

Vestry Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2026

St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting May 19, 2026

Present

Rector: The Rev. David Cox

Junior Warden: Ed Reasoner

Treasurer: Carol Zoellner

Clerk: Margareta Knopik

Vestry Members:

Kirsten Lee, Kaylen Simpson-Porto, Linda Brown, Leslie Malle, Roxy Pierce, Craig Aikman, Addrianne Conway, Natalie DeArmey

Guest:

Betsy Wickstrom

Absent

Vestry Members: Hank Stratemeier, Mark Hunter, Teresa James, Ray Burchfield

Senior Warden: Will Henderson

Call to Order

Father Cox called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Opening Devotion

Ms. Brown led the Vestry in a devotion based on ***Psalms 92: 14, 15.***

*14 In old age they still produce fruit;
they are always green and full of sap,
15 showing that the Lord is upright;
he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.*

These verses are part of a beautiful passage describing the righteous as flourishing like trees planted in God's presence—remaining fruitful, vibrant, and able to bear witness to God's faithfulness even in later years.

Gun Violence Awareness

Ms. Wickstrom was invited to make a presentation on behalf of gun violence awareness and to request Vestry support for a Gun Violence Awareness Proclamation. Bringing attention to gun violence in Kansas, similar requests are being made across Kansas to raise awareness and demonstrate support. Betsy will make an announcement at the service on Sunday, 5/24/2026. Wear ORANGE on Sunday, June 7th.

Moved and seconded to approve and, following discussion, motion passed.

Financial Report

Ms. Zoellner reviewed 2026 financials not only as a comparison to YE 2025 but also as month-to-month as well as YTD. She noted that pledge collection for 2025 is completed. Employee expenses so far for 2026 are within anticipated ranges and, unless something “awful” happens, building and maintenance expenses should be manageable, as well. She also added an extra

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column to the financial reports to reflect annual Foundation grants for more transparency.

Jr. Warden Report

- ***Building and Maintenance:*** Mr. Reasoner reported that at the present time, we are down to one-time expenses now that the security system upgrades have been completed, air conditioning units in the kitchen and Spencer Hall need identified repairs and the AC unit in the Sacristy will be replaced. The hall windows are scheduled for production in June and six accessible parking spots in the west lot have been identified and will be repainted to allow better access for individuals using walkers and wheelchairs.
- ***Gardening Angels:*** The new outside altar has been installed on the north side of the church and focus has shifted to the landscaping around the altar to enhance use. They are also working with Ryan Lawn to resolve water issues.

Rector's Report

- ***Sunday attendance*** is going well—over 200/week on Sundays and Saturday evening attendance is increasing, as well (closer to 20/week). Rev. Don Compier will assume primary responsibility for the Saturday night service beginning in September. There is already a rotation in place to carry us through the end of August.
- ***New altar:*** The Vestry will order a marker for the new altar to thank Dick LeClaire and there will be a service to bless it at a future date to be determined.
- ***Full-time priest:*** Mother Mary Lynn declined the full-time position offered by STMAA although she will be covering for Father Cox in July and available for services as needed. St. Michaels will continue to be her family's home church. Following discussion, Father David will draft an advertisement for a full-time assistant priest. He will request some experience and a self-starter. (The Diocese should be able to help identify candidates.)
- ***Flagpole conversation:*** The flag is tattered—is it time to take the pole down? Conversation revolved around (1) Do we need any flags at all? And (2) Can we leverage more specific banners, instead? Because religion is political we have to work to separate the institutions (i.e., church from state). Triangle-folded flag could be a memorial to Veterans—perhaps in the Garden Room?

Kitchen Angels

Ms. Simpson-Porto continues to visit with Tracy Henry, who needs help with Sunday coffee hour. All are open to creative solutions. It was agreed to pursue a schedule where the various ministries take turns covering the fourth Sunday each month.

Good Faith Network

Much has been happening at GFN, but due to its length, Ms. Simpson-Porto provided a separate report (see attached).

Congregational Renewal Committee

The question was raised whether the candidates had been identified so they could be approached. Ms. Brown thought that people had already been identified. Ms. Simpson-Porto thought she had a list from the retreat and a request was made that someone expand the list to

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include brief biographies prior to the June Vestry meeting.

Ministry Team Updates

Ms. Malle: She has been attending the Board Meetings of the Day School. All is well at the present time.

Ms. Conway: The Sunday School breakfast was well attended. Children's Chapel is on hiatus for summer.

Mr. Reasoner: St. Paul's is serving nearly 300 people each week. Harvesters is delivering 4500# of food/month. (week?)

Ms. DeArmeY: Noted that Ms. Zoellner wrote the first article regarding financial needs for the Messenger and Ms. DeArmeY was planning to write the second, but that that article is being delayed due to timing.

Ms. Knopik: Reported that a plan is in place to begin updating and creating a sustainability plan for managing the Memorial Book. She will take the lead on it and Ken Walker and Nancy Stankiewicz will help.

Decisions

- A request for receipt of tax receipts for donated services was made. Ms. Zoellner indicated that an invoice was needed and that Liz would write a letter.
- April Vestry Minutes (Annual Vestry Retreat) and the May Minutes of the Special Meeting were approved with corrections.
- Financial reports were accepted.

Closing Devotion

Ms. Brown provided the closing prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2026, at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Margareta Smith Knopik, Clerk