

OCTOBER VESTRY MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 5, 2026, at 6:30 pm

Members present: Lisa Clarkson, Senior Warden, Rusty Davis, Junior Warden, Butch Addison, Treye Byars, Julie Claytor, Perri Peraza, Betsy Cate, Drew Robb, Anne Lott, Treasurer, and Louise Barker, Secretary.

The monthly vestry meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by Lisa.

Vestry Minutes: The minutes of the vestry meeting held on September 14, 2026, which were previously emailed to all members by Louise Barker, were addressed. Lisa asked if there were any changes. Hearing no changes, motions were made by Julie and Treye to accept the minutes as written and the vestry approved.

Treasurer's Report: Anne presented the treasurer's report. She reported that St. John's continues to do well and asked if there were any questions. Attached to these minutes is a request for vote from Anne regarding the Rector's Discretionary Fund stating, "In the event that St. John's Episcopal Church, Congaree, is without a rector, the treasurer will be the administrator of the St. John's Discretionary Fund with the advice and consent of the senior or junior warden. The treasurer will have authorization to write and sign checks or to issue electronic payments." The vote was unanimous.

Junior Warden's Report:

- Rusty reported a new TPAC wall unit has been installed in Zion Hall by himself and Brian Barnwell at a cost of about \$1200.
- As an aside, Rusty relayed a message from Brian that he would like to have a movie night for the kids. Lisa is working on getting Safe Church Training for Mary Ellen and Brian after which a movie night can happen.
- New chairs for Zion Hall (possibly folding chairs) was discussed by Rusty. Rusty and Drew will explore possible donations and pricing for new ones.
- Butch likes our current yard maintenance man and would like to see the shrubbery trimmed.
- Rusty reported that David Brown is working on restoring portions of the playground equipment by replacing wood, painting and making the area safe for children.
- A later brief discussion was held by Rusty and Perri regarding a microphone system for the sanctuary. Perri expects to hear from her resource contact soon. We have received some system recommendations with pricing ranging from \$400-\$500.

Senior Warden's Report:

- Lisa reported that she attended the Small Church Retreat at Gravatt on Friday and Saturday, October 2-3. There were good discussions and it was suggested that we keep the video camera running after the service to capture congregation fellowship and interactions. Another suggestion regarding the camera was that it be focused on the communion rail for those

viewing at home or away. Anne will look at our current guidelines, update them and we will send them to our videographers of which we need more volunteers.

-Supply Clergy: Lisa reported she is not having a lot of luck filling in Sundays in November and December. She continues to work on this. Drew stated he has knowledge of someone who may be interested and he has invited the person to visit our church.

-Overall, she said we are doing well and the numbers on Sundays are good.

Old Business:

Homecoming:

-Rusty reported Drew and Treye are on board to help. Lisa has the order forms for meat and will send them to Louise for the bulletin. Paper supplies have been reviewed by Molly and AJ Floyd. Treye will be cooking chicken and the amount to order was discussed. Drew will be cooking chicken bog for Saturday night which begins at 6pm. Rusty will get with Travis for pricing of the meat to include a half-hog for "pig pickin."

-As Saturday night is also Halloween, it was decided to plan something for the kids. Perri will purchase and fill small bags and there may be a contest for the best costume.

-Julie will touch base with Debbie and Rita about decorating/cleaning Zion Hall.

Formation:

-Julie, along with Mary Ellen Barnwell, will head up youth formation beginning on November 8 at 9:30am.

Lisa asked for suggestions or topics about what the adults might like to study. Anne suggested looking at the Parables.

Ukuloonies Band Concert:

-Lisa has invited Church of the Cross to attend the concert.

-Hospitality Chair, Debbie Davis, is organizing the food.

New Business:

-Search Committee: The survey will be going out on October 12. Responses will be online through Holy Cow and the church will pay the fee.

-Finance Committee will meet on October 6 to set up the budget for 2027. Billy Cate, chair, will be at the next vestry meeting to present it.

-Annual Congregational Meeting: A motion was made by Betsy to hold the meeting on Sunday, December 6 with second made by Perri. The motion passed. Lisa will not be here for the meeting and will ask someone to lead it.

Other Business:

Julie reported that letters and pledge cards have been mailed. She asked vestry members to speak on Sundays about what the church means to them. Julie spoke on 10/4; Lisa will speak on 10/11; and volunteers are needed for 10/18 and 10/25. It is important that vestry members pledge as leaders of the church.

Anne & Van are out of town 10/12-10/19 and 11/5-11/24. Lisa is out of town 12/5-12/16.

The next vestry meeting will be Monday, November 9th at 6:30pm.

Lisa led us in Compline and the meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Barker, Secretary to the Vestry