

MONTHLY VESTRY MEETING
ST MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
6:00 p.m. TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2025

NEXT MEETING: 6:00 p.m., MONDAY OCTOBER 20, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

- Fr. Edwin called the meeting to order at 6:05 and David led us in prayer.
- Present: Fr. Edwin, Lynda Moran, David Cannon, Korto Scott, Helen DiMartino, Kate Arso, Tim Gilbert, Linda Howe, James Barrios, Jasper Weirshousky (youth rep)
- Absent: Paul Severino, Laurel Questel

CORRESPONDENCE

- Thank you from Marie Conboy
- Thank you and donation from Joan and Rod Chase in memory of their parents
- Bequest from Wilma Skidmore (via Gary Skidmore)
- July donation from Kathy Ercolino

A motion to approve August minutes was made by David. Seconded by Lynda. All were in favor.

INFORMATION

- Calendar

FORMATION

- Fr. Edwin again post-poned facilities walkabout due to discussion needed on other items

DISCUSSION

- Use of the Sacred Spaces fund the children of Liz and Fred Atwood established in their parents honor. Possibly a prayer garden, etc.
- Saturday evening Eucharist schedule change concerns
- Fall pledge campaign plans and testimonials-Oct 26, Nov 9,16,23
- Next Vestry class nominations process
- Roe Ct house - pest problem
- Thrift Shop - need more volunteers
- Space usage requests - need a form
- Helping to feed the hungry by possibly getting even more involved with organizations that do
- Getting children involved in Sunday worship.
- Have children work on a banner for Camp DeWolfe.
- Craft Fair and Men's Barbecue were successful

MINISTRY REPORTS (Original E-Mailed Reports):

Acolyte Ministry (David C.)

- Nothing new to report

Buildings and Grounds (David C.)

- I am awaiting the Insurance Certificate and arranging a schedule with the Contractor to perform
- repairs to the fascia above the doors leading from Fenton Hall to the Cloister Walk.
- I contacted the Diocesan Real Estate Department's Construction Manager to get a list of
 - Masonry Contractors to look at areas that need to be addressed at Roe Court.
 - In response to concerns involving the entrance/exit driveway from the Parish parking lot to Roe
 - Court, the Town of Islip has installed no "No Parking" signage along and near the Parish property
 - line on Roe Court which should prevent further incursion and blocking of the driveway and allow
 - vehicles safe and unimpeded passage.
 - A cabinet containing a new Automated External Defibrillator ("AED") for the 2 nd floor kitchen in
 - Fenton Hall has been installed and is ready for use if ever needed.
 - A Lifevac device (a device used to assist choking victims) with accessories has been placed next
 - to the new AED Cabinet in the second floor kitchen of Fenton Hall.
 - Upcoming "on my radar" Projects include:
 - Further investigation and obtaining quotes for investigative deconstruction of walls in
 - Fenton Hall to determine what's causing the foul order and coming up with solution.
 - Obtaining quotes for masonry and gutter repair at the Roe Court property.
 - Further investigation of leak and replacement of wood by the back porch of the Rectory.
 - Continued investigation of the leak in the back area of the Thrift Shop by the Bilco doors.

Lector Ministry (David C.)

- A new schedule was issued September 11th covering October 5th through December 29th .

Warden (Lynda M.)

- Rectory Kitchen project complete

- Roe Ct issue of resident parking in front of the exit gate. Call Town Councilman after Vickie worked through the town network. Mike McElwee, our town councilman for the area, took care of getting signage and proper channels. Signs have been put up.
- Since I was in flux for most of June and July, had not been in touch much. In August filled in as possible in the thrift shop and in Dave's absence.
- Met with the Rector and Dave last week to discuss items of immediate noteworthy attention, as well as long standing items needing attention.

ECW Report (Laurel Q.)

- Per Robyn L. "The ECW has had another successful craft fair/ yard sale. We made \$2,600.00 total. Our next meeting will be on Oct. 8th. Gold guy will buy your unwanted items for \$, plus we will be playing Irc, bring your quarters. ALL Welcome to join us. Nominations are open for the future president of the ECW. I plan on retiring from this position on December 31st, 2025. I have been informing people for a few months now. The ECW gave \$300.00 to God's Provisions to help them stay afloat and \$200.00 to LoCricchio Strong for Katie LoCricchio's MS Fundraiser."

Girl Scouts (Laurel Q.)

- The girls scouts will be returning in October as Juniors, and this year our focus will be on the outdoors and community service. Their fall fundraiser will be Nuts and Magazines, Victoria Hulsen one of the scout leaders will be attending a council service unit event in September—so she will have more details to share with me after.

Men's AA/Women's AA (Laurel Q.): Nothing to report but meetings continue at Fenton Hall.

Thrift Shop (Laurel Q)

- "What an amazing summer we had. The store was filled with children finding books to read, and of course, not to mention the fun they had in the toy department while their parents shopped. 🙄 Our store looked so vibrant with colors of summer.. displaying bathing suits, shorts, tank tops, and sundresses. Now, moving forward, we will be changing the store over to fall and have already started with autumn items.. Holidays mean extra items needed to display and stock the store. The volume of shoppers increases as they need our items as retail prices are out of reach. Thank God we have the ability to help them. Of course, extra hands are always needed when the store is open as well as Monday and Thursday nights. Thank you to all the volunteers who dedicate Tireless hours to keep our store stocked and work the registers...and the outside. God will provide."

Outreach (Kate A.)

- Outreach has donated \$300 to God's Provisions to help with ongoing costs and \$200 to MS fundraiser.

Ushers (Kate A.)

- Bonnie had nothing new to report.

Christian Formation (Helen D.)

- We are currently discussing ways to better serve the youth and families in our parish.

Green Team (Helen D.)

- Barbara reports feeling frustrated, as not much is being done to address the elimination of plastic water bottles.

Invite/Welcome/Connect (Linda H.)

Altar Guild (Linda H.)

- Nothing new to report.

Brotherhood Report (Paul S.)

- The Brotherhood BBQ went well. We had about 18 attendees. I'm pretty sure there is leftover beer in the upstairs fridge if anyone is thirsty. Next up is to begin planning for end-of year activities (i.e. Thanksgiving Dinner(?), Christmas Bazaar, Super Bowl pool etc.)

Eucharistic Visitors (James B.)

- With Lucille Duffy now at home 24/7 (having just turned 96!), Jacqui Boucher and the Rev. Deacon Susan Ellinghaus (a close neighbor of Lucille's) are taking turns with weekly visitations to her. Still working to bring June Christian on board the team. Fr. Edwin continues to make Euch. regular visits to the Kazandjians.

Boy/Cub Scouts (James B.): Ty has no news to report but would like to thank St. Marks for their continued support.

Technology (James B.)

- Per Mike Bartolomeo:
- General Updates
 - Hosted Phishing and Scam Prevention workshop on September 3.
 - Parish laptop updated.
 - Created email login for parish laptop and history project:
history@stmarksislip.org
- Livestream
 - No issues reported.
 - Cameras are likely due for an update or refresh. One does not turn on occasionally.
 - Livestream computer updated.
- Website
 - Updated service schedule to include Saturday 5pm Mass.
 - Continuing to research new themes for a website overhaul.
 - As always, there is a need for content and copy for the website.

- Approximately 518 visitors to the website over the past 30 days. Majority of visits were for thrift shop information.

Music Ministry (Korto S.)

- Per [Mark Engelhardt](#):
 - 1. We had a great first Sunday back in the new season. Rehearsals are underway and the invitation is out for anyone interested in singing this year to speak with Mark. Rehearsals continue Wednesdays from 7:30-9pm, and on Sundays from 8:30am until 9am.
 - 2. Although we have lost a few members (Henry has moved to Connecticut and Lee and Jeff Flemming have moved to Pennsylvania), we are thrilled that Enid Allen has worked out her transportation so that she can return to singing this season!
 - 3. I remained vigilant for a good deal for a set of handbells and researched a couple of advertised sets, but they had already been purchased by others.
 - 4. There are some issues with the organ that need fixing, and I will have estimates for repairs by next month's meeting.

Adult Formation & Order of St. Luke & Ultreya (Fr. Edwin):

- Adult formation: Will have an Inquirer's/Conf. course in advance of Nov. 2 bishop's visit. Will try a "Holy Hikers" walking group. What else is of interest to folks this fall?
- Order of St. Luke & Ultreya: regular meetings pick back up this month.

Rector's report (Fr. Edwin)

- Great banquet event honoring Bp. Rose Hudson-Wilkin of the Church of England, put on by ECW of Suffolk Co.
- Committal in columbarium for Kay Erwood
- 10-day pilgrimage to Greece/Turkey became - after missed connections - 12 days away!
- Blessing of the school supplies + "Blessing of the Backpacks" for our students/educators
- Used a few days of vacation to visit family/deal with my parents' affairs in S.C.
- "Season of Creation" / Creationtide prep & implementation work; and working w/ Irene R. to arrange guest presenters
- Ongoing consults on new logo
- Good many hours advising/supporting our **new network & WiFi installation and configuration**; throughout Aug. and into Sept. Network now fully functional in office wing + downstairs/thrift + Parish House. Still to come: video conferencing system for Vestry (conference) Room + extending network (cabling & wifi access points) to both church & rectory.
- One baptism consult
- Men's BBQ - a great success with ~20 ppl. present & great fellowship
- Mtg. with Helen D. and Enid A. re: children's formation (set for 16th).

- *Ongoing*: Monthly *Thriving In Ministry* cohort mtgs.; Seminary of the Southwest Alumni Steering Committee mtgs.; TEC-IEAB Bi-Lateral Committee (American & Brazilian Episcopal Churches) business

TREASURER

- As of this morning (9/15/2025), our general account balance is a little over \$40K and the building fund balance is about \$38K. I'm cautiously optimistic that we'll be able to make it to the end of the year without having to dip into our endowment fund again to cover expenses.
- Speaking of our endowment account.....August was another good month. Our balance as of 8/31/2025 was \$2.066M.
- August wasn't a great month for pledge/plate income (took in \$10.5K against a \$16k budget for the month), but we are still within \$5K of our overall YTD budget. The Thrift Shop took in \$19.5K for the month and is now within \$1,000 of the YTD budget
- On the expense side.....we're up to date with our diocesan pledge and made our \$21K insurance payment for the current quarter so have just one more of those payments to make before the end of the year.

WARDENS

RECTOR

WRAP-UP

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:20pm. Lynda led us in prayer.