St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting Minutes
August 5, 2026

Present: Fr. RJ; Kathy Wise, Sr. Warden; Tony Kovacevich, Jr. Warden; Linda Deuble, Joe Hoot, Ken Jaeb, Patrick Wilson
Not Present: Beth Bletzacker, Mandy Pelger, Patrick Watters
Guests: Charlie Kiesling, Treasurer; Geoff Gordon

The meeting was called to order at 5:58pm by Fr. RJ. Fr. RJ provided the devotion.

Linda **motioned** to accept the minutes of the June 3, 2026, meeting. Joe seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

There was no meeting in July, as the July Vestry meeting was cancelled by a motion at the June meeting.

Sound System

- Geoff provided a thorough description of the limitations and problems with our current sound system. Most components are over 30 years old and have become unreliable in the church and especially with online streaming.
- Many of our new members and visitors have found us online, and it is important that we have good quality sound for streaming.
- Geoff has gotten quotes from 3 different vendors for new equipment that will support our needs in-church, for assisted listening devices, and for streaming now and in the future.
- Kathy **motioned** to authorize up to $22,500 for a new sound system. The funding source will be determined by the Finance Committee. Ken seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Financial Report

- Charlie presented the Statement of Financial Position and the Budget vs. Actual Comparison.
- Charlie will be retiring from his position of Treasurer at the end of the year.
- Kathy **motioned** to appoint Kathy Sloan to the position of Treasurer effective January 1, 2027. Patrick Wilson seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Rector's Report

- Fr. RJ has been appointed by the Bishop to be the Dean of the Central East Mission Area, which is our mission area. This position focuses on fostering parish unity and collaboration within the mission area. Fr. RJ's title will change from Reverend to The Very Reverend.
- Lindsy Argenti is going to write articles for the Lion's Pause and social media about our various groups in order to raise awareness of all the things going on in our parish.

Wardens' Reports

- **Senior Warden**
  - The Diocese has initiated a project called "A Wider Vision" and requests photos from parishes to share images of encountering Christ, participating in God's mission, and serving the community. Photos will be shared on social media and in a photo display at Convention 2026.
- **Junior Warden**
  - There is a need for a handrail in the center aisle of the outdoor chapel. Tony priced materials at $235.
  - Joe **motioned** to authorize up to $300 to install a handrail in the middle aisle of the outdoor chapel with some breaks for pew access. Kathy seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

Liaison Reports

- A picnic will be held in the pavilion after the outdoor service on August 9.
- There has been discussion in the parish about the food serving tables being in the direct sun at the picnics. For the upcoming picnic, we will put the serving tables inside, and seating will still be outside in the pavilion.
- More greeters and ushers are needed.

Buildings and Grounds

- Joe is still trying to make contact with a tree trimmer.
- Weaver has hired a new cleaning crew that will start on August 15. We will contract with the same cleaning crew for our sections as we have in the past. Altar Guild was informed of the contract, and it was reviewed by Sara Strattan and Bobbi Gordon, who signed off on what cleaning services are expected in the sanctuary areas.
- Well-Done Carpet Cleaning was hired to clean the carpets in the family room and the undercroft.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09pm with a **motion** by Joe, seconded by Patrick Wilson, and approved unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 2, 2026, at 6:00pm.

Ken will provide the Reflection and Prayer for the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Violand
Clerk