



# The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist

Post Office Box 441 / 307 Federal Street  
Milton, Delaware 19968



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

## The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist Vestry meeting, November 8, 2017

Vestry members present: Gary Lawrik (18), Louise Frey (17), Barney Lane (18), Michael McNamara (19), Sharon Lamando (18), and Alex Donnan (17) were present. Jerry Hudson (17) was absent. Additionally, Father Tom, Tom Sombar, Anne Pratt, and Margot Lawrik were present.

The meeting was called to order by Gary Lawrik at 7:00 PM.

Father Tom opened the meeting with an inspirational prayer asking us to remember the countless saints who have passed to us this parish and may we receive the legacy as a sacred trust to build and enlarge it. May we be inspired by the Holy Spirit to devise strategies, ministries, and programs to renew, enrich and grow our congregational life. Father Tom also asked us to remember those killed in Sunday's massacre in Texas and for God to comfort the survivors.

### **Review of the minutes of the September meeting**

Alex Donnan motioned that the minutes be accepted as written. Michael McNamara seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Tom Sombar presented the Treasurer's report. Discussion followed concerning payment to the guest organist. Each organist is to be paid \$200.00. Gary questioned the line item amount for office supplies, and Tom will look for the documentation and report back to Gary. The tenant in the rental house is one month in arrears. Sharon Lamando motioned that the report be approved as submitted. Alex Donnan seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **Pastor's comments**

Father Tom thanked all for the support he and Rob received during the past week. Father Tom was thankful for the Bishop-elect Brown and his wife's visit to our church this past Sunday. Father Tom sent in a request for 30 tickets to the Bishop's consecration on December 9th.

### **Correspondence**

The following correspondence was received: A letter from Florence Keith thanking St. Johns for the use of the church and hall for Ken and Michelle Keith's wedding.

The Episcopal Liturgical calendar will be ordered. Gary will ask the congregation if anyone wishes to have a calendar ordered for them. A request from the Anglican Digest for a donation to defray the costs of publication.

### **Committee Reports**

### **Worship and Music**

No meetings have been scheduled. Sally Fox has volunteered to co-chair this committee with Sharon Lamando. There should be three meetings each year. Father Tom will schedule training for approximately eight new acolytes.

### **Sunday School and Youth Ministry**

No report.

### **Outreach**

The only check written this past month was for \$150.00 to the Milton Food Bank.

### **Fellowship**

Margot Lawrik reported that there was a meeting of the Kitchen Club members and it was decided to eliminate the "Pot Luck" Sundays. We have two new members. Beth O'Connell and Denise Cunningham will be joining Lee Revis-Plank, Carole Somers and Clara Escobar (Team E). There are no special "kitchen" events scheduled until the Pancake Supper and the Soup and Salad in the spring.

### **Parish Communications**

Father Tom reported that Scott Kresge was released from the hospital today and may not need surgery. Douglas Marshall-Steele has continued to publish and collate the Sunday bulletin in his absence.

### **Property**

Alex Donnan reported that the "fuse box" will be replaced with a circuit breaker box. There is still a water problem in the basement under the kitchen. There is no economical solution at present. Louise Frey asked that the parking lot across the street be repaired. There was also discussion about expanding the existing parking lot. Michael McNamara reported that the fire extinguishers that we own have been recalled. They will be replaced. The rental house trim needs to be painted and Alex will request bids in the spring.

### **Long Range Planning**

No report.

### **Landscape**

Scott Kresge was not present to report. Father Tom reported that last Saturday ten volunteers weeded, spread stones, and mulch. Monday we will receive 1200 bulbs and a planting day will be scheduled.

### **Old Business**

#### **Alternates for Convention**

Ray and Anne Jung are the delegates for the January convention. Alternates will be needed. Their names need to be sent to the diocese by November 28th.

#### **Organist /Minister of Music Search**

Two people have withdrawn their applications. George Johnson will be our organist the first Sunday in Advent. Mr. Green and Mr. Park have also been scheduled to play.

### **New Business**

## **Rental Property Water Heater**

Alex Donnan reported that he has received two estimates varying in cost from \$1800.00 to \$2086.00 to replace the water heater. He requested estimates from four additional companies and has no response.

## **Altar Window Lighting**

Alex Donnan reported that a solution has been found. A regular box will be put outside so a light can be connected to shine on the stained-glass window during evening services.

## **Contribution to Bishops Chasuble**

Gary asked Mary Ann Brillhart about a contribution for the Bishops ring. The money for the gift of the Bishop's ring is collected from each priest in the diocese. Each congregation may contribute to the purchase of the Bishop's chasuble. Alex Donnan motioned that we contribute \$100.00 toward the purchase of the Bishop's chasuble. Louise Frey seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

## **Feedback from Congregation**

This is a new addition to each meeting. Sharon Lamando questioned the appropriateness of having a "guest minister" to perform ceremonies. The primary person for any ceremony/service should be the priest of St. John's. Gary will call Gary Rowe to ask if there is a guideline to cover this at the Canon law level.

A formal directory for the church is needed. Many members of the congregation are asking for this information. Father Tom will approach Scott Kresge to see if the directory could be printed "as is" as soon as possible. Corrections can be made after this directory is distributed.

The size of the congregation is growing. There is a need for a second bathroom. The sacristy also needs to be redesigned. This project will be presented to the Long-Range Planning Committee.

The bulbs in the chandeliers will be changed by the cleaning crew.

## **Vestry Election**

The Annual Congregational meeting is on Sunday, December 3rd. Gary would like a written report from each committee Chairman and/or Vestry member sent to him prior to the meeting. There are three vacancies on the vestry. Louise Frey and Alex Donnan are not eligible for re-election. Jerry Hudson may serve a second two-year term. Gary has canvassed the congregation and has presented a single slate consisting of Scott Kresge, Clara Escobar and Jerry Hudson to fill the vacancies. A motion was made that Jerry Hudson serve a two-year term beginning in January 2018 and Clara Escobar and Scott Kresge serve a three-year term beginning in January 2018. Louise Frey seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

An additional key has been requested by the Safe Harbor Church to be used by the organist.

It was decided that Pledge Sunday will be the last Sunday in November. Father Tom will compose a letter to the congregation.

Louise Frey motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Sharon Lamando seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Margot Lawrik

## **The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 13, 2017**

Note: This will be on the second Wednesday in December instead of the third Wednesday.