



**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  
October 17, 2018

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

Meeting was called to order by Senior Warden Sharon Lamando at 7:02 pm.

Opening Prayer was given by Father Tom White.

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

**Treasurer's Report:** Report given by Tom Sombar. Motion was made to accept the treasurer's report by Jerry Hudson and seconded by Mike McNamara. All were in favor. Copies available upon request.

**Priest Comments:** Father Tom spoke of the Bishop's Retreat on October 20<sup>th</sup>. 330 people are participating at this retreat. 5 from our parish will attend. Deacon Paula and Father Tom rotate months to visit the homebound and October is Deacon Paula's month. She is finishing up her visits. Deacon Paula is planning an event for November 17<sup>th</sup> at the clubhouse at Heritage Creek in Milton as a meet and greet. Sharon shared that she and Deacon Paula met and will be putting together a gathering starting in January to discuss the women of the bible. It will be seminar style and will be open to everyone. Father Tom spoke of the choir. They meet on Wednesdays and they are preparing a service for Advent during the afternoon of December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Correspondence:** Sharon reported we received an appeal from the Episcopal Relief and Development. Sharon will be turning it over to outreach. Father Tom asked Tom Sombar to get totals of how much we have already given for 2017 & 2018 to help determine how much if any we would want to donate. Clara added Sharon could announce if people wanted to donate they could just put their donation in the collection plate and mark it outreach. The Milton Historical Society and Historic Preservation sent a flyer about a wooden marker. Anne commented there was already a marker in front. Father Tom suggested it be referred to parish communications.

### Committee Reports

**Worship/Music:** Sharon stated there will be a survey going out in the bulletins to get feedback on talents within the congregation. Sharon asked Jerry to report on the candle holders that go on the end of the pews during Christmas. Jerry stripped the paint and stained them putting them back together. Jerry researched new globes that would fit better with the new candles. Candles are 10" tall and the globes are 8". Jerry gave to different globes for review which would fit the candle holders.

**Sunday School/Youth Ministry:** No report

**Outreach:** Clara reported until next meeting there is no report.

**Fellowship/Kitchen Teams:** Jill reported she felt the Bishop's luncheon was a success. She thanked everyone again for the help all weekend. Jerry asked if the new stove worked ok. The stove top and both ovens worked

fine with no issues. Father Tom commented the gathering on Saturday morning to prepare the food was a brilliant idea and to have Rebecca Hudson and Willow DiMichele serve on Sunday was a favorite part of the day.

**Parish Communications:** Father Tom reported there is a meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup> and the signage will be discussed as well as the side mat and republish the directory. Jerry noted there is another sign in the closet in case it was needed. Jerry suggested perhaps a sign shop could re-letter it.

**Property:** Mike McNamara reported the dryer in the rental house needed repair and has now been fixed. The wires coming from the pole into the house has a tree limb on it. The limb is about 15' above the ground. Sharon asked if Delmarva Power took care of tree trimming. It was decided not on private property. Father Tom suggested we ask Theo if he could take care of it and asked if he could do it if Mike would be there with him. Mike reported last year there was discussion about painting the house. Mike will get an estimate from Earl Grimes for power washing and painting the house. Father Tom said he felt the parts of the house that are showing rot should be addressed first. Jerry suggested Mr. Grimes give an estimate on everything from repair to replace, power washing and painting. The leak in the roof of the bathroom has been fixed. The hot water heater is not working. Mike will call Clendaniel's Plumbing to come out to fix it.

**Long Range Planning:** Jerry reported Matt Dotterer will submit plans by late March since nothing will be done until Sunday School has ended. Father Tom asked if he could submit them earlier in case we wanted to get a loan. Jerry reported he would tell him they were needed earlier in the year.

**Landscaping:** Scott wanted to thank Anne, Clara and the rest of the team for stepping up and getting the landscaping done in time for the Bishop's visit. Scott thanked Clara for the beautiful mums as well.

**Church Security and Safety:** Mike reported the first aid training would be December 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at the parish hall. Mike is going to purchase small first aid kits as a give-away to those who attend. Jerry suggested making up a label for them saying compliments of The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist. Scott volunteered to make the labels. Mike asked about inviting the public but it was decided to keep it for just our membership.

**In-reach Ministry:** Father Tom reported in-reach is always ready if needed, but other than that, no report.

**Parish Hall:** Jill brought the attention to a new tablecloth that was on display. She suggested it was time to replace the old tablecloths as the ones that are being used are very old. She reported there has not been an actual meeting since there are no funds to do anything to the hall at this time. Jerry brought up the issue of storage. He stated an additional row of cabinets could be constructed above the cabinets. Storage issues will be tabled until the new shed is in place.

**Nominating Committee:** Mike stated there are 3 people up for re-election. Sharon Lamando has opted to stay and Barney Lane and Anne Pratt have decided not to serve for another term. Jill Malloy's name was presented to vestry to become a member. Mike stated there are other names pending but no final decision has been made as yet.

### **Old Business**

**Signs:** Will be addressed during the Parish Communication meeting. Jerry asked about the sign in front of the church. Scott stated that would be brought up at Parish Communication meeting.

**Shed:** Sharon stated she and Mike marked where the shed would go. Mike passed a picture around for all to see.

**Easter Hangings:** Scott gave Deacon Paula one of the hangings and she will take care of getting the hangings framed.

## New Business

**Assistant Treasurer Appointment:** Sharon reported Jim Swago has consented to be the assistant treasurer. Sharon is asking for a motion. Jim will work with Tom and give reports when Tom is not available. Mike made a motion that Jim Swago become assistant treasurer and seconded by Clara Escobar. All were in favor.

**Water Cooler:** Sharon stated she put the water cooler on the agenda because of the amount of water use during the Bishop's luncheon. The small bottles of water were dumped into pitchers for serving. Bottled water had to be used because the town water tastes so bad. She asked for opinion on getting a water cooler in the kitchen for our use only. Jerry asked how we would keep others from using the water cooler. Tom Sombar asked about purchasing large bottles of water to keep on hand. Conversation regarding others using the water and not replacing was an issue. Talk of putting the water in a storage cabinet would be locked. Jerry suggested those that use our building need to be reminded they are not to use what is not theirs. Discussion moved on to how Anne has come into the hall after Safe Harbor or one of the organizations that use the hall and has found the back door unlocked, fans still going and the AC/Heat not on the temp we prefer. Safe Harbor also uses our mailbox. It was agreed they should have their own mail receptacle. Tom Sombar will take care of getting and paying for the gallon bottles of water when they are needed.

**Tablecloths:** \$209 for tablecloths for the parish hall tables. Anne asked if there were any choices but Sharon stated after searching in various stores and online there are just not many options that would suit our needs. Anne asked about solid colors but it is difficult as flannel back cloths are normally for picnic tables. Jill asked about the company Margo used and if an account had been established. Tom said he thought he had the information somewhere. Discussion was to just go ahead and order the tablecloths. Jerry made a motion to order the tablecloths and seconded by Mike McNamara. All were in favor.

**Hurricane Shades for Christmas Torches:** Pictures of the globes went around. Suggestion was made by Jerry to check with the company to see if 24 were purchased would give a discount. Anne inquired about the heat generating from the globe. Jerry suggested ordering just 1 globe to make sure it fits correctly. He stated they have a wholesale store and perhaps we could get them cheaper if we let them know it was for a church. Father Tom stated he thought we should get at least 24 globes. Motion was made by Clara to purchase the globes and seconded by Mike. All were in favor.

**Hot Water Problem/Basement:** Mike reported he will get Clendaniels out to fix the hot water heater. Mike reported the basement wall was full of spiders. Mike had to use a tree limb to scrape them from the wall before he could go down into the basement. Suggestion was made to spray them with raid or get a bug fogger and throw the canister into the basement. Tom stated Activ Pest Control handles the church for termites. Jerry asked Mike to call to see if they could address the spider issue.

**Annual Report for Congregational Meeting:** Meeting is the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in December. Chairpersons of any committees need to have a report ready for that day. Father Tom asked if anything in writing has been given to the congregation prior to the annual meeting. There was no discussion to the booklet. Sharon showed the picture that has been presented of the Bishop.

**Feedback from Congregation:** Clara mentioned the colonial dancing. She stated it was a lot of fun. Anne asked about hall rental. Anne inquired about the parish hall as a rental. She was unsure what the policy was. Father Tom stated there was no policy. Clara stated she has gone into Goshen Hall after it has been rented and the hall is left messy. Jerry stated he felt it could be discussed at a later meeting but he felt since we just discussed how those that rent from us now and freely use our stuff we should just keep it to parishioner use only.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn was made by Jerry and seconded by Mike. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jill Malloy, Clerk of the Vestry