

VESTRY MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 3, 2025, at 6:30 pm

Members present: Rev. Katie Ayers, Moderator, Jim Hiott, Senior Warden, Rusty Davis, Junior Warden, Julie Claytor, Butch Addison, Treye Byars, Betsy Cate, Selman Watson, Anne Lott, Treasurer, and Louise Barker, Secretary. Guest attending was Drew Robb, observer.

The monthly vestry meeting was called to order by Rev. Katie and she opened with prayer.

The minutes of the vestry meeting held on October 6, 2025, which were previously emailed to all members by Louise Barker, were addressed. Rev. Katie asked if there were changes that needed to be made. Hearing no changes, additions or corrections, Rev. Katie asked for motions to approve the minutes as written. Motions were made by Treye and Butch to accept the minutes as written and the vestry approved.

Treasurer's Report: The 2026 Budget was presented on behalf of the Finance Committee by Anne Lott. Differences in line items from 2025 to the proposed 2026 line items were discussed. A motion was made by Anne with second by Butch to accept the budget and the vestry agreed. The budget will be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting on November 30. A copy of the approved budget is attached to these minutes.

Stewardship Update: Stewardship Committee Chair, Julie Claytor, reported that 20 pledge cards were received and blessed. The total amount pledged was \$59,600. Rev. Katie thanked Julie and Anne for their work on the campaign. She stated the importance of pledging in order to meet our budget needs and would like to see more than 20. Vestry members, as leaders of the church, are expected to pledge.

Junior Warden's Report:

- Rusty revisited the rotting wood at the Sacristy outside door. David Brown, who was previously accepted as the repair person, is not eligible. Van Lott has recommended that Rusty contact Steven, someone who has done such work in the past, to give us a quote for repairing and capping the door.
- Rusty reported that Mel Dallas made the hash for the barbecue event. The cost was \$140 and he only charged us \$75, making the remainder a donation to us.
- The HVAC system for the church has been repaired by John Marsh. The motor was under warranty so there will be no charge for parts. There may be a labor charge. Rev. Katie thanked Rusty for getting the repair done in such a timely manner.

Senior Warden's Report:

- Jim reported that he was very pleased with the way the Homecoming weekend turned out. Attendance for all the events was good; the chicken bog on Saturday was great and he thanked Drew. He thanked the pit crew and everyone who helped make the weekend go smoothly.

Nominating Committee Report: The Nominating Committee included Jim and Selman as members going off vestry, and Billy Cate as the congregation representative. The slate approved by the vestry with motions by Butch and Treye will be presented at the annual meeting and include: Lisa Clarkson, Sr. Warden, Tammy Brazzell and Drew Robb, vestry members. Nominees as Delegates to 2026 Convention include: Sr. Warden (automatic), Louise Barker, Corrie Blasi, Betsy Cate, Billy Cate, and Julie Claytor. A copy of the committee report is attached to these minutes.

OLD BUSINESS:

Homecoming In Review – Rev. Katie reported that Debbie Davis has sent a review document. This year we served about 90 guests and members. Presales for hams and barbecue this year was \$1006 vs. \$591 last year. The “Pit Crew” worked well together. Special thanks to Tiffany and Joey for their help. They brought breakfast biscuits to the crew on Saturday and Scott Anderson cooked breakfast for them on Sunday. Treye noted that not as many people came to the pit on Sunday as they have in the past. A suggestion is that we think about getting a half hog and advertise a pig-picking at the pit. Rev. Katie was very pleased with the weekend and the services held.

NEW BUSINESS:

Concert Recording; USC School of Music - A request to rent our church for a student to record his music (since we are in a quiet environment) has been made by a professor at the School of Music. Rev. Katie invited him to come and look at the church on Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 4.

Women Need Women Retreat, Camp Gravatt – Rev. Katie has been invited to lead this retreat which will run from Friday through Sunday beginning on January 23, 2026. She will not be here on January 25. Jim thought it was a good way to increase our profile. The vestry approved.

Oyster Roast, First Steps – The next fund-raising oyster roast sponsored by St. John’s and the Eastover Ruritan Club is scheduled for March 7. Tickets will be \$50 and we will stick with printing 250 tickets. Jim would like to continue offering door prizes; Rusty asked if having a DJ is being discussed; Jim would like to see advertising for the event on FB and reaching out to the LR community.

Other Business:

-Jim thanked Rusty for his attention to things that need to be done in and around church property and for his skill in performing a lot of the work himself, which saves money for the church.

The next vestry meeting will be announced by Rev. Katie.

The meeting was closed with compline led by Anne Lott and was adjourned at 8pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Barker, Secretary to the Vestry