

Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church
Vestry Meeting
August 17, 2025, 12:30PM
Church Pavilion

Present: Rector's Warden: Patrick Reilly; Vestry Warden: Barbara Koenig; Vestry Members: Diane Taylor, Michiel Bourdrez, Daniel Ferguson, Bruce Roach, Chris Alvarez, Riley Huston, Katie Rooney, Jennifer Hanson; Clergy: Mike Angell, Simone Drinkwater; Officers: Evelyn Hanneman, Treasurer; Judy Fifield, Clerk

Not Present: Vestry Members: Sue Redfern-Campbell, Jack Knight, Sherry Kircher

The Vestry gathered for lunch and fellowship at 12:30PM.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:50PM. A quorum was present.

Opening Prayer & Vestry Covenant

Simone said the opening prayer. Daniel read the Vestry Covenant.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Minutes of the July 20th meeting

A clarification was made to the minutes. Diane made a motion to approve the minutes with the noted clarification. The motion was seconded by Daniel and passed by voice vote with one abstention by Jennifer who was not present at the July meeting.

Reports

Finances

The July Finance Report and written explanation were sent out with the read-ahead materials. Evelyn reviewed the report and written explanation. Of particular importance is the \$106,187.00 deficit to date, against a budgeted \$83,491.00 deficit for the year. Part of the reason for this is we are now fully staffed and moving expenses have been reimbursed, the Memorandum of Understanding with the Diocese is not yet paid, and income is down \$10,000.00. There is no cash shortage and there is an expectation that expenses will even out for the rest of the year.

Several questions were asked about the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society (DFMS) investment for the endowment funds. Mike and Evelyn responded that the DFMS report is now current, and the investment has performed well.

Rector's Report

Mike's written report was sent in the read-ahead materials. He reviewed the following items:

- AAEDS Updates: The AAEDS 2025-2026 budget will not be presented today as planned. This week the proposed 18-month budget was shared with both the Finance Committee and the school Advisory Committee, who offered feedback on the format of the budget. The budget should be presented at the September meeting for Vestry review and approval. It is projected that the school will have a significant deficit.

Mike provided an update on the current enrollment status in the Explore class (PreK, ages 4-5). One of the school's assistant teachers came out as trans. A carefully planned

announcement was sent to the school community, followed by supportive notes from Mike and Monica that were sent out the week before school started. In response, five children were withdrawn from the class. Mike met with the staff member and Monica. They are doing okay. This is new territory for the school. In an effort to prepare for future conversations, Monica will be meeting with Adrian Lawyer from the Transgender Resource Center, along with an early childhood specialist Adrian recommended.

The school Advisory Committee met last week. Several issues were discussed.

- With some concern about under-enrollment, there was agreement to advertise for the open spots in the Explore classroom. Several suggestions were made.
- The term "School Board" may be confusing/misleading because it suggests the group has authority it does not possess. The term "Advisory Committee" may not accurately describe the group as they do more than advise (i.e. engage in a collaborative process to discuss issues, make decisions based on available information, and collectively support school operations and mission). Mike would like the group to identify a new title, identify how they will be structured (i.e. membership) and develop operating procedures.

The Vestry is "super grateful" to Monica for the work she has done since joining us two years ago. She has stabilized the school with increased enrollment, hired teachers committed to the care and education of young children, implemented a new curriculum, and continues to provide a welcoming and safe space.

- Mike spoke about recent safety and security concerns on campus related to the unhoused community as well as the lack of response from the Albuquerque Police Department and the Albuquerque Community Services outreach team. The current security plan from a few years ago was reviewed. The current contract for security services may also be revisited. A decision was made to convene a sub-committee to work on campus security. Discussing and acknowledging our responsibility to our unhoused neighbors as we move forward with the Campus Master Plan process is needed.

Ministry Report

Contemplative Ministry

Contemplative prayer and practice have been a long-standing commitment of St. Michaels. Using the Report for Vestry from Ministry Leaders form, Diane shared the written response from the Contemplative Ministry. By offering the weekly Contemplative Prayer Service, the ministry leadership team is committed to the church value of spiritual grounding. This weekly service consistently has 15 people in attendance. The Contemplative Ministry also offers several retreats throughout the year. Future plans to enhance and increase awareness of this ministry were outlined in the written response as well as long range goals. Members of the Contemplative Ministry Team are Bonnie Rich, Steve Rugala, Barbara Fries, Sue Hoadley, Patty Westerfield, and Diane Taylor.

The Property Committee Ministry Report is scheduled for the September meeting.

Discussion pertaining to the ministry reports followed.

- Any ministry is welcome to provide a report to the Vesty whenever there is a need to inform the Vestry of something significant.

- Receiving a report from each ministry on a quarterly basis would be ideal.
- Having an assigned member of the Vestry available between Sunday services for conversation, to gather stories and hear of needs may also provide additional information related to our values of welcome, action, and spiritual grounding.

Upcoming dates

September 5th – 7th – Parish Retreat, Holy Cross Retreat Center, Mesilla Park, NM

September 21st – Next Vestry Meeting

September 26th -28th – St. Michael's 75th Anniversary, Michaelmas, and Ministry Fair

October 6th – Blessing of the Pets

Adjourn and Closing Prayer

With no additional business items to discuss, a motion was made by Chris to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was seconded by Bruce and passed unanimously by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 2:10PM with Mike saying the closing prayer.

Respectfully Submitted

Judy Fifield, Clerk