



**Vestry Minutes:** January 18, 2025 @ 12:05 pm

**Present:** Rev. Nancy Emmel Gunn; Rev. Deacon Bethann Rohlfing; Sr. Warden Ronya McCool; Jr. Warden Mary Anne Pikrone; Jonathan Cureton; Dawn Indelicato-Faw; Paul Freeman; Darryl Sweargin

**Absent:** Correnne Murphy

**Meeting Norms:**

*Helping*

- Clarifying
- Linking/Harmonizing
- Initiating
- Keeping People's Gates Open
- Summarizing

*Hindering*

- Blocking
- Rambling
- Attacking
- Taking Over
- Silence/Not Participating

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Items & Responsibility
Meeting Setup & Opening Prayer	Declaration of Quorum Opening Prayer	
Business	Accept minutes from December	Minutes accepted
Finance and Bookkeeping	Financials for year end: We paid 2 of the 4 payments to the diocesan pledge; waste will go down in 2026; Printing still needs attention to lower costs  Darryl reviewed budget;  Proposed 2026 budget: Budget shows a potential surplus	Peace Meal should get their own bank account to reduce overall costs Youth Group should also get their own account to decrease costs  Current financials approved  Budget for 2026 approved
Priest's Report	Vestry Housing Allowance Resolution reviewed  <b>Ash Wednesday and Holy Week:</b> Ecumenical worship; 6 current member consortium but only Oak Hill and St. John's has space. There is interest in having our own Holy Week to avoid watering down our liturgy. Frame it as something new.  <b>Stewardship Realty:</b> We need information on what our	Motion approved  We will continue our service and then end our participation after this year.  Be available in February to discuss the future of the campus

	<p>building is zoned for; do a better job of being proactive actions, not reactive actions on opportunities</p> <p><b>St. John's 2030:</b> Nancy reviewed the need for doing long-range planning and shift from being in survival mode. Two things came out of Renaissance Requiem: Emphasis on hospitality and lessening our dependency on the Diocese.</p> <p>A reminder to emphasize our spiritual mission in addition to our financial issues/plans.</p>	<p>buildings. <b>Ronya</b> will send out an email to a meeting in the first week of February.</p> <p><b>Rev. Nancy</b> will call Mary Freeman to consider small faith group <b>Rev. Nancy and Mary Anne</b> put together a presentation on symbols</p>
Worship	Grace African Church wants to do a Bible Study with St. John's.	
Vestry Announcements	<p><b>Vestry Retreat:</b> Coordinate meeting place and time, engaging in our topics and creating a plan, and a speaker. Ronya is looking for two volunteers to help with this. St. John's 2030 should be a part of this discussion. Sally Weaver is a potential speaker suggestion. BethAnn volunteered to help; Dawn will help with practical matters (scheduling the building; food, etc.)</p>	<p><b>Rev. Nancy</b> will contact Sally Weaver and Whitney (for servant leadership or can they suggest someone for us?)</p> <p><b>Dawn</b> will schedule Mercy building, figure out lunch, etc.</p>
Loose Ends	<p>Executive member meeting February 12</p> <p>Email Meeting Minutes a pdf to Bob Emert and Ronya</p>	<p><b>Jonathan</b> will participate in the Executive meeting as the Vestry Member</p> <p><b>Mary Anne</b> will do the announcements on January 25th to fill in for Ronya.</p> <p><b>January:</b> Ronya <b>February:</b> Mary Anne <b>March:</b> Jonathan <b>April:</b> Dawn</p>



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Reminder of Next Meeting Dates		<b>Next Vestry Meeting:</b> February 15, 2026

### Meeting Summary

The vestry meeting held on January 18, 2026, focused on financial approvals, long-range planning for the church's future, and upcoming seasonal worship.

#### Financial & Business Updates

- **Budget Approvals:** The vestry approved both the current financials and the proposed 2026 budget, which shows a potential surplus.
- **Cost Reduction:** To lower overall costs, it was recommended that Peace Meal and the Youth Group establish their own bank accounts. Printing costs were also identified as an area needing attention.
- **Diocesan Pledge:** St. John's has worked towards contributing to the year-end pledge.

#### Strategic Planning: St. John's 2030

- **Long-Range Goals:** Emphasis in shifting from "survival mode" to proactive planning. Key priorities include increasing hospitality and reducing financial dependency on the Diocese.
- **Campus Future:** A meeting is set for the first week of February to discuss the future of the campus buildings and zoning.

#### Worship & Community

- **Holy Week:** There is interest in St. John's hosting its own Holy Week services to maintain liturgical integrity, rather than participating in the ecumenical consortium.
- **Outreach:** Grace African Church has expressed interest in a joint Bible Study, and Rev. Nancy is exploring the creation of a small faith group.

#### Upcoming Events & Action Items

- **Vestry Retreat:** Planning is underway
- **Executive Meeting:** Scheduled for February 12, with Jonathan Cureton attending as the vestry representative.
- **Next Meeting:** The next Vestry Meeting is scheduled for **February 15, 2026.**