

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

Washington, Connecticut

January 29, 2023

The Annual Report can be found here: [Saint John's Parish \(seureservercdn.net\)](https://seureservercdn.net)

The meeting marks the 227th year of St. John's Church in Washington, Connecticut. The meeting was in the Parish Hall following the 10:00 A.M. mass. Substantially more than a quorum of parishioners was present, including Jill Di Losa and William Cox (and daughter Nina), Tom Brand, Fr Hahneman, Penny Bardel, James Bauer, Ted and Rebecca Bent, Urs & Joanne Berger Sweeney, Worth Bracken, Hunter Brown and Tillie Page Laird, Joseph Claro and Justin Ormand, Sara and Bob Coles, Mary Davis, Michael Del Nin, Veronique Dulack, Natalie Dyer, Emily Fitzhugh, Sally and Bob Futh, Camille and David Gillespie, Corrine Johnson, Andris Kalnins and Sarah Lee Martin, John and Susie Magee, Richard Snider and Jon Somes, Ine Laverge-Shade, and MB Witt.

Ms. Davis opened the meeting with a greeting. She celebrated David Gillespie's sixth year as warden and expressed gratitude for his leadership through a difficult period of parish transition. She wished him well with a bag of goodies and a beautifully inscribed cake. Father Geoffrey Hahneman offered the opening prayer and reviewed the Guidelines of Mutuality provided by the Episcopal Church in Connecticut.

Father Hahneman presented the Voting Roll, as approved by the vestry, amended. The Minutes of the 2022 Annual Meeting were accepted and approved.

The slate of officers and Vestry members and diocesan delegates was presented by Fr Hahneman and Ms. Bardel, the chair of the Nominating Committee, and it was approved by a vote of those in attendance. The elected slate was as follows:

For Warden for two years: *Jay Bauer*

For Clerk for one year: *Laura Daly*

For Treasurer for one year *David Gillespie*

For Assistant Treasurer for one year: *Andris Kalnins*

For the Vestry for three years: *Worth Bracken, Sara Coles and Andris Kalnins*

For the Vestry Class of 2024: *Michael Del Nin* (who previously was appointed by the Vestry or 2022, to fill the slot of Larry Littlefield following his resignation)

For Delegates to the Diocesan Convention for one year: *Sara Coles and MB Witt*

For Alternate Delegate to the Diocesan Convention for one year: *Laura Daly*

Continuing in their current roles are Mary Davis, Warden (for the second year of her first 2-year term), and Vestry members Laura Daly, Veronique Dulack, and Joseph Claro (Vestry Class of 2023), and Rebecca Bent, and Susan McFeely (Vestry Class of 2024).

Mr. Gillespie, supplemented the written Warden's Report by offering special thanks for the supply clergy he invited on behalf of the parish during the period when the parish had

neither a rector nor a priest in charge, including Fr. Matthew Larsen, Mo. Elaine Farmer, Bp. Keith Whitmore, Fr. Andrew Rooney, Canon George Brandt, Fr. Steve Klotts, Fr. Woody Woodroffe, Pastor Elizabeth Krenz-Wee, Pastor Paul Sinnott, and last but not least (!) Fr. Geoff Hahneman. Fr. Hahneman was subsequently appointed by Bp. Douglas as the parish's Priest in Charge. Mr. Gillespie was presented with a gift in honor of his term as warden, for which he offered his thanks.

Mr. Claro delivered the Treasurer's Report, presented the proposed budget for 2023 as approved by the Vestry. Mr. Claro expressed his thanks to the parish's bookkeeper, Jane Marin, for her exceptional contributions. On behalf of the parish, Fr Hahneman thanked Mr Claro for his term as Treasurer.

Ms. Witt offered comments about the Altar Guild and Coffee Hour, requesting wider parish participation and involvement.

Ms. Coles offered comments about the roles of worship leader and lay preacher, encouraging wider parish participation and involvement.

The floor was open for questions and discussion, including discussion of opportunities for parishioners to participate in committees and other activities of the parish.

Father Hahneman addressed the state of the parish, as more fully set forth in his written report. He thanked everyone in the parish for their contributions over the past year. He confirmed the extension of his contract, and urged the parish to focus on transitional issues, particularly the need for the parish to become a parish led by parishioners rather than being led by a priest. Fr. Hahneman also emphasized the importance of broader participation in parish activities, including serving as greeters, readers, eucharistic ministers, VJs, lay preachers, worship leaders, coffee hour hosts etc.

Following the dismissal by Fr. Hahneman, the meeting was adjourned.

Reports were submitted by the Priest-in-Charge, the Organist-Choir Master, the Wardens, the Treasurer, the Stewardship Committee, the Building and Grounds Committee, the Readers and Eucharistic Ministers, the Diocesan Delegates, the Northwest Leadership, the Outreach Committee, the Holiday Fete Committee, the Altar Guild, the Floral Guild, and the Hospitality Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Daly

Clerk