

MINUTES
St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting
November 18, 2025

Present

Rector: The Rev. David Cox

Senior Warden: Will Henderson

Junior Warden: Ed Reasoner

Treasurer: Carol Zollner

Clerk: Margareta Knopik

Vestry Members:

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Linda Brown | Leslie Malle |
| Mark Hunter | Betsy Ordonez |
| Gretchen Sullivan | Beth Lee |
| Jaime Keltner | Kaylen Simpson-Porto |

Absent

Hank Stratemeier

Teresa James

Mr. Henderson called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Devotional

Mr. Reasoner offered the devotional based on Matthew 5: 3-16. The message was *Let our light shine and speak our mind.*

Formation

Rev. Cox continued conversations of ***Chapter 4, Vision & Strategic Thinking*** in the **Vestry**

Resource Guide. Chapter 5 is Finance & Administration .

STMAA needs formalized strategic planning as it has been a few years since the last session and Dr. Cox believes the church membership and Vestry has become steadfast enough to manage the outcomes. It was suggested that an outside strategy professional be considered to facilitate the process perhaps during or shortly after the spring Vestry Retreat so new members can be involved. (Dr. Cox will send options for the retreat shortly.) All agreed it is critical that, following the planning sessions, the Vestry follow through with recommendations. As a starting point, Father David stated that there is a need to define who we are now. He reminded the Vestry that when he first arrived at St. Michael's, the average weekly attendance was over 400 and that we are currently at 190 each week. Planning needs to focus on how do we thrive 15 years from now?

It was suggested that a committee be formed to use the Vestry Guide to prepare for the February meeting, to which the new Vestry members will be invited in preparation for the beginning of their initial term in March. The committee members from the Vestry are: Dr. Cox, Mr. Henderson, Ms. Sullivan, Ms. Simpson-Porto, plus members of the congregation.

Treasurers's Report

Ms. Zollner presented the current financial statements and explained the assumptions that will be the foundation of the 2026 budget. 2025 appears to be unfolding very close to anticipated revenues and costs which provides some degree of confidence for 2026 as a similar formula will be used. She noted that regular income that is not tied to specific pledges continues to create budgetary uncertainty.

She will have the draft 2026 budget prepared for discussion and approval at the January 2026 meeting which will be held just prior to the Annual Meeting.

Stewardship

Mr. Hunter reported that the number of pledge cards received for 2026 has reached 60% and reflects an overall increase in anticipated giving of 5%.

Dr. Cox suggested meeting with the Foundation so that everyone is on the same page with respect to continuing to work effectively with Saint Michaels. The Foundation not only helps support Saint Michael's but also the ministry in Haiti and the breakfasts and pantry at St. Paul's in KCK.

Rector's Report

In addition to the information shared about the Foundation, Father Cox reported that service attendance was somewhat sluggish in October but that so far, November's attendance has been good. The announcement regarding the Pastoral Care position (20 hours/week) has been sent and that it is possible a potential deacon has been identified.

Ministry and Committee Team Updates

Ms. Malle mentioned that the Mission Statement tag line, "God's got your back" is proving to be powerful with young people.

Ms. Keltner reminded everyone about the EEI garage sale that will be held at the church in May 2026. She also relayed the heartfelt thank you sent from the elementary school where she works with respect to the food provided following the food drive.

Junior Warden's Report

Mr. Reasoner reported that two expenses were presented: a new floor scrubber and freon for the freezer in the kitchen. Otherwise, all good.

Decisions

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as presented.
The financials as presented were approved.

Mr. Reasoner led the closing devotional.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for **December 16, 2025**, at 6:30 pm and the formation assignment is ***Chapter 5, Finance & Administration***, in the **Vestry Resource Guide**.

Respectfully submitted,

/MSK/

Margareta Smith Knopik, Clerk