

St. Peters Episcopal Church
Approved Vestry minutes
July 22, 2025

Fr. Tom Mousin, Anita Chandler, Wayne Franklin, Bob Simmons, Kathleen McCormick, Tom Ainsworth, Lorna Blackmer, Linda Foster, Christopher Hickey, Emily Keniston, Patty Lamb, Steve Koskinen, Lenita Richard, Allison Schroth, Anne Whitman

Absent: Thora Easton

Opening Prayer

Caring/Sharing

Minutes Approved from June 25, 2025

REPORTS:

1. Treasurer's Operations Reports (Bob Simmons):
2. Fidelity Investments Report (Bob Simmons):
3. Diocesan Report (Bob Simmons):

MISSION and MINISTRY REPORTS

1. Prayer Ministry (Allison Schroth and Emma Bond):
2. Creation Care (Janene Gorham): We had some success with the seedlings; maybe a new approach next year. The raised bed has some vegetables planted and some perennial herbs. Janene attended a workshop at the BTS Center. There are plans for a fall walk and the Season of Creation liturgy. The group always welcomes new suggestions. She has question if anyone has seen the pollinator garden prints she had on bulletin (was on video equipment).
3. St. Elizabeth's Partnership (Anita Chandler): Has begun their coat drive and are accepting funds. There is a donation basket in the back of the undercroft.
4. Aging With Grace (Fr. Tom): There was a nice lunch in July and will resume in October.
5. Project Feed (Bob Simmons):
6. Merry Hearts (Anita Chandler): Resumes in the fall.
7. Hope Squad (Janene Gorham):
8. Sunday Liturgy Review (Fr Tom): 8/3 Rev. Dan Warren 8/10 Rev. Dan Warren/Emily preach
 - a. Minister Rota (crucifer/Eucharistic minister/ushers) (Wayne Franklin):
 - b. Acolytes/Torch bearers (Fr. Tom):
 - c. Readers (Anita):
 - d. Altar Guild/Flowers (Anne): Special thanks to Jan Tracy for her care of the purificators and other linens. Thanks to Rebecca Wallace for beautifying the peace prayer site.
 - e. Livestream:

OLD BUSINESS

1. Capital Campaign: (Tom & Lenita): Current \$221,480 pledged by 22 families or parishioners \$17,347 received to date. Fr. Tom is suggesting a meeting while he is on vacation for status and next steps for the group. Tom Ainsworth has a letter to be sent to parish to clarify the difference between current and prior commitments. Vestry has led a strong commitment in numbers and endorsement and by example as we continue this process.
2. Signage: Parish Office sign arrived & in Bethany House. Bob and Wayne will work on installation. Sign for front is being worked on today, will be done in about 2 weeks.
3. Safe Church Training for Vestry Members: Kathleen requested access for Steve K. and Allison S. We are nearly complete with certifications.
4. Planning and Implementing Parish Safe Church Policy: Kathleen and Anne will work on this. No report.
5. Outside Cameras: Caught an attempt at stealing a ladder, that was chained to the back of the building.
6. Scholarship Fund: We have not yet met, after Bob returns from summer camp.
7. Baptismal Font: Anne Whitman submitted a report. Discussion followed and several valid reasons were given to not install inside the vestibule. Anne is suggesting that she goes back to the Creation Care team about their input for an outside space. Tom Ainsworth talked of the possible of using the circular pads.
8. Tree: Feedback was negative about removing tree. We will keep an eye on it and work on keeping it trimmed.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Women's Bathroom Update: (Anne & Wayne) Wayne put money in the budget to renew the bathroom. Anne solicited responses for ideas. The hope was to get some warm water and there was a suggestion of new flooring. Wayne thinks most of the renewal can be done in house. Chris Hickey suggested we could add heat to the water from the electrical panel. We have 4 subpanels in the church. If we do any work, we would have to redo the electrical panel.
2. Counting committee: (Wayne) There is a core group of people who count, but it may be time to be more organized. We do have a screen to separate people from the "crowd". We will solicit help in Key Notes. Ideally, we will be expanding the team and be using a rota.

REPORTS

1. Junior Warden (Wayne Franklin): We had a major issue with heating in Bethany House. It was fixed for about \$800, after 3 attempts by the repair folks. Clayton Hickey has a list of chores to attend to. We agreed to have solar company be our provider. Our solar farm went online just this past week; we should start seeing benefits soon.
2. Senior Warden (Anita Chandler): We are seeing some new people and people are warmly greeted and asked to attend to coffee hour. We are blessed with growing people willing to serve the church and a wonderful rector.
3. Postulant's Report (Emily Keniston): Emily echoes Anita's comment that we have a wonderful rector and a wonderful mentor for her. She is working with Fr. Tom on other programs for adult ed. Emily has a residency for her seminary training in August.
4. Rector's Report (Fr. Tom Mousin): It has been a joy to work with Emily as a postulant intern; conversations are rich and are a gift to Tom. Fr. Tom's friend enjoyed our church tremendously.

Working with Emily to do a training for home Eucharistic visitors, generally we need to have 2 people on a visit. There will be some focused education sessions for those who may want to be confirmed or received in the church during the Bishops visitations.

PASTORAL CONCERNS:

CALENDAR DATES:

WEEKLY:

Sunday 9 am Holy Eucharist
Wednesday 7 pm Compline

MONTHLY:

Third Thursday: Merry Hearts: will resume in Fall.
Fourth Tuesday: Vestry
Aging with Grace: will resume in Fall.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Tuesday August 12: St. Elizabeth's
Sunday September 21: Home Eucharistic Visitors
Tuesday September 23 : Vestry
October 18 & 19: Harvest Home
October 25: Diocesan Convention in Bangor
November 8: Holiday Fair
December 7: Bishops Thomas Brown and Bob Hirschfeld

Fr. Tom's Vacation Schedule:

6/23-30 working while away
7/28 -8/11 vacation
8/25-8/29 Vacation

Sundays away: 6/29, 8/3, 8/10 and 10/12

Closing Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen McCormick