

St. Mark's Episcopal Church  
Vestry Meeting Minutes  
February 4, 2026

**Present:** Fr. RJ; Kathy Wise, Jr. Warden; Beth Bletzacker, Joe Hoot, Patrick Watters, Patrick Wilson  
**Not Present:** Kent Clark, Sr. Warden; Ken Jaeb, Marcia Tirpak, Rick Werren

The meeting was called to order at 6:07pm by Fr. RJ. Fr. RJ provided the devotion.

Beth **motioned** to accept the minutes of the January 7, 2026, meeting. Patrick Wilson seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

#### **Rector's Report**

- The Intergenerational Service on February 1 was well attended by 78 parishioners. Many stayed for the Souper Sunday lunch following the service which also included freshly baked biscuits made as part of the Intergenerational Service.
- The average attendance for 2025 was only slightly less than 2024.
- Fr. RJ is reviewing resumes from the staffing service for the office administrator position.

#### **Wardens' Reports**

- **Senior Warden** – No report.
- **Junior Warden** – No report.

#### **Liaison Reports**

- None

#### **Buildings and Grounds**

- There is a salt shortage, and we are having trouble getting salt from our supplier. Someone generously brought in some salt for our sidewalk.
- We will have to wait until the ground thaws to relocate the two handicapped parking signs that are in the wrong places.

#### **Columbarium**

- The Lazarus Committee proposed raising the price of a Niche from \$1,200 to \$1,500 for a single internment, and from \$1,200 to \$2,000 for a double internment.
- The reason for the increase is the rising engraving costs and general columbarium maintenance costs.
- The committee recommends that the price change will go into effect six months after approval to allow parishioners time to take advantage of current pricing.
- Joe **motioned** that the Vestry accept the Proposal from the Lazarus Committee as presented. Patrick Watters seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

#### **Annual Meeting**

- The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 15 following a single service at 9:00am.
- There will be a brief Vestry meeting after the Annual Meeting to elect officers and approve the Parochial Report.
- The Vestry Class of 2026 nominees are Linda Deuble, Mandy Pelger, and Tony Kovacevich.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:44pm with a **motion** by Beth, seconded by Kathy, and approved unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 4, 2026, at 6:00pm.

Kathy will provide the Reflection and Prayer for the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Violand  
Clerk