

St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church  
Vestry Meeting Minutes  
July 18, 2023

**PARTICIPANTS:**

**Rector**

Father Christopher Thomas

**Clergy, Staff/Guest**

Deacon Jennifer Smith

**Vestry Members**

John Van Buskirk, Senior Warden

Ruth Woodward, Junior Warden

Alyssa Abadinsky

Janet Elsea

Dan Hall

Randy Hering

Jerry Knight

Lisa Pearson

Stephen Toon

**Officers**

Joe DeuPree, Treasurer

Richard Elsea, Clerk

**SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN AND SIGNIFICANT EVENTS:**

1. June Vestry Minutes were approved.
2. Vestry approved two (2) additional resolutions: 1) to invest the Fidelity account balance in short term US Govt bonds; and 2) that the year-end financial report show actual results (whether gain or loss) for the year, commencing with 2022.
3. Kathy Carson is coordinating the group providing the post-10:30 service coffee and snacks.

**NARRATIVE:**

**1. Call to Order**

**Rector**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Fr. Christopher Thomas with a prayer.

## 2. Resource Person

Knight

Resource Person for the meeting is Jerry Knight.

## 3. Reflection/Formation

Deacon Jennifer

Deacon Jennifer Smith opened the meeting with the poem entitled *Logos* by Mary Oliver and then facilitated the group contemplation and discussion.

## 4. Prior Meeting Minutes Approval

Toon

Upon **motion by Lisa Pearson**, and **seconded by Stephen Toon**, the Vestry **unanimously approved the June 20 meeting minutes**.

## 5. Budget & Finance Committee, and Approvals

Treasurer

Committee Chair Joe DeuPree presented the reports, and they were discussed. Attached reports include the Budget and Finance Committee Report, the Episcopal Foundation account statement for June, 2023, the Endowment Fund 20 Quarter (last 20 quarters) Results, the Balance Sheet as of 06/30/23, and the Current Month vs. YTD Budget as of 06/30/23.

Upon **motion by Randy Hering**, and **seconded by Janet Elsea**, the Vestry **unanimously approved “that the parish invest the balance in the Fidelity account in Fidelity Short Term U.S. Government bonds (symbol FUMBX).”**

Upon **motion by John Van Buskirk**, and **seconded by Jerry Knight**, the Vestry **unanimously approved “that the year-end financial report indicate the actual results for the year, whether it be positive or negative, commencing with 2022.**

## 6. Buildings & Grounds Committee

Junior Warden

Ruth Woodward presented the report, and led a brief discussion of the items mentioned.

## 7. Mission & Ministry Committee

Toon

Committee Chair Stephen Toon submitted the report in the form of the detailed Mission & Ministry Meeting. July 11, 2023, Minutes, and a reminder flyer for the Back to School supplies collection. Stephen also proposed small groups taking visitors to after-service lunch/brunch at local restaurants.

## 8. Guild Liaison Reports

- a. Acolytes/Eucharistic Ministers – Stephen Toon (No Report)
- b. Eucharistic Visitors – Lisa Pearson (No Report)

- c. Altar Guild – Jerry Knight (Brief Report)
- d. Greeters/Ushers – Alyssa Abadinsky (No Report)
- e. Kitchen/Social – Randy Hering (No Report)
- f. Lectors (Readers) – Ruth Woodward (No Report)

**9. Rector's Report**

**Rector**

Fr. Christopher presented his report, including leading the discussion of Chapter 3 of Molly Wills Carnes' book, *Invite Welcome Connect*; reminding that new Music Director and Organist Dr. Joe Henry starts on August 6; advising that Kathy Carson is coordinating the after-service coffee and snacks; and providing dates for our Fall Kickoff and Pot Luck (September 10), Pet Blessing (October 8 at 3:00 pm), Stewardship Ingathering (October 22), Annual Meeting: Elections (October 29), Basics of Faith class (Wednesday, September 13), and Thanksgiving Parish Feast (November 19).

**10. Dismissal/Closing Prayer**

**Rector**

The meeting was closed with prayer at 8:35 p.m. by Fr. Christopher.

Next Vestry Meeting is August 15, 2023, and the Resource Person will be Lisa Pearson.

**Richard Elsea, Clerk**