

St. John's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes – October 18, 2025

I. Opening Prayer / Reflections

The meeting began at 10:30 a.m. with prayers and reflections.

II. Attendance

Present: Marlene Eichelberger, Marti Moore, Bob Courdway, Sallie Devine, Bonnie Lovell, Diane Pfaus, Ellen Seto, and Deacon Kevin Mort

Absent: Deb Hladky

Observer: Bette Knutson

III. Acceptance and Approval of January 2025 Minutes

A motion was made by Ellen Seto and seconded by Marty Moore to approve the September 21, 2025, minutes as submitted.

The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Treasurer's Report

The large deposit from the DEMP fund was received October 1st and will show up in the November 2025 reports. The proceeds are being used as approved in the September 21, 2025 Vestry meeting.

We are pretty much right on budget through September 2025.

The St. John's Episcopal Church Financial Policies and Procedures Manual was discussed and a few updates suggested. Marti Moore will review it and make updates for further review by the Vestry at a future meeting.

V. Reports

• **Parish Life – Bonnie Lovell**

- Birthday and Anniversary Cards continue to be sent.
- The Bridge committee meets on November 3rd to plan the joint Thanksgiving Dinner scheduled for November 12th. A Christmas Dinner is being planned for Saturday, December 20th at 4:00. A few new members are needed. Current members are Bonnie Lovell, Mary Anders, Ellen Seto, and Diane Pfaus.
- Bible Study resumed on October 15th at 10:00 a.m.
- St. Paul's Silver Fox Lunch group has invited St. John's members to join them. They usually meet on the third Wednesday at a local restaurant. Information and sign-up is posted on their bulletin board.

• **Outreach – Sallie Devine**

- The Belcher Walk to School Day had a very nice turnout.

- The Thrift Shop continues to be very successful. Additional volunteers could be used to assist in the sorting room and at the front desk.
- Forty Pack-a-Sack bags are prepared for Belcher Elementary students each week. They are packed every other Monday morning. Additional volunteers to assist with packing are needed.
- All of the Thanksgiving Bags have been picked up this morning. St. John's is doing 10, St. Paul's is doing 10, and Hope Presbyterian is doing 10 for the families at Belcher Elementary. A \$10.00 gift card for Walmart will be added to the dry and canned food.

- **Stewardship – Deb Hladky**
 - We are getting a late start this year. Bulletin Inserts will be printed and added to the bulletin.
 - Kevin will preach on Stewardship November 16th.

- **Worship – Ellen Seto**
 - An instructed Eucharist was discussed for January of February. Several examples of bulletins will be reviewed in preparation.
 - Lectors – We currently have a dedicated group of 10 active lectors.
 - Ushers – We have a few openings for Ushers. Anyone interested should contact Molly Sperandio or Ellen Seto.
 - Daughters of the King – They staff the Prayer Chapel after Communion and meet with anyone requesting prayer and pray over the prayer requests that come in each week.
 - Altar Guild – All is going well with this dedicated group.
 - Lay Eucharistic Ministers – We currently have four dedicated LEMs who are able to flex their schedules.
 - Lay Eucharistic Visitors – All is well with this dedicated team.
 - Music – The music program is going strong. Choir and Bell Choir practice are held on Tuesday evenings. Bunny has been a great addition as she plays one Sunday a month when Jim need is off.

- **Clerk and Communication – Diane Pfaus**
 - Vestry members were asked to send their report to all members via email prior to the meeting.
 - Members need to be encouraged to invite new neighbors and members on their liaison list to services.
 - A Sunday Night Creative Service was discussed as a possible way to attract youth to church.
 - Sunday Service continues to be broadcast live on Facebook and YouTube.

- **Senior Warden – Marlene Eichelberger**
 - Sexton Job Search and Applicant – Bob Cates has resigned as Sexton. A search is being conducted for qualified candidates. One candidate has been interviewed. Once the application has been returned background checks will be completed and a decision made.
 - Current Sexton – Bob Cates has agreed to work with the new Sexton when hired for an agreed upon period to assist with the transition. He has also offered to work without pay during this time to go toward overpayment. *A motion was made by Bonnie Lovell and seconded by Sally Devine to accept Bob Cates' offer. The motion passed unanimously.*
 - All Saints' Banner – The All Saints' Banner has not been embroidered with the last five names. Those names will be listed in the All Saint's Day Bulletin. The company that did that work is out of business. Toni Madjuck has volunteered to add those names after it is taken down this year.
 - December 28th – Sunday, December 28th will be a service of Lessons and Carols. Marlene and Bunny, pianist, will work together on the service.
 - Vestry Liaisons – Attendance is down. Vestry members were encouraged to contact the members on their list especially those who have not been at church recently.
 - October Deanery – Marlene was invited to attend the Clearwater Deanery. Fr, Daniel Lemley, Rector of Holy Trinity and Dean of the Clearwater Deanery has agreed to keep Marlene in the “loop” about what is happening. A discussion of the Diocesan Convention was a large part of the meeting including the book “Embracing the Mixed Ecology”. This book was given out at Convention and focuses on the reshaping our churches as we face the crisis in the church today.

- **Junior Warden – Marti Moore**
 - Sexton Job Description, Policies and Procedures – As a new part-time Sexton is identified and updated job description with policies and procedures is needed. It is in process but has not formally been approved by the Vestry.
 - Progress of Roofing, AC, etc. – Electrical has not been started at this time. AC and roofing are all under way.
 - Tree Work has been completed
 - Thrift Shop shed is typically unloaded Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday.
 - Fire System Code Compliance is nearing completion as light bulbs are replaced in the EXIT signs.
 - The Parish Hall refrigerator shelving and door seals have been replaced.
 - Holes in the grass that were trip hazards have been filled in.
 - The roof leaks in the church men's room are ongoing. The roof is under warranty, and the roofers have been called multiple times. The problem continues with no resolution.

VI. New Business

VII. Old Business

- Policies and Procedures for Sexton and other part-time employees – The current policies and procedures need to be revised to include part-time employee information. Paid Holidays for part-time staff was also discussed. That is currently being developed.
- Replacement for Caroline Barnett for Pack-a-Sack for 2026-2027 school year
- Vestry Candidates
- Car Magnets

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m. following prayers.

CALENDAR – Upcoming Dates

Nov. 1 All Saints' Day
Nov. 2 Daylight Savings Time Ends
Nov. 12 Joint Thanksgiving dinner with St. Paul's
Nov. 18 Interfaith Thanksgiving service, 7 p.m. at St. Catherine of Sienna
Dec. 20 Joint Christmas dinner with St. Paul's

Vestry Terms Ending

January 2026 Sally Devine, Malene Eichelberger, Marti Moore
January 2027 Bonnie Lovell
January 2028 Deb Hladky, Diane Pfaus, Ellen Seto

Respectfully Submitted by Diane Pfaus

Date Submitted: 10/25/2025

Approved by the Vestry: 11/23/2025