

St. Peters Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes
Approved October 28, 2025

Fr. Tom Mousin, Anita Chandler, Bob Simmons, Kathleen McCormick, Tom Ainsworth, Lorna Blackmer, Thora Easton, Linda Foster, Christopher Hickey, Lenita Richard, Allison Schroth, Anne Whitman

Absent: Wayne Franklin, Emily Keniston, Steve Koskinen, Patty Lamb

Opening Prayer

Caring/Sharing

Minutes were approved from September 21, 2025

REPORTS:

1. Treasurer's Operations Reports (Bob Simmons):
2. Fidelity Investments Report (Bob Simmons):
3. Diocesan Report (Bob Simmons): Bob & Tom will have a conversation with someone at Diocese regarding investments and whether they are invested as the rest of the Diocese has.

MISSION and MINISTRY REPORTS

1. Prayer Ministry (Allison Schroth and Emma Bond):
2. Creation Care (Janene Gorham): Many positive comments were received about the efforts celebrating Creation Care seasons.
3. St. Elizabeth's Partnership (Anita Chandler): Collecting coats and boots for the season.
4. Aging With Grace (Fr. Tom): Pausing this group.
5. Project Feed (Bob Simmons):
6. Merry Hearts (Anita Chandler): Pausing this group.
7. Hope Squad (Janene Gorham):
8. Sunday Liturgy Review (Fr Tom): Fr. Tom is thrilled with the engagement of people in the liturgy.
 - a. Minister Rota (Wayne Franklin):
 - b. Acolytes/Torch bearers (Fr. Tom): David Savage is adding some torch bearers.
 - c. Readers (Anita):
 - d. Altar Guild/Flowers (Anne):

OLD BUSINESS

1. Capital Campaign: (Tom A. & Lenita). Total pledge \$253,084, \$36,551 collected to date.
2. Signage: The Bethany House sign is installed. This is complete!
3. Safe Church Training for Vestry Members: We are in good shape for this year. New members in 2026 will be trained.
4. Planning and Implementing Parish Safe Church Policy: Kathleen and Anne will work on this.
5. Outside Cameras: Work continues to install the remaining 3.
6. Scholarship Fund: Bob Simmons will write up the data and it will be presented to vestry.
7. Fair: After breakfast to setup the tables, after breakfast. Friday decorations/setup at 6 pm. Open hall Saturday at 7 am. Vestry raffle tickets to be returned this Sunday.
8. Stewardship Campaign Dates for 2025: Tell Out My Soul is the theme for this year. Letters will go out tomorrow. November 23rd is ingathering Sunday.
9. Support for Youth Service Corps in 2026. We are awaiting Amber's response about the \$900 request.
10. Creation Care plan for yard: Looking at revisiting this January, and presenting this to the congregation in February, with some action in April, around Arbor Day.
11. Robe Room: Completed

12. Flower Font from diocesan storage: TBD Spring
13. Nominating Committee: Anita and Lorna Volunteered.
Officer Positions are for one year, concluding in 1/2026

Senior Warden: Anita Chandler
Junior Warden: Wayne Franklin
Treasurer: Robert Simmons
Clerk: Kathleen McCormick

Term Ends in 2026:

Tom Ainsworth 1/2026
Linda Foster 1/2026
Thora Easton 1/2026
Allison Schroth 1/2026

Term Ends in 2027

Patty Lamb 1/2027
Lenita Richard 1/2027
Lorna Blackmer 1/2027

Term Ends in 2028

Anne Whitman 1/2028
Chris Hickey 1/2028
Steve Koskinen 1/2028

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Next Steps in Search:

- Decide on Coadjutor route or traditional search model. Motion to use coadjutor route. Approved.
- Meeting with Rev. Suzanne Roberts: November 10th? Good Date.
- Committee structure: Who wants to serve? Chair?
- Schedule Parish Meeting for 12 questions/profile, who wants to run the meeting? November 23rd
- Update Facebook and Website to keep up to date. Google drive.
- Baseline of Tasks for 20-hour week for Rector (with Fr. Tom) & list of expectations on what priest does/not have to do
- Salary & benefits package available to new priest

The Vestry discussed pursuing a co-adjutor model for hiring a new priest, with Father Tom serving as mentor while beginning his retirement. They agreed to update the parish profile, which Wayne had distributed in October, and planned to hold a coffee hour after church to gather input from parishioners. The Vestry noted that while the profile could serve as a starting point, it would need significant updates given St. Peter's current state, which has improved since Father Tom's hiring five years ago.

Kathleen will send out a note to Vestry members asking if they want to participate in the search committee or serve as chair/co-chair. A shared Google Drive folder to manage documents related to the search process. They also discussed holding a parish meeting after November 23rd to gather input from the congregation, with Kathleen planning to develop an online survey for this purpose. Robert and Kathleen agreed to organize parish passwords, following diocesan protocols for password transitions. The discussion also covered the preparation of a 20-hour work week profile for the Rector position, including time allocation for various parish activities and the need for a salary and benefits package for the new priest. Fr. Tom emphasized the importance of being present every Sunday, rather than part-time, in the interview process for the new priest.

2. Seminary Request for Galen Weibley: He is looking at Sewanee in Tn and Seminary of Southwest, TX. He would start August of 26. Motion to approve a \$100/semester amount, to be reviewed up on his needs. Amended motion to say: St. Peter's will provide \$500 annual support to Galen Weibley for Seminary of the Southwest . Approved.

REPORTS

1. Junior Warden (Wayne Franklin):
2. Senior Warden (Anita Chandler): We are so blest, with the growth in this church.
3. Postulant's Report (Emily Keniston): Not much has changed since last month. I continue to be grateful for learning and growth in the tender care of the St Peter's community, and I continue to meet with COM representatives about making progress toward possible ordination. I'll be back in Maine in time for church on November 9th, and I'll be eager to see you all then.
4. Rector's Report (Fr. Tom Mousin): Fr. Tom mentioned that more information about the recent diocesan convention would be shared soon. The also discussed our busy schedule these next few weeks with the Holiday Fair on November 8th, the ordination of Myrna Koonce on November 15th, Mary Sullivan's farewell on November 16th, and the Bishops' visitation on December 7th. The visitation will include a few people being received into the Episcopal Church. Search committee members will be encouraged to participate in reaffirming their baptismal vows during the December visitation.

PASTORAL CONCERNS:

CALENDAR DATES:

WEEKLY:

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|-----------|------|----------------|
| Sunday | 9 am | Holy Eucharist |
| Wednesday | 7 pm | Compline |

MONTHLY:

Second Wednesday: Aging with Grace
Third Thursday: Merry Hearts
Fourth Tuesday: Vestry

IMPORTANT DATES:

November 8: Holiday Fair
November 10: Vestry meeting with Rev. Suzanne Roberts
~~November 13: Aging with Grace~~
November 15: Myrna Koonce, Ordination 10 am
Flukes Fundraising for St. Elizabeth's
November 16: Mary Sullivan, soloist, farewell
~~November 19: Merry Hearts~~
November 23: Parish Meeting – 12 questions & possible food packing event.
November 30: Advent 1
December 7: Bishops Visitation (Brown & Hirschfeld)

Fr. Tom's Schedule: 11/2 away, Rev. Dan Warren will preside and preach

Closing Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen McCormick