

# THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN IN THE WILDERNESS

## MINUTES OF THE VESTRY MEETING MARCH 17, 2022

The March Vestry meeting was called to order at 5:00 p. m. by Fr. Josh Stephens, our Rector. Members attending were: Senior Warden, Jennifer Shelton, Junior Warden, Gibson Sims, Clint Adams, John Barker, Elizabeth Christenbury, E. R. Haire, Will Rodriguez, Kim Sanders, Lynn Wiescholek and Dick Zecher. Terry Enslin and Marissa Pharr were absent.

After checking in with Vestry members, Fr. Josh opened the meeting with prayer. Evening prayer will be held at 6:30 p.m. as part of our Lenten series.

**Approval of Minutes:** Will made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 17 Vestry meeting; it was seconded by Elizabeth and was passed.

**Acceptance of Reports for March:** Vestry members moved to accept all committee reports for the month of March.

**Rector's Reports** - Fr. Josh discussed some of the events that have been occurring in the parish and surrounding areas and highlighted some upcoming activities. These included a Salvation Army Appreciation Luncheon recognizing three parish members, an Outreach Committee Meeting where funds were designated for local partner on behalf of our parish and planning the Lenten and Holy Week activities. All upcoming activities will be 'advertised' on the website and through email and social media. During the coming weeks, parish members will be taking collections for Ukraine through the Episcopal Relief Fund. In addition, an Easter Collection will be designated for the Moldova World Children's Fund.

**Treasurer's Report** - Tom Griswold began by reporting that we are still experiencing with an increase of income over expenses. This increase is due in large part to pledge income as well as plate offerings and other contributions. Tom also reported that a new PNC account has been opened to hold the Principle Guaranteed Annuities following the Vestry's approval in February of the Proposal for Investment of Reserves. The plan is to transfer funds from the PNC Money Market account to the Annuities in order to take advantage of increased interest rates. John made a motion to accept the treasurer's report; it was seconded by E.R. and was passed by the vestry.

**Junior Warden Report:** Gibson began by discussing paint estimates he had been receiving for the church. After contacting paint companies to get recommendations for painters, Gibson received a competitive bid from Burlette for approximately \$20,000. The estimate includes scraping and removing old paint. Will made a motion to approve the funding for the paint estimate for the church, E.R seconded it and it was passed by the Vestry.

**Old Business:**

After months of searching for a new truck, a 2022 Nissan Frontier, was purchased on March 8 for approximately \$35,000. With a bigger work bed and an installation of a hitch, this truck better fits our needs.

**New Business:**

Elizabeth introduced the concept of Sustainable Dining for church functions. Vestry members discussed the amount of flatware, dishes, and other equipment that may be needed to move away from the use of paper and plastic items. The increased time commitment to run multiple loads in the dishwasher, dry items by hand, and return items to cabinets was also discussed. While no one was opposed to the idea, it was agreed that more investigation into the situation was needed.

E.R. who is friends with a family in Ukraine, introduced the possibility of the church adopting/sponsoring this family of three for one year. He will gather more information about immigration procedures, expenses for travel, lodging, and living costs, as well as other pertinent details.

Jennifer made a motion to enter a Closed Session, it was seconded by John, and was passed.

This meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Margaret A. Barker, Clerk of the Vestry