

MARCH VESTRY MEETING MINUTES

Monday, March 2, 2026, at 6:30 pm

Members present: Rev. Katie Ayers, Moderator, Lisa Clarkson, Senior Warden, Julie Claytor, Betsy Cate, Drew Robb, Butch Addison, Anne Lott, Treasurer, and Louise Barker, Secretary.
Members absent: Rusty Davis, Treye Byars, and Tammy Brazzell.

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

The minutes of the vestry meeting held on February 2, 2026, 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 Butch and Julie to accept the minutes as written and the vestry approved.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was previously sent to members. Anne Lott reported we are financially better off this month than last as the operating account reflects more in than out. She reported that she has received \$5100 so far in ticket sales for the oyster roast fundraiser the majority of which will be given to Butch to purchase oysters and shrimp this week.

ADDENDUM ADDED BY THE TREASURER:

Anne also reported that she and Van will be away from March 15 to April 1 on a cruise and that "while we are away, Louise will make deposits for me. She will also have the checkbooks in case something comes up that I have not already covered. Both Van and I will have the WiFi package, so we are available if/when needed. We are never too busy to answer your email whether it's business or fun. We have found that texting works with apple products but not so with android. "

Junior Warden's Report:

In Rusty's absence, Rev. Katie reported that he would like to move the cross located on the front lawn so that it is visible from both directions. Currently it is obscured in one direction by the St. John's sign. He plans to move it this week.

Senior Warden's Report:

Lisa thanked those who helped with the pancake supper by flipping pancakes, cooking bacon and sausage, and serving. She is appreciative of the attendance and participation in the lent study and youth Sunday School. The remainder of her report is under New Business – Transition update.

Rev. Katie thanked everyone who attended the funeral on Saturday for Terry Catoe. She thanked Debbie Davis for putting together the reception so quickly and so beautifully.

OLD BUSINESS:

Community VBS: Rev. Katie attended the first meeting at New Light Beulah Church on Monday, February 9th to discuss inclusion of local churches in a vacation Bible school program in the summer. Planning is in the very early stages and her thought is that space at St. John's will not be needed. There may be opportunities to help with lunches. She will have more information after the next meeting on March 30.

Oyster Roast: Butch reminded us of the work days scheduled this week to set up tents, tables, chairs, cookers and anything else needed before Saturday. The days are Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 3-6pm. He has ordered 35 boxes of oysters and 70 lbs. of shrimp. Along with the shrimp, corn and sausage will be served. Drew is bringing two pots of catfish stew at 3pm on Saturday. Rev. Katie expressed her thanks for all the hard work.

NEW BUSINESS:

Rev. Katie discussed Holy Week: Beginning with Palm Sunday (March 29) she hopes to borrow the donkey (Rocket) once again; we will be looking for volunteers to read the Passion Gospel as we have in years past. There will be a noon Eucharist on Wednesday, April 1; the Maundy Thursday service will be at 6:30pm; the Good Friday service will be at noon with Easter Sunday following on April 5.

Transition update: Rev. Katie and Lisa hope to be able to set up an interim or supply priest for possibly one year while we search for a new priest. The diocese will be giving us some direction in the spring. A search will not begin prior to Katie's leaving.

Rev. Katie reminded us that she will be away from April 13-20 and the last Sunday in June for weddings (supply needed for April 19 and June 28). She would like to secure someone from the diocese to be with us. Our organist (Trish) would like those Sundays off as well.

Rev. Katie asked for feedback following her announcement on Sunday (March 1) that she will be leaving in July. Vestry members thought it was mostly positive while being sad.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Julie asked if the vestry was interested in helping Gadsden with their incentive program for testing again this year. The consensus was "yes unless it's something crazy." She also reported that the ECW is planning its first brunch on May 3 unless the vestry had plans for that day. Currently, the date looks good.

The next vestry meeting will be Monday, March 30th at 6:30pm.

Betsy led us in Compline and the meeting closed at 7:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Barker, Secretary to the Vestry