreciation for all the love St. David's has shown his family.
 - Additional reflections involving the St. David's community include the following: Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Sunday Worship, Daily Compline, Church Safety Team, Endowment Funded Art Project, Work on painting in the Undercroft and Narthex.
 - Two pilgrimages: Wales and the youth trip to Iceland
 - Discerning a call to merge with St. George's has been joyful and vibrant.

Elections/Appointments:

Proposed candidates for Vestry Wardens:

- Cathy Schwichtenberg as Senior Warden-one year term
- Mike Sandsmark as Junior Warden-one year term

After a motion and second, the above listed Vestry Wardens were unanimously elected.

Proposed candidate for Treasurer:

- David Niles-one year term

After a motion and second, David Niles was unanimously elected as Treasurer.

Many thanks to Stephen Ferro for his work as Treasurer.

Proposed candidates for Vestry:

- Becky Sweely-three year term
- Cyprian Troyer -two year term (completing Mike Sandsmark's term)
- Stephen Ferro-three year term

After a motion and second, the above listed Vestry were unanimously elected

Proposed candidate for Diocesan Delegate/ Regional Representative

- Laura Harmon-three year term

Diocesan Delegate Alternates

- Julia Handley-one year term
- David Niles-one year term

After a motion and second, the above listed delegates were unanimously elected.

Current Diocesan Delegates:

Scott Clark - two years remaining.
Cathy Schwichtenberg - one year remaining

Returning Vestry members:

- Julia Handley-one year remaining in a three year term
- Ann Robinson-one year remaining in a three year term
- Bonnie Boyd-two years remaining in a three year term

Rita Hayek was appointed by Vestry to serve as Clerk.

2025 Financial Review-Stephen Ferro Reported

2026 pledge income plan is \$425,000; the 2025 actual was \$419,493

2026 total income plan is \$527,300; the 2025 actual was \$517,608

2026 total expense plan is \$554,264; the 2025 actual was \$499,557

2025 financial plan had a final surplus of \$18,051; the 2026 plan shows a deficit of -\$26,964

Cornerstone Endowment -Vida Edmond

- 2025 gifts received were \$8,165
- 2024 investment income was \$17,253
- Balance 12/31/2024 was \$512,259; Balance 12/31/2025 was \$582,878

2025 Highlights

- First distribution made for \$13,000
- Tithe to ECMN Immigrant Fund and Beacon
- Painting the Undercroft; artwork in the sanctuary
- Marketing/learning event in August
- Approved 2026 distribution of \$12,000

Looking ahead:

- New committee members
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner February 17th
- Misc. updates to brochure and website, financial reports
- Q3 -decision about 2027 distribution

Thanks to everyone for their contributions.

2026 Endowment Spending- David Niles

- Amount available was \$12,000
- Vestry tithed 10% to Reach and Restore and Casa Maria.
- \$6,250 will be used for CCI (Comprehensive Campus Initiative); reimagining the use of the physical space at St. David's campus. A forum will be held April 19th to gather congregational input.
- There are smaller projects that are candidates for use of the remaining \$4,550.

Presentation and Approval of Budget-David Niles

- 2026 plan is for a loss of \$26,964. This is not a concern because of the generous giving of congregation of St. David's. And close expense management by the staff.
- Income is 2% above last year; 2025 -\$517,608; 2026 -\$527,300
- Expenses are 11% more than last year; 2025-\$499,557; 2026-\$554,264
- Some reasons for increased expenses:
 - Building and Grounds costs are increasing.
 - New Minister of Finance will have more work hours.
 - The Minister of Parish Life will be on staff for a full year.
 - Health Insurance continues to rise.
 - St. David's staff members were granted a well-deserved salary increase of 2.8% cost of living + 2% merit. We are fortunate to have a strong staff serving St. David's.

After a motion and second, the 2026 financial plan was approved as submitted.

Rector Reflection-Reverend Katherine Lewis

Reflections:

- "It just works!"
- Step forward in faith and generosity.
- Jesus meets us on the shore and says, "Follow me".
- What does it mean to love God and one another? We are in training for love, a school of love.
- Priorities from ECMN guide us with focus and clarity.

Looking back:

- St. George's Vestry Retreat
Sharing prayer and conversation with siblings in Christ. Wardens worked with Jane Jacobson and Laura Harmon from St. George's.
- World and Safety
With the Annunciation shootings and a visitor with federal charges, the leadership team had to step up to face these events. Great thanks to the safety team.
- Endowment spending
The Art Dreamer Team was great to work with in developing the plan to beautify the Sanctuary, Narthex, and Undercroft.
- Pastoral Care
Community of Hope Team, lay-led and clergy supported
- Staff
A privilege to work with the "A Team". Meeting every week with Roger, Shea, Anna, Julia Moser Hardy, Guy, Len and Lindsey.
- Working with Vestry and Wardens

There's joy, honesty and transparency
Katherine is always available for your questions.

Looking forward:

- Will continue as a new community. "This is us." How are we called to serve in a new way?
- Will continue with Proximity Partners and move forward with CCI.
- Writing a 5 year lease for ICA building collaborating with Dan Narr, Executive Director.
- From our Bishop, "The stream we are in is the spring that feeds us."

Drink deeply from the waters. Give yourself time for being with God. Thanks be to God.

Looking to the year ahead-Senior Warden Cathy Schwichtenberg

- Thankful and ready
- Thanks to Reverend Katherine, David Niles and the St. David's Community.
- The To Do List will get done.
- Reflected on writings of Niall Williams, the book titled *John* and the apostle's inspiration to write the book of John. Also, we are inspired by Martin Luther King's quote, "Remember you can't have light without darkness."
- The focus this year is to look to the light by helping newcomers, building stronger bonds, strengthening broader community, continuing with ways of faithful innovation, celebrating volunteers, and standing up for justice.
- Looking forward to working with Junior Warden Mike Sandsmark

Awards-14th year

- Saints Mary and Martha Award, an award for individuals who embody Christ-like service went to Jane Jacobson and Laura Harmon.
- St. Matthias Award, given to a trustworthy and faithful servant, went to Shea Brendalen.

| The meeting closed at 11:58 with prayer led by the Very Reverend Katherine Lewis.

| Respectfully submitted,
Rita Hayek
Clerk