

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH
Washington, Connecticut
February 2, 2025**

This meeting marks the 229th year of St. John's Episcopal Church in Washington, Connecticut, and was held in the Parish Hall after the 10:00a.m. Mass, and called to order at 11:45a.m. Substantially more than a quorum of parishioners was present, including Corinne Johnson, MB Witt, John Magee, Susie Magee, Rebecca Bent, Susie Markert, Emily Fitzhugh, Tom Hollinger, Ted Bent, Regine Laverge-Schade, Susan McFeeley, Justin Ormand, Joseph Claro, Bob Futh, Sally Futh, Emily Gum, Wheeler Gum, Mary Davis, Carolyn MacDonald, Richard Snider, Jon Somes, Penny Bardel, Veronique Dulack, Michael Del Nin, Karen Saxe, Worth Bracken, Tom Brand, Fr. Geoff, Rod Pleasants, Alex Purves, and Joan Burgess.

Fr. Hahneman opened the meeting with prayer and reviewed the Guidelines of Mutuality provided by the Episcopal Church in Connecticut.

Fr. Hahneman then presented the voting roll, as approved by the Vestry.

The minutes of the 2024 Annual Meeting were accepted and approved.

Fr. Hahneman then presented the annual budget for 2025. Ms. Davis explained the Vestry's process for creating the budget and opened the floor for any questions. Ms. Davis confirmed, when asked, that the endowment is doing well. Ms. Davis further commented that renovations to the cottage were expected to occur in 2025. Mr. Del Nin commented that the rectory had been rented and confirmed, when asked, that the tenant was paying utilities and maintenance.

Fr. Hahneman presented the slate of Officers and Vestry members presented by 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: *Worth Bracken*

For Treasurer for one year: *David Gillespie*

For Assistant Treasurer for one year: *Andris Kalnins*

For Clerk for one year: *Justin Ormand*

For the Vestry Class of 2027: *Rebecca Bent* (second term), *Michael Del Nin* (second term), and *Susan McFeely* (second term)

For the Delegates to the Diocesan Convention for one year: *Sara Coles* and *M.B.*

Witt

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

Continuing in their current roles are Warden Mary Davis, Vestry members Sara Coles, Andris Kalnins and M.B. Witt (Vestry Class of 2025), and Vestry members Laura Daly, Veronique Dulack and Justin Ormand (Vestry Class of 2026).

Fr. 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. Fr. Hahneman noted signs of stability and growth for the Parish, including stable attendance and an increase in stewardship. Fr. Hahneman further noted that the endowment is doing well and encouraged parishioners to remember the endowment in their estate planning. Fr. Hahneman then encouraged lay involvement in Mass, encouraging all Parishioners to share their gifts and talents. Fr. Hahneman highlighted in particular the need for additional veejays, lay preachers and leaders, readers, and chalicers. Fr. Hahneman concluded by reminding parishioners of the upcoming blood drive at the Parish Hall.

Fr. Hahneman then opened the floor to questions. Ms. Bent asked whether it would be possible to have communion at lay services. Fr. Hahneman explained that the Canons do not permit this, and a discussion of the subject followed.

Ms. Davis then announced that the Vestry was pleased to welcome Fr. Hahneman as the Rector of St. John's. The Parish was delighted!

Mr. Bracken then reported on the ongoing Church restoration project. He noted that the trial phase had been completed, and that he was waiting for a report and recommendation from the engineering team on taking the project forward. Mr. Bracken further noted that there would be fundraising efforts commencing imminently, and that the Foundation expected to launch a website concerning the project soon. A lengthy discussion about the project followed. Fr. Hahneman then asked if any Parishioners had further questions, and there were none.

Fr. Hahneman closed the meeting with a prayer. Following the dismissal by Fr. Hahneman at 1:09p.m., the meeting was adjourned.

Reports were submitted by the Rector, the Organist-Choir Master, the Treasurer, the Stewardship Committee, the Wardens, the Building and Grounds Committee, St. John's Foundation (regarding the Church renovations), the Readers and Eucharistic Ministers, the Diocesan Delegates, the Northwest Region Leadership Team, the Holiday Fete Co-Chairs, the Altar Guild, the Outreach Committee, the Floral Guild, the Lay Worship Leaders and Preachers, and the Hospitality Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Ormand, Clerk