

St. Peters Episcopal Church
Vestry Minutes March 24, 2026
Approved 4/28/2026

Fr. Tom Mousin, Rev. Myrna Koonce, Anita Chandler, Wayne Franklin, Bob Simmons, Kathleen McCormick, Tom Ainsworth, Thora Easton, Christopher Hickey, Lenita Richard, Allison Schroth, Anne Whitman

Absent: Steve Koskinen

Opening Prayer

Caring/Sharing

Minutes Approved from Feb. 24, 2026

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

1. Treasurer's Operations Reports (Bob Simmons):
2. Fidelity Investments Report (Bob Simmons):
3. Diocesan Report (Bob Simmons): Diocesan Trustees amount received: \$27579.04 some interest will still come to us.
4. Capital Funds: \$43,846.31 balance

Gratitude to all for their persistence, Tom Ainsworth, Bob Simmons, Wayne Franklin, and Chris Hickey.

MISSION and MINISTRY REPORTS

1. Prayer Ministry (Allison Schroth and Emma Bond):
2. Creation Care (Janene Gorham): Planning continues for the new meditation garden. Recycling continues, with thanks to Wayne for hauling out the recycling & one or more of us who take food waste to Garbage to Garden. More information on BTS center in Freeport will be shared with the parish - faith based ecological center for education and community building around climate change and conservation of our planet.
3. St. Elizabeth's Partnership (Anita Chandler): Jonathan McCormick was asked to join the board. Our service date is the second Tuesday of each month.
4. Project Feed (Bob Simmons): We will send a check at the end of the 1st quarter. Helpful to hold the Project Feed sign.
5. Hope Squad (Janene Gorham):
6. Sunday Liturgy Review (Fr Tom): Thanks to Wayne for the rota and Anita for readers and David for torch bearers, etc.
 - a. Minister Rota (Wayne Franklin):
 - b. Acolytes/Torch bearers (Fr. Tom):
 - c. Readers (Anita):
 - d. Altar Guild/Flowers (Anne): Easter flowers ordered, looking forward to decorating the Saturday before Easter. Also, will be polishing silver 3/28 at 12:30 pm. Easter bulbs will be planted around donated stone baptismal font when it is in new position. The candles will be

filled and working for Easter. Fr. Tom asked Anne to let Herb know when they will be there, so that the rehearsal with the soloist does not conflict.

e. Videographers/Counters:

7. Aging w/Grace and Merry Hearts: on pause
8. Contemplative Knitting/Handwork: may start up again, Meredith will keep us informed of it.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Creation Care Spring Project: Working on getting prices for planting a tree and leveling ground for the donated baptismal font. A spruce tree is the current thought. We might be able to fold into other celebrations if the timing works.
2. Chili/Chowder Fundraiser: April 11, 4-7. Rich Price and Anita are coordinating. \$15 all you can eat. Sign-ups are in the hall, and asked to bring the chili/chowder is warm, rather than out of the refrigerator.
3. Haskell and Hall: Not 100% complete. Will come back and do a few touch ups. They did the project early, and needed to keep people employed, but it cost them about \$10,000. We will do something for them...get Amato's \$250 coupons to give to workers and a recommendation for them. Motion to give \$250 coupons for workers. Seconded. Discussion to admit free workers from Haskell/Hall to the chili chowder. Propose to amendment instead to thank workers by comping the admission to the chili/chowder event. Proposal to combine the proposals....\$250 coupons to H&H for Amato's for lunches and offer to comp admission to chili/chowder. for any person who worked on building. Motion passes.
 - a. Total Invoices from Haskell and Hall \$35,436.00
 - b. 1st Payment to Haskell and Hall \$27,579.00
 - c. 2nd Payment to Haskell and Hall \$7,857.00 from cash from Capital Campaign Checkbook Cash
 - d. Account cleared for Haskell and Hall, first check cashed, second check not cashed as of today.
4. Dossal Curtain: Apology from Fr. Tom that he has not been able to coordinate the dossal curtain sub-committee [Tom, Bob, Lorna, Anita, Janene].

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Celebration of New Ministry: Sunday, June 7th at 4pm, with Bishop Brown at St. Peter's. The bishop will preside and preach. Rev. Myrna and Kathleen will look to coordinating this after Easter and have more information by next vestry meeting. There are also invitations to send out. Bs. Brown wanted to do it before his sabbatical. If you are interested in liturgy planning, please get in touch with Rev. Myrna. Anita Chandler volunteered.
2. Tax resolution: This is for Rev. Koonce's records. (see below) Motion to approve resolution. Seconded. Motion Approved.
3. Marc Lombe Funds: We are holding funds for Marc Lombe and his family, when he was participating in a resettlement program sponsored by the state department. We held money for this process. The program has been suspended. He is still involved in legal process to become a legal immigrant. It was felt by all involved (Bishop, Jake and Fr. Tom) that we distribute the funds to Marc Lombe. Motion to disburse funds to Marc Lombe to use for him and his family in the immigration process. Seconded. Bob Simmons notes that he will need to sign a letter assuring the proper use of the fund. Motion approved.

**2026 Housing Resolution for Rev. Myrna Koonce,
St. Peter's Episcopal Church Portland**

Whereas, Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code permits a minister of the gospel to exclude from gross income a church-designated allowance paid to her as part of her compensation to the extent used by her for actual expenses in owning or renting a home; and

Whereas, Rev. Koonce is compensated by *St. Peter's* exclusively for services as a minister of the gospel; and

Whereas, *St. Peter's* does not provide Rev. Koonce with a rectory, therefore, it is hereby

Resolved, that the total compensation paid to Rev. Koonce for calendar year 2026 shall be \$35,500, and that \$20,000 is hereby designated to be a housing allowance.

OFFICER REPORTS

1. Junior Warden (Wayne Franklin): Bob had Pine Tree Plumbing in and was successful in getting hot water into the dishwashers. We were cautioned that water pressure distribution valve and in line water filter may need to be replaced. Powder cascade only in dishwasher. Thanks from Rev. Myrna for all the work, including the fire extinguishers, elevator and dishwasher and all was certified in the last few weeks.
2. Senior Warden (Anita Chandler): People are signing up for things and that is fabulous. People want to be part of the service. Things are going very well.
3. Consulting Priest Report (Fr. Tom Mousin): This is Fr. Tom's last vestry meeting. Partnership between People at today's Chrism Mass were interested in the model we are using. Thanks to those who worked to make this happen. Fr. Tom will send a mail to the parish, a farewell letter and talks about diocesan guidelines in the separation of Fr. Tom from St. Peter's. There are always things left undone, and trying to be gentle about what was not done. Much to say thank you for all that was done, and thanks to leaders of this parish who made this growth possible, fruits of labor and ministry. Thank you for shepherding this parish, shepherding me and for calling Myrna and the times ahead. Love you all, thank you.
4. Priest In Charge: (Rev. Myrna Koonce): Time to acknowledge our grief and the amazing gift of Fr. Tom to this place. I am so grateful to all the things that I am learning about all the varied ministries...thanks to executive committee, especially for their help. Also, have begun meeting with some of the other parishes (Peter Swarth/Trinity). Appreciate all the ways in which this coadjutor model is working and looking forward to what we can build.

PASTORAL CONCERNS:

CALENDAR DATES:

Saturday, March 29:	Silver Polishing, 12:30 pm
Thursday, April 2:	Holy Thursday, 7 pm
Good Friday, April 3:	Good Friday, 7 pm
Sunday, April 5:	Easter, 9 am with Festive Easter Coffee Hour
Saturday, April 11:	Chili and Chowder Fundraiser, 4 pm
Sunday, April 12:	Fr. Tom Retirement Party 4:00 pm

Tuesday, April 14:

St. Elizabeth's Essentials Pantry, 8:30-11 am

Tuesday, April 28:

Vestry, 6:30 pm

Sunday, June 7:

New Ministry Celebration with Bishop, 4 pm

WEEKLY:

Sunday 9 am Holy Eucharist

Wednesday 7 pm Compline

MONTHLY:

Fourth Tuesday: Vestry

Closing Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen McCormick