ST. JAMES EPISCOPAL CHURCH

VESTRY MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

Present: Fr. Mike Sowards, Barbara Bateman, Tanya Millet, Candy Nyce, Peggy Schiavo, Ryan Collins, Karen Anderson, Sue Rice, Mark Schultz

Not Present: Chris Mycek, Kathy Hutchinson, Bill Kilgore, Aaron Ciabattoni, Gene Goff

1. The meeting opened with the Vestry prayer at 7:30 pm
2. **Old Business** - evotes since last meeting were the approval of August Vestry Minutes
3. **New Business**
   A. Financial- Mark said that the August statements are not yet reconciled but Show the account is $3,500 in the positive which is not reflected on the current statement. There was a payment for church painting but we also received a large rent payment from the Montessori school of $14K.
   Church Foundation fund increased by $11K and is projected to yield 14% this year. Our short-term account contains $18,246 (gets 5% interest) which is needed to pay off our loan.
   Mark will send out the statements for evote approval once reconciliation is done.
   B. 2027 Budget- will need to be completed soon. Mark asked to be informed of any expected income or expenses/ changes as soon as possible so that he can draft a preliminary budget.
   C. Capital Campaign Projects Update- Painting of church nearing completion. Shutters and doors to be painted this week. Part of the metal roof needed to be painted at a cost overrun of $400. We are reminding congregation to catch up on their Capital Campaign pledges.
   D. Future Capital Campaign Project: Fr Mike got an estimate on the organ renovation for $127,000 which would include a new console
   E. Fire Marshall Inspection of upstairs Montessori space showed that GFI outlets needed to be installed. Aaron will install them.
   F. Norristown Garden Club- Holiday House Tour is in December.
   Church Sanctuary will be beautifully decorated, some of which can be left up for the season.

4. **Commission Reports**
   A. Education- Fr Mike
      1. Theology on Zoom starts 916/26
      2. 48 kids are registered for church school, 28 were at Welcome Back Sunday

      We have a full roster of teachers with 2 teachers per class
   B. Outreach – Candy
      1. 165 backpacks were distributed this year
      2. Received large donation of corn and potatoes from Evansburg Methodist, 4525 from Kiwanis Club Redner's Collection, School supplies from Joe Webster's office
   C. Communication- Ryan
      1. BBQ pit people will be notified about when to arrive in Happenings
      2. Golf Outing is in planning phase for Spring 2027
      3. Advertising at Oaks Movies Theatre will cost $1200-$2000 for 30 days. We may decide to do this around Christmas during specific movies
   D. Membership- Karen
      1. Would like to put a card with information about St James in each BBQ bag
      2. New Parish Directory- Fr Mike said that Sandy Hassinger's son is a photographer and may be available to take photos for the Bishop's visit and of families later
   E. Parish Life- Peggy
      1. Welcome Back Sunday Hot Dog Coffee Hour went well but was not advertised in Happenings or announced in previous weeks
      2. We are planning to order St James Episcopal T shirts to sell (which was last done over 10 years ago) as a fund raiser for Parish Life. Previously, ECW sold them. We'll also consider aprons, tote bags or car magnets.
   F. Rector- Fr. Mike would like one of the Vestry to assist him with the 2027 Pledge Drive. Karen volunteered to help.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peggy Schiavo
For Kathy Hutchinson
Vestry Secretary

Next Vestry Meeting: Tuesday, October 20, 7:30pm