

St. John's Episcopal Church, Tower Grove

Vestry Meeting Minutes for December 15, 2024

@ 12:05 PM

In attendance: Rev. Nancy Emmel Gunn, Bethann Rohlfing, Ronya McCool, Correne Murphy, Mary Anne Pikrone, Paul Freeman, Jeffrey Carter, Jonathan Cureton

Absent: Ann Balsamo, Dawn Indelicato-Faw

Meeting commenced at 12:10 P.M.

A quorum was declared.

Vestry approved (Paul/Jonathan) November 2024 meeting minutes.

Building and grounds (Mary Anne)

Old Welcome Neighbor apartment in some disrepair — roof vent repaired, sump pump drainage issues, exterior drain pipe may be draining into a closet. This is a work in progress.

Vestry checked in with each other about our joys and challenges.

Finance

Vestry received November 30, 2024 budget close.

Vestry noted that cash on hand contracted by \$3312 in November; but checking account has nearly \$17K at end of November. Bottom line from November financial report: at the end of November we were budgeted to be in a negative 11-month position of \$13550, and we actually were \$14,658, a net income negative of \$1107, increasing our deficit over what we budgeted. We have covered this deficit with cash from savings.

Rev. Nancy reported on ContinueToGive and impending implementation.

Estate planning conversation has begun.

Diocesan support grant for 2025 is \$40,000.

Draft budget for 2025 is underway.

Need end of year appeal for a GLORY BE fund to replenish savings.

We will begin a quarterly budget update in the newsletter.

Priest's report

Welcome to The Rev. Bethann Rohlfing, our new deacon.

Rev. Nancy will establish a ST. JOHN'S 2030 vision and long-term planning team, with a draft charge of visioning our future over the rest of this decade.

Vestry nominations

The senior warden is continuing to canvas and approach people for Vestry nominations. The process is continuing.

Vestry discussed reducing the size of Vestry from the current nine as indicated in by-laws.

Loose ends

Thank you to 2025 pledging units.

Follow up on logo design.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Laminate pre-service announcements for lectern (Jeff)
2. Fill in Dawn and Ann (Jeff)
3. Ask 12-step groups to not touch thermostat (Nancy)
4. Draft appeal letter for GLORY BE fund (Jeff)
5. 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."

In the next weeks:

Welcome:

12/22 — Paul
12/24 — Ronya
12/25 — Jonathan
12/29 — Jeff
1/5 — Correne
1/12 — Jeff
1/19 — Ronya
1/26 — Jonathan

Next meetings:

Sunday, January 26 is annual meeting

Adjourned at 1.40 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Jeffrey Carter, recording scribe