

St. John's Episcopal Church, Tower Grove
Vestry Meeting Minutes for February 23, 2025

In attendance: Rev. Nancy Emmel Gunn, Ronya McCool, Correne Murphy, Mary Anne Pikrone, Paul Freeman, Jeffrey Carter, Jonathan Cureton, Dawn Indelicato-Faw

Absent: Jonathan Cureton

Meeting commenced at 12:20 pm

A quorum was declared.

Vestry approved (Ronya/Dawn) December 2024 meeting minutes. NO meeting was held in January 2025; annual parish meeting took place instead.

Building and grounds (Mary Anne)

1. Ceiling tile in the east sacristy hallway has been replaced.
2. Classic Metal Craft bid on replacing west outdoor stairs wrought iron railing. Mary Anne/Correne moves to accept the bid, which will be paid for by an anonymous donor.
3. Continuing concerns over safety after-hours. Mary Anee will convene a Safety Committee.

Vestry Retreat (Ronya)

March 8 at Mercy Retreat Center

Finance

We continue to converse with Pooley Accounting about accuracy of financial reports. January financials appear to show a better cas position (\$6,000) than December 2024. This is directly due to the Glory Be! Fund appeal in December. Accurate January financials are not ready for review today. Estate planning conversation is beginning. Continue to need someone to evaluate our internal payment and control process. We will begin a quarterly budget update in the newsletter.

Priest's Report

Bishop visited 2/16. Seventy people were in attendance, many of whom stayed for coffee hour. Parochial report is in progress, due March 1. Lenten service collaboration plans are finalized (and Rev. Nancy enjoys being with progressive clergy). St. John's is hosting Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday at Oak Hill Presbyterian Church, Good Friday is at Epiphany United Church of Christ, and Easter Sunday is a sunrise service at a location adjacent to Compton Heights Christian Church. Rev. Nancy reported on St. John's 2030 vision and long-term planning team. The first panel for a team is to consider the future of our building on Arsenal. Parishioners are eager to be involved in ministry relevant to immigrant justice and transgender person justice and belonging. Ronya reported on possible avenues for involvement.

Possible coffee hour presentation from Trans Umbrella Group?
Housing allowance proposal approved (Jeffrey/MaryAnne).
Need partner parish to help move two youth toward Confirmation.

Loose Ends

Thank you to 2025 pledging units.
ContinueToGive implementation.

Action Items

1. January budget report to newsletter (Jeff)
2. Fill in Jonathan (Ronya)
3. Circle back to receive and approve December and January financials (Rev. Nancy)
4. Thank you cards to 2025 pledging units (all Vestry): "On behalf of the Vestry, thank you for pledging for the year 2025. Your time, treasure, and talent build our community and support St. John's mission. God is glorified by your pledge." AT RETREAT

In the next weeks:

Welcome:

3/2 - Mary Anne, plus Vestry highlights

3/9 - Ronya

3/16 - Jonathan

3/23 - Correne

3/30 - Paul

Next meetings:

Saturday, March 8 is Vestry retreat and March Vestry meeting.

Sunday, April 13 for regular April meeting. Executive Committee is Thursday, April 10, Dawn to join.

Adjournment at 1:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey Carter, recording scribe