

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN IN THE WILDERNESS
JUNE 26, 2024

The June Vestry meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Fr. Josh Stephens. Those attending included: Senior Warden, Jerry Holt, Junior Warden, Will Rodriguez, Clint Adams, Jon Fitzpatrick, Patrice German, Jim Gibbs, E.R. Haire, Jill Owen, Kim Sanders, Sandy Skelton, and Laura Teel. Marisa Pharr was absent.

After the general welcome and Vestry member check-in, Laura led the opening devotion by reading scripture from the book of *Job* related to suffering and compassion.

Acceptance of Consent Agenda for June: Sandy made a motion to accept all committee reports and the minutes of the May Vestry meeting; Clint seconded the motion, and it was passed by the Vestry.

Rector's Report: Fr. Josh discussed the upcoming fourth annual celebration of the Feast of St. John, on Sunday, June 30 at Hubba Hubba Smokehouse. This community event, which celebrates Flat Rock and Henderson County, will feature the group 'Chatham Rabbits'. Although admission will be free, donations from the event will benefit the [Community Food Pantry](#) in Edneyville with the church and Chatham Rabbits matching contributions up to \$2,000. In addition, Fr. Josh acknowledged the reports from the Vestry Liaisons on church committees.

Curate's Report: Fr. Ian reported that he has continued with the development of the Sunday School curriculum for the elementary and middle/high school age classes using the Episcopal Church's 'Lesson Plans that Work' Curriculum and selecting key scripture lessons to provide a solid foundation for our younger members. He also assisted with the reopening of the Education Building and teaching class for Men's Bible Study every Wednesday afternoon. Additionally, he helped coordinate and run Wild Wonder Creation Care Camp 2024, served as Chaplain for Camp Henry's "Blessing of Elders, and will serve as Camp Henry Chaplain the week of July 4th. Fr. Ian also noted that he celebrated two years as an ordained priest on June 25th.

Senior Warden Report: Jerry reported that he attended the Appointments Committee and Executive Committee meetings as well as meetings of Heritable, Archives, and Gift Committees meetings. Jerry also mentioned that he conferred with John Barker as head of that committee. In addition, Jerry participated in staff performance reviews and volunteered at Wild Wonder Camp.

Junior Warden Report: Will began by discussing recurring maintenance around the buildings and grounds, along with minor repairs and the annual power wash of the outside of the church. James McFadden, an electrician is examining LED lighting options for pathway lighting around the church with estimates ranging from \$1,000 to \$ 3,000. Working with the Buildings and Grounds Committee Chair and the Treasurer, Will is refining and prioritizing the long-range budget. An item of special interest is the Parsonage, which needs extensive repairs including gutters and downspouts, painting, mold removal, renovating stone stoops, and possible roof replacement along with other building upgrades. Following discussion, Will made a motion to spend up to \$3,000.00 to clean and repair as necessary the downspouts and gutters on the Parsonage; E. R. seconded the motion, and it was passed by the Vestry.

Treasurer's Report: Tom reported that with over 40% of the year elapsed, pledging income is well ahead of last year. While expenses have increased primarily due to seasonal expenses and ongoing repairs, they are still within the budget range.

Tom noted that the team for the 2023 Audit, along with the Finance Committee and Ned Curtis have reviewed more than 240 documents. In August, there will be a review of the Audit Report with a presentation of the final audit report by Slater Soloman to the Vestry scheduled for September.

Tom reported that due to the expenses of the Education Building renovations, the Capital Replacement Fund Reserve has fallen below the target amount. After a discussion of viable options, Will made a motion to transfer the interest earned from Trust B to the Capital Replacement Fund with the stipulation that the interest would be refunded to Trust B at the end of the year if there were surplus funds. Kim seconded the motion, and it was passed by the Vestry.

E. R. made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report; it was seconded by Clint and passed by the Vestry. Based on further discussion by Fr. Josh, Sandy made a motion at 7:05 for the Vestry to move to an Executive Session; Clint seconded the motion. At 7:12, Will moved to close the Executive Session; ER seconded the motion.

Following a closing prayer led by Fr. Josh, the June Vestry meeting was adjourned at 7: 15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret A. Barker

Clerk of the Vestry