

Vestry Minutes
The Church of St. Michael and St. George
6345 Wydown Blvd., Clayton MO 63105

Thursday 10/23/25

Vestry Members in Attendance: Joe Sheehan, Bill Jenkins, Rachel Martens, Matt Aplington, Frankie Eichenberger, Gale Patterson, Lindsey Stokes, Stephen Eisele, Dianne Duncan, Rachel Hebisen, David Ott

Clergy: The Rev. Andrew Archie, The Rev. Peter Speropulos, The Rev. Stewart Clem

Staff & Guests: Alexis Posnanski, Laurie Brown

PROCEEDINGS

Fr. Archie led the group in a feast day collect and bereavement prayer.

All assembled gave thanks for the blessings in their personal lives.

Awe & Presence Conference Report (Stewart Clem)

- This is a conference that will be held at CSMSG November 6-8. The conference is being co-sponsored by The Living Church (TLC), an Episcopal magazine.
- The conference will feature five speakers, including one from the United Kingdom, on a variety of topics relevant to parishioners, clergy, and others in the community.
- We are paying a flat fee to TLC for organizing and promoting the conference, as well as honoraria for the speakers. However, CSMSG will keep the proceeds of all ticket sales.
- Dr. Clem made a request for the cost of the conference to be covered by the Sant Fund to the extent ticket sales revenue fall short of conference costs.
- The Vestry held a robust discussion regarding the propriety of using the Sant Fund for this purpose, and concluded that this use is wholly consistent with the purpose and objectives of the Sant Fund.

RESOLVED: That \$20,000 be appropriated from the Sant Fund for the purpose of funding the expenses of hosting the Awe & Presence Conference, with ticket sales revenue collected to be contributed back to the Sant Fund after all conference expenses have been covered.

- Joe Sheehan moved (and Gale Patterson seconded) adoption of the resolution. The motion carried unanimously.

Stewardship Report (Alexis Posnanski)

- This Sunday October 26 is Stewardship Sunday.
- Several pledges have already been received, in amounts increased from last year.
- The organ capital campaign currently stands at \$2.6M. Additional pledges are anticipated to come in between now and the end of the year.
- The remaining three organ installment payments will be smaller, and made over the course of the next 18 months.
- The Children's Ministry is holding a bake sale as the children's contribution to the organ fund.

Parish Life Report (Laurie Brown)

- Laurie Brown reviewed the calendar of upcoming parish events.
- Events include Parent's Night Out, the Fall Festival, poinsettia sales, Bach Society rehearsals, the Awe & Presence Conference, evensong receptions, steak & stories, an Our Community Listens class, Shelter Ministry (Gateway 180), Racial Reconciliation, and the CSL Silent Auction.
- The robust calendar and continued good attendance at events and liturgy indicates that the church is thriving and healthy.
- St. Michael's Sunday was well attended at 350 people, and included the first performance of the choristers.
- Advent activities will begin the last Sunday of November.

Treasurer's Report (David Ott)

- The Vestry reviewed the monthly income statement.
- CSMSG received property insurance proceeds from the church's tornado claim. This revenue was accounted for in the clergy expense line (resulting in a negative expense for the month) because it is primarily intended to repair damage at the Wydown houses and rectory.
- Net income is positive for the year due to these insurance proceeds, but would be within \$125,000 of budget even without that revenue.
- The Treasurer's report was discussed and accepted by unanimous vote.

Junior Warden's Report (Frankie Eichenberger)

- We are working on making repairs and replacements based upon the ongoing organ work (e.g. carpets).
- Window repairs (including new leaded glass) are nearing completion and look fantastic.
- There are still some small areas of roof leaks during heavy rain, which are actively being reviewed for repair and mitigation.

Senior Warden's Report (Joe Sheehan)

- Joe reflected on the excellent state of the church compared to his entire 42-year tenure of membership at CSMSG. Throughout that time, CSMSG has remained committed to being the best Episcopal church we can be, through both good and challenging times.
- He encouraged members to remain faithful, sincere, and to support each other to follow Christ. Faith has allowed us to make bold decisions for the improvement of the church.

Rector's Report (Rev. Archie)

- In reaction to the comments of the Senior Warden, Fr. Archie encouraged members to think of CSMSG as an outpost of the Kingdom of God.

Approval of August Vestry Minutes

- The minutes were reviewed, moved, approved and accepted unanimously.

New Business

- Rachel Martens discussed some parishioner feedback received during the strategic planning focus groups. The availability of U4 child care on Sundays has been a draw for many young families. The Vestry discussed that all caregivers in the program have passed background checks and have received other appropriate training. Rachel proposed some ideas that could further increase confidence in the program. Clergy will consider this feedback, which will also be incorporated into the overall strategic planning process being led by Steven Eisele.

The Vestry adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Reviewed and respectfully submitted,

Matt Aplington, Clerk of the Vestry