ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
VESTRY MEETING
MINUTES
August 28, 2025

Present: Senior Warden-Richard Updegrove, Junior Warden-John Corbishley, Treasurer-David Brierley, Clerk-Mattie Gustafson, Murry Edwards, Jerry Culver, David Burke, Cory Thurston, Alex Simmons, Lauren Lema, the Rev. Dr. Greg Prior, and the Rector, Jennifer Pedrick.

Attending via Zoom: Jason DeFalco
Absent: Sarah Barker, and Nancy Kimble

Jennifer called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Reconnecting with each other in the presence of God – Jennifer
Jennifer reported that we have a total of 37 new members (including children) who will be welcomed on Welcome Weekend. At this event, Jennifer asks the following questions:

1. What is troubling you?
2. What are you seeking from God?
3. What are you seeking from St. Mary's?

She asked the vestry to pair up and ask these questions of each other. Discussions and sharing took place.

Rector's Report – Jennifer

- Jennifer will be on vacation from September 17-24, and October 15-November 5.
- Greg will be offering a Bible Study, beginning Friday, September 19th at 11:00 a.m. It will be on the *Gospel of Matthew*. There is a resource book available for this study, but it is not necessary to purchase one to attend.
- Jennifer said she was pleased that our plans for the fall seem to be in sync with the concerns and interests our members articulated in the Coffee and Conversation held in July.

David Brierley made the following motion: In order to be fully compliant with Diocesan guidelines, I make a motion to authorize the treasurer to make electronic payments to the Church Pension Group and to ACS Technologies. Rick seconded the motion. The motion passed.

[This motion is the result of the Church Pension Group going digital. This change impacts both pension and health insurance payments.]

Ministry Leadership Meeting Results – Jason and David Burke
The goals of this meeting were 1) Collaborate and support each other, 2) share ministry goals for the year, 3) connect ministries to the church's big picture goals, and 4) help with developing and sharing budget plans for the upcoming year.

Both Jason and David felt the meeting resulted in good conversations, and highlighted overlaps and synergies among the various ministries present.

Part of the ongoing budget discussion will be making some structural changes - e.g., the new member ministry will be paired with pastoral care; hospitality and collations will be paired. This makes more sense and reflects real connections that were hard to see with current budget categories. Jennifer and Rick will be working on a new organization chart.

Junior Warden's Report – John Corbishley

- John is continuing to work on the new budget (2026) with Jon's help. He is still exploring bids for the historic church doors.
- Alex asked about the beech trees, and John said that there was nothing to report right now.
- Jerry notified us that a branch hanging over a part of the churchyard road and some of the gravestones, might be in danger of falling. John will text Jon to alert him.

Senior Warden's Report – Rick

Vestry dinner - Rick thanked Sara and Chris Barker for their wonderful hospitality in hosting a vestry get-together.

Tuck Fund – Rick referenced a memo he sent out, that began explaining the situation with regard to the Tuck Fund. The Finance Committee will explore all the questions that have been raised. This issue needs to be addressed promptly, but a motion will not be ready by the September meeting.

Treasurer's Report – David Brierley

- We have established a stewardship goal of $350,000 for 2026. (The goal for 2025 was $325,000.)
- Rick suggested that we offer a workshop on various ways to give, and also include something in the enews. Rick will work on something to put in enews.
- David Brierley is also reworking the IT category in the budget.

Jennifer made a motion that we defer accepting the treasurer's report until our next (September) meeting. Jerry seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Consent Agenda

David Brierley made a motion, seconded by Rick, that we pass the Consent Agenda, consisting of the Stewardship report and Minutes for July 2025. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mattie E. Gustafson, Clerk