



**The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist**  
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Milton, Delaware 19968



[www.stjohnthebaptistmilton.org](http://www.stjohnthebaptistmilton.org)

Vestry Minutes for The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist

September 26, 2018

**Present:** Sharon Lamando, Scott Kresge, Mike McNamara, Father Tom White, Barney Lane, Clara Escobar, Jerry Hudson and Jill Malloy.

Meeting was called to order by Senior Warden Sharon Lamando at 7:10 pm.

Opening prayer was given by Father Tom White.

**Review and Acceptance of June minutes:** Motion was made by Jerry Hudson to accept June minutes and seconded by Mike McNamara. All were in favor.

**Acceptance of Special Meeting minutes:** Motion was made by Jerry Hudson to accept the minutes from the special meeting August 2, 2018 and seconded by Mike McNamara. All were in favor.

**Treasurer Report:** No report given.

**Priest Comments:** Father Tom referred to his parish letter he recently sent where he spoke of honoring worship and showing respect. He spoke on how our church is a safe place and all that have needed the safe church training have received the training with the exception of Brenda DiMichele. Brenda will go to St. James parish on 10/14 for her training. He spoke of the Bishops visit and the importance of that day and of the large number of new members that would be coming into our church that day.

**Correspondence:** Church insurance deductible has changed from 5% to 3%.

### **Committee Reports**

**Worship/Music:** Sharon reported the choir is forming and has a presentation for the Bishop. There is hope the choir will go forward after the Bishop's visit.

**Sunday School/Youth Ministry:** Jill reported Sunday School has been learning about faith. A friend of Jill's son is active duty military and he came in and spoke on how he had to have faith when he was away from home and in a dangerous situation. He wore his uniform so the kids could touch it and see how the patches came off, he explained what all the pockets were for and why his pants were tucked and tied in his boots. The kids have been busy working on cards for the Stockings for Soldiers and will have them ready to join the stockings when they are picked up. Father Tom suggested perhaps Jordan could come back and speak to the congregation.

**Outreach:** Clara reported she had a bank statement. Outreach is in good shape. They do have funds. Sandwich Thursday went from zero to 15 kids. Parents would stop and thank them. People stopped and donated for a total of \$119 just to say thanks for doing this outreach. Clara said it would be nice if there were more members that could sew the stockings. Emails have been sent requesting an outreach committee meeting. Would like more parishioners be active.

**Fellowship/Kitchen Teams:** Jill reported teams have been reviewed and have stayed the same. There is not a lot of interest from the congregation to join kitchen teams. Teams will be meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> to prepare for the Bishop luncheon. Thoughts of working on the 6<sup>th</sup> we would have large pans of the same thing rather than 10 small dishes that tasted different. If we all come together Saturday, everything is done there is no worries of people forgetting to prepare anything. The menu has been established so everyone will be notified to just report to church on Saturday. Jill emailed those that had signed up to not make a dish to just show up and prepare the food. Sharon will get the groceries that are needed for the luncheon. Jill did not want anyone offended or that help is not wanted or needed, she just wanted everything uniform. There was some talk from some parishioners that if they worked they would not be able to talk to the Bishop. There is a team already established that is willing to work in the kitchen on Sunday. No one should ever feel like there is no time to speak with the Bishop.

**Parish Communication:** Father Tom said there was nothing to report. The team works well together and is doing a great job.

**Property:** Mike started his report with the roof. There is a leak. J&L has been notified and Keith called and spoke with them. They are aware and are waiting for the roof to dry out. Before the Bishop luncheon Mike will get 2 ceiling tiles and take the bucket down so it looks presentable. Mike spoke of parish lights. Jim Bailey came in and a switch was bad. It has been replaced. The street light was changed and through conversation and phone calls Mike kept saying it needed a shield. He called them back to remind them a shield was needed. Mike has an order form for 2019 calendars. He asked how many to order. Announcement will be given in church to see if anyone is interested in getting a calendar. Mike passed around quotes for a new shed. Sharon, Father Tom and Mike went to 2 places to look at sheds. Delmarva Storage Shed had the best price. Size is 12x20, has 2 vents and a loft with double doors on the end. The old shed will have to be taken down and removed. The new shed will go on the lot behind the parking lot. No ramp will be added at this time. One can be added at a later time. Father Tom asked about putting polyurethane the floor. Jerry said he did not think it was necessary as that is more cosmetic. It will be vinyl sided. Jerry said we could start announcing that if anyone wanted the shed they could have it but would be responsible for moving it. If no one wanted it Jerry would cut the shed up and take to the transfer station.

**Long Range Planning:** Jerry emailed Matt Dotterer about the plans and that we were back burning the project until Sunday School is out next spring. He said that was fine but he did need to come back up to measure the building and locate the bathroom in the building to satisfy the county. Jerry said he would meet him at the church for the measurements and as long as we have the plans by the end of March we could contact plumbers and be ready to go as soon as Sunday School is out. Anne approached Jerry about the sign in front of the church. The women's club that uses our hall is changing their name and wanted the church to pay for a new sign showing their new name. Jerry's response was if they provide a new decal we could add it to the sign. After thinking about it no other church advertises for any organization that uses their facilities. His suggestion was all signs be removed and the sign goes back to our church only. That side of the sign is the primary side and it looks faded. Parish communications had talked about it in the past. We only have room for one side since the other side is used by others. Father Tom suggested a note be sent to the women's group and the stamp club stating we are happy to have you use the building but that they would be removed from our sign. Father Tom will talk to the Pastor of the other church. They are welcome to use a yard sign prior to their service to advertise their services.

**Landscaping:** Scott reported clean-up day next week to spruce things up for the Bishop visit. Clean up day will be Tuesday starting at 9:00. Scott was hoping Tom Sombar was in attendance because of the surplus we have at Peppers. He would like to plant some pansies to help spruce things up. Sharon asked about the replacement of the damaged shrubs. Scott said Bella Terra wanted to replace the shrubs with what they had in stock but Scott told them we wanted to continue with the uniformity of shrubs previously planted. They said they would look into ordering them for us. More follow up to Bella Terra will take place. Jerry commented he thought the church

should send a letter to the Cape Gazette under Father Tom's signature including Milton PD, the community, Bella Terra and those that have donated towards the plantings thanking them for their generosity. Scott will email Tom about the surplus and what contributions we had.

**Church Security and Safety:** Mike reported the team met and the subjects were outside security cameras and WIFI service. Security cameras would need WIFI and do we want to get into the cameras now and explore the WIFI service. If there is enough interest in WIFI for needs of the church, then we could look into WIFI. While Scott could benefit from it, it is not essential at this time. Cost would be between \$50-\$90 per month. Discussion was there didn't seem to be a need at this time for WIFI. Another thing discussed was a first aid class. Mike asked Celeste Babiarz to teach a lesson and she accepted. Will be scheduled further in the fall. Basic first aid will be taught, if someone falls, or gets sick. He asked if she could go over the first aid kit and make suggestions on what is missing or needed. Glen Dixon will look into CPR classes and possibly getting an AED for the church.

**In-reach Ministry:** Father Tom said they are always ready if there is a need within our parish. The team is awesome and responds immediately.

**Parish Hall:** Jill reported she and Sharon went shopping and purchased new centerpieces for the tables. We are saving them for the Bishop luncheon and will be able to use each fall. Jill reported there is a shortage of storage since the other organizations use our area for storage. Amanda Johnson has said when she moves into a new school next year she would like to donate items to Sunday School. The question is why can the other organizations take up our storage space when we don't have enough for our own needs? Father Tom suggested they may need to clean up and see if they can reduce their amount of storage they need. The kitchen is full and storage is limited. Sharon said once we get the new shed a lot of stuff could be moved there opening up some storage. Father Tom suggests we should find out if they really need all of that space since we need space.

### Old Business

**Outreach Chairperson name on account:** Clara reported she is now officially on the account.

**Framing Easter Hangings:** No progress. Scott asks which committee would this fall under. Agreed it falls under worship. Jerry suggested taking one of the drawings to Michaels and get a cost. It would be framed professionally. Father Tom suggested Deacon Paula get involved with this project since interior design is her background. Father Tom will talk to her about this.

### New Business

**Shed:** Mike made a motion to allocate \$5,000 to purchase a new shed as described. Jerry seconded motion. Scott spoke up and said he had an issue spending this amount of money without a treasurer's report. He feels we are making decisions without seeing a report for 3 months. Scott reminded everyone in the by-laws someone needed to submit a report. Father Tom suggests to make a motion to purchase a shed pursuant to the funds availability. Mike modified his motion that we allocate \$5000 pursuant that Tom Sombar assures the vestry there are funds available. Seconded by Jerry. All in favor with the exception of one opposed vote.

**New Doormat, Parking Lot and Road Signs:** Sharon asked for a committee be formed to get a new door mat, the lot and road signs. Then have them come to the vestry and give a report. Scott stated communication committee has already spoke of these issues. Scott has designed a sign for the parking lot which will fit in the size of sign that is already in place. We want to use "our" brand rather than just St. John's. We need to let people know we are an Episcopal Church. Parish communication committee will take this project on rather than form a new committee. Jerry made a motion to turn this over to the parish communication committee and seconded by Mike. All were in favor.

**Holiday Tour Ad:** Sharon reported last year we had a full page at \$50. Jerry asked what could go on the ad. It is for the book for the holiday tour. Last year ours was a full page ad with a picture of the church. Jerry said he thought it would be nice if it was stated our church was the oldest house of worship in Milton with a structure as old as ours. He also stated he would motion for a full page ad. Father Tom said if not this year then next year Parish Communications need to take on the ad. Clara pointed out she thought the ad people only needed to know if we were interested in being in the book and what size ad we wanted. Father Tom commented last year's Christmas Eve bulletin was photo shopped with heavy snow falling. Sharon will ask if we can submit our own ad information. Sharon will tell them we want a full page. All were in favor.

**Nominating Committee:** Sharon stated we need a nominating committee. Three seats are up this year. Sharon, Barney, and Anne's seats are up. All three are eligible to run again. Mike volunteered to chair the nominating committee and Scott volunteered to work with him. Sharon stated all that who are eligible to run again should be asked if they are interested.

**Feedback from the congregation:** Sharon asked if anyone has had any feedback for discussion. Father Tom stated in the spirit of leaders, the same is true for the good of the church we need to be aware of triangle situations and as leaders we should not be drawn into them. Scott had positive feedback in regards to the organ music. Scott continues to research cost of speakers.

**Motion to Remove the sign board:** Jerry made a motion to remove the sign board and seconded by Scott. All were in favor of the motion.

Mike handed out first aid kits to everyone.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Jerry made a motion to adjourn and seconded by Mike. All were in favor of motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jill Malloy, Clerk of the Vestry