



The Episcopal Church of St. John the Baptist  
2018 Annual Meeting Agenda and Reports

November 4, 2018

## ***Agenda for the Annual Meeting:***

### **1. Opening Prayer:**

Gracious God be present with those who take counsel for this parish family. Inspire us to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us courage to pursue and accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **2. A Prayer for the Departed of the Congregation since our last Annual Meeting:**

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you this day our sisters and brothers who have died in the last year:

Barb Barrington (12/8/17)  
Judy Haering (3/9/2018)  
John Palmer (3/12/2018)  
Bob Reid (3/30/2018)  
Jim Hannes (8/3/2018)  
Matthew Meurette (8/9/2018)  
Burleigh Meurette (10/6/2018)

We thank you for giving them to us, their family and friends, to know and to love as a companion on our earthly pilgrimage. In your boundless compassion, console those who mourn. Give us faith to see in death the gate of eternal life, so that in quiet confidence we may continue our course on earth, until, by your call, we are reunited with those who have gone before; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

### **3. Because of the transition, the Bishop requests there be no change to the vestry for the coming year.**

*Needed to be elected:*

- Three delegates to Annual Convention for 2019
  - Nominated: Lisa Alexander, Ron Alexander, Dixie Terrell Wilhite

#### 4. **Awarding of St John’s Cross for 2018**

**Those members who have received the St. John’s Cross in the Past:**

Elizabeth Smith	Charlotte Webb	Julie Burgess
Ray Carlson	David Gajda	Dale Burgess
Ruth Carlson	Jane Gajda	Vickie Richmond Hawkins
Shelley Miller	Ruth Schuette	Pat Evenson
Larry Raymond	Doug Aziz	Ginny Fowle
Jeff Buchholz	Claire Aziz	Lily Burgess
Josephine Stone	Don Prehn	Carrie Fowle
Duane Vetter	Ron Alexander	Chandra Witter
Sara Vetter	Lisa Alexander	Father David Klutterman
Bob Reid	Dottie Rathjen	
Elie Reid	Cyndi Strampe	
Patti Prehn	Russell Jacobus	
Jim LaPointe		
Mel Neuman		

#### 5. **Reports**

##### **a. Senior Warden**

When I accepted Father David’s invitation to run as your senior warden last year, I knew that he would be retiring in February. Our hope at that time was that we would have an interim priest in place after a couple of months. The interim would take on the tasks of parish administration. That did not happen. But what did happen is that the members of St. John’s stepped up to help me keep this parish a vibrant home for those of us on our Christian journey in the Episcopal tradition.

This is not my report, but our report of a church in transition that is still seeking where the Spirit is leading us. So far, the Spirit is still leading us: to care for each other whether at church or home-bound; to worship together each Sunday; to see that Christian formation still occurs for children and adults; to reach out to our neighbors by hosting a monthly free meal, availing our meeting and office space to outside groups, opening our doors to other groups for concerts and rehearsals; to being part of the greater Wausau community as Episcopal representatives on important social issues; and to serving on the diocesan level.

We have demonstrated to each other, that the church is truly the people. This does not mean that we do not have things to work on. After all, we are mortals. We cannot do any of the above-mentioned tasks or things we hope to accomplish (*dispelling every thought of discontent, anxiety, discouragement ... and self-seeking; cultivating cheerfulness, magnanimity, charity ...; exercising ... generosity in giving ...*) on our own strength. So we continue to look to God our Father and Jesus our Savior to send us the gift of the Holy Spirit.

I continue to look to your support – time, talent and treasure - to support the mission of St. John’s so that we will be able to attract a rector who will want to join us on this journey of faith. The search for a new rector and replacing the roof will be our two big communal tasks this coming year. Shortly I will be forming a “replace the endowment funds for the roof” task group.

– Vickie Richmond Hawkins

## **b. Junior Warden**

We have been busy over the last year with a number of projects. My many thanks to all parishioners who have played such an important role in the upkeep of the church property. Listed below is a comprehensive list of what we have accomplished.

### **Completed:**

-Organ restoration completion (final tuning to take place after heating season in spring) 6.19.18 UPDATE: Final tuning and payment have been made. Sticking keys problem solved. 6.12.18 Warranty in place until 12.31.2018. Robert Hoppe and Associates LLC.

-Building security (new locks installed on front and back doors. Re-keying of other five doors) Lock assembly on 6-week back order. 6.19.18 UPDATE: Project is completed.

-Sign-in/out sheet for facility usage

-Snow removal contractor...NOTE: We will contract for the 2018-19 season.

-New computer purchased for treasurer

-Roof issues with snow and ice build-up at courtyard and chapel entrances

6.19.18 UPDATE: Contacted Krause Konstruktion in Coon Valley, WI

608.452.2626. Will be resolved 10.30.18

-Carpet repair/replacement on steps at main entrance (have one contractor)

6.19.18 UPDATE: Three calls and messages have been left for Michalski Concrete, Mosinee (Tom Gallant has renovated the surfaces and railings)

- Smoke and fire detection inspection by PerMar (report from Dixie, Tom, Steve on 5.16.18)
- Facility usage contract holders...who are they?
- Microphone and cord replacement for pulpit (ordered and will be in place on Palm Sunday)
- Memorial Hall carpet cleaning...scheduled for March 13, 2018 9:00 a.m.
- Parking spaces and conversation with David/Ellison Law Office
- Meeting with Downtown Grocery
- Plan for chairs that were left in courtyard over the winter (moved inside for conference/July 2018)
- Internet speed...router and modem. New equipment secured and installed in October 2018
- Repair or replace door and/or door frame on outdoor storage area
- Purchase new mixer for sound system. Installation approximately 4.23.18 by Forward Electronics, Wausau
- Consult with Marathon County Health Department (Michelle) about bat problem. (4.18.17)
- Secure parishioners or lawn service for summer outdoor maintenance 2018 (Old Goatz is on call)
- Meeting with PerMar Security reps. Building security. Estimates presented 6.19.18
- Installation of panic buttons for employees and smoke detector near organ key board. We will move door sensors in chapel to interior doors in the future.
- Re-roofing of all surfaces to include new copper and replacement of all gutters and downspouts. Approved by the Vestry by unanimous vote on October 3, 2018. Krause Konstruction awarded contract to proceed weather permitting on March 15, 2019
- New copier contract begins with new machine on October 25, 2018 (E.O. Johnson Company)
- GFI electrical outlets will be installed in the kitchen in order to meet safety needs.
- Decaying vines removed from exterior of church. Will Fowle graciously took care of this monumental task.

## **To Be Completed:**

- +Chapel opening, closing, security (Chapel is closed until further notice as of 4.1.18)
- +Kitchen up-keep and sanitation for health and safety of parishioners
- +Bat and rodent abatement...(this continues to be a major concern. More bat activity this spring than in the past.) Prompt Action was here on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Company here for bats and squirrels on SE corner of roof in August 2018 (NOTE: As of the fall check-up, no trace of mice or bats.)
- +Elevator maintenance contract
- +Northside roof drainage onto parking lot
- +Meetings with Kim (ongoing)
- +Create building use policy for completion by 1.1.2019 (ongoing)
  - +City of Wausau sidewalk replacement (Summer 2018) no charge to St. John's (October 12, repair done with blacktop mix.) This is an unsatisfactory response by the city. More TBA.
- +Check AED in Memorial Hall for current battery status...3/21/18/Checked in August, Sept., October.
- +Ongoing conversations with pest removal personnel...Prompt Action Pest Control (hole repaired on SE corner of church roof...8.2018) Fall check-up completed October 2018
- +Remove/replace/repair top of stone retaining wall near columbarium.
- +Weather stripping for exterior doors
- +Need to have PerMar install cold sensor in sacristy (ongoing discussions and phone calls as of 10.15.18)

As can be noted, we have been fortunate to have the opportunity to keep our physical plant in the best condition possible based on current finances. Again, thank you to everyone for supporting our work!

Respectfully submitted,  
Steve Miller, Junior Warden

### c. Financial Report

Accounts	2017 (through 9/30)	2018 (through 9-30)
Checking Account	\$ 15,144.15	\$ 54,546.41
Discretionary Fund	\$ 945.57	\$ 446.10
Special Events	\$ 1,130.64	\$ -
Youth Fund	\$ 4,395.60	\$ 3,788.04
Scholarship Fund	\$ 2,652.57	\$ 935.47
Memorial Fund	\$ 12,966.36	\$ 12,877.91
Endowment Fund	\$ 1,246,951.35	\$ 1,300,380.38

Pledged Income	2017 (through 9/30)	% of Budget for Year	2018 (through 9-30)	% of Budget for Year
Pledge Income	\$123,807.23	75.80%	\$ 113,567.30	* 70.00%
Non Pledged Income	\$17,992.42	72.00%	\$ 12,932.00	51.70%
Total Income	\$141,799.65	75.30%	\$ 126,499.30	68.00%

\*\$27,500 Pre-paid pledge in 2017

Category	2017 (through 9/30)	% of annual budget	2018 (through 9/30)	% of annual budget
Administration	\$ 4,004.13	74.20%	\$ 3,570.38	70.70%
Facility Operations	\$ 23,384.63	79%	\$ 27,205.95	84%
Personnel: Salary & Benefits	\$ 106,787.02	79.60%	\$ 56,936.91	45.90%
Programs	\$ 17,685.97	71.20%	\$ 16,774.46	67.40%
Search Committee			\$ 665.40	
Total Expenses	\$ 151,861.75		\$ 105,153.10	
Income VS Expenses	(\$10,051.11)		(\$6,153.52)	

### d. Pledges as of October 30

- Returning: \$45,304
- Returning #: 15

### e. Endowment Fund Report: Organ Restoration

\$1,082,854 was transferred to management by Wood Trust on 3/31/2016. The ending balance on 9/30/2018 was \$1,300,380, despite having withdrawn \$39,696 for the organ refurbishment and Wood Trust's taking its management fees from the Fund.

The newly formed Investment Committee of Dixie Terrell Wilhite, Doug Ramsey, Jim Hawkins, and Jim LaPointe met with Wood Trust this September and instructed Wood Trust to increase the Fund's cash position to 10% to protect some of the Fund's gains in preparation for a substantial withdrawal next spring to fund the new roof. This was a very fortuitous move in light of the markets' volatility in October.

The current investment distribution is 10% cash, 35% bonds, and 55% stocks.

Respectively submitted, Dixie Terrell Wilhite.

#### **f. Altar Guild**

Is sitting on the lake dock on a sunny October morning compatible with writing the annual report of the Altar Guild? I think I can make it work!

1. God's creation for us to enjoy and care for / altar work for us to respect and care for
2. Solitude of the lake this time of the year (except one loon call) / quiet time doing altar work
3. Work to prepare the boats and dock for winter / work necessary to care for Eucharistic vessels and linens.

The Guild members work on a monthly schedule, as a team or individually. If you are interested, contact me or anyone working at the time. Maybe dock time next summer? ~Ruth Schuette

#### **g. Building Usage**

We have several different groups using our building on a regular basis. These groups include The Boy Scouts, a SMART Recovery and Addiction Group, three community choirs and two NAOMI groups. We have also had parish members request the use of Memorial Hall for family get-togethers/parties or musical recitals.



## **h. Courtyard and Gardens**

Annuals were again planted in boxes and pots. Additional mulch was added to the gardens. The bench donated by Fr. David was placed in a corner of the courtyard. Doug Aziz attached a cable and anchor. We did have some vandalism to the bench which was fixed by Tom Gallant. No further incidents. Again, several faithful volunteers gave of their time and talents to water and weed. Umbrellas, donated by Tom and Suzanne Gallant, were a wonderful addition, making the courtyard even more inviting to many folks who come and relax. Bottles of water and dog biscuits continue to be a wonderful addition. Donations of both water and dog biscuits are always needed as well as monetary donations toward the courtyard flowers.

Brat fries were also held in the courtyard on Tuesdays during August. All monies from the sales were donated to the Discretionary fund.

~Claire Aziz

## **i. Cursillo**

Our Cursillo Community has grown by two members as Pamela Glennon and Suzanne Gallant were candidates for Monarch #74 held this Spring at Spencer Lake Christian Center near Waupaca. We welcome them as Cusillistas! Claire Aziz and I served on team. The next Cursillo will to be held 5/2/19-5/5/19. Please contact any of us in the Cursillo community if you would like more information

## **j. ECW Report**

St. John the Baptist's Episcopal Church Women (ECW) includes all women of our church and Episcopal churches everywhere. The purpose of ECW is to provide fellowship, work, prayer, and service throughout the year.

February 11, 2018 - Father David Klutterman's Retirement Celebration:

- Special gift presented to Marilyn Klutterman during the Sunday morning service
- Coffee hour reception
- Celebration of Retirement at the Jefferson Street Inn February 11, 2018 (4:00 – 7:00)
- 165 attended the reception

- Several speakers including Bishop Matthew Gunter
- Father David was presented the St. John's Cross
- A purse of \$1,000.00 was presented to Father David from the ECW

Highlights of the May 23, 2018 meeting:

- 2018 budget passed
- 211 boxes of cookies were sold, plus monetary donations generating \$3,700.00
- Prayer, Spiritual Growth, and Coffee continues
- Lenten Quiet Day
- Reviewed our focus groups and implementing ideas
- Discussion of continuing the annual Christmas Cookie Sale
  - Motion was made, seconded, and passed to survey the congregation.
  - Based on the survey results, the ECW Executive Committee will formulate a proposal.

-Our guest speaker was Rose DeHut, executive director of the Center for Visual Arts

Highlights of Christmas Cookie Survey – August 20, 2018

- Survey Monkey sent out via email, paper copies sent out to those without email
- 55% response rate
- 34% who responded said it should continue
- 66% who responded said it should not continue
- Full results of survey were sent out via email and posted in Memorial Hall

Highlights of the September 19, 2018 ECW Board Meeting:

- Motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the Christmas Cookie survey results and to end the cookie sale in its current form.
- A new ECW committee will be formed to determine different options for fundraising. This committee will be chaired by ECW vice president Marsha Meurette.
- Fall ECW dinner and meeting will take place in Memorial Hall, Wednesday, November 7, 2018

Respectfully submitted,  
Shelley Miller ECW President

## **k. Outreach Luncheon**

The Community Meal: Every last Saturday of the month, St. John's opens its doors to anyone from our community to enjoy a warm meal and fellowship with St. Johns and other members of our community. Over the past year, attendance at the meal has nearly doubled. Many of our guests grew up in a loving church environment, like St. Johns, and the meal and fellowship bring back happy memories to all who attend. Helping host the meal encourages fellowship with other church members and our community. Every last Saturday at noon the Holy Spirit can be felt, heard and seen hard at work at St. John's The Baptist. Please come and experience it!

## **l. Adult Study**

The two groups are very different.

The Wednesday morning group is a book study. We currently are reading "The Contemporaries Meet the Classics on the Holy Spirit." We usually have pages to read at home. This group met for years without clergy. We chose our own book. The past 2 years Fr. David chose our book and led the discussion.

The Sunday morning class is different. The priest was an important part of this group. The past several years the priest has led discussions on the Sunday lessons.

We are currently doing something different. We are reading "Know Your Bible" all 66 books explained and applied. We discuss 2 books a week. Nothing to read at home. Easy to attend even if you can't make each Sunday. ~Cindy Strampe

## **m. Church School**

We had an organizational meeting with many of the families this Summer. We made the decision to not have Sunday school when there was only one service (first Sunday of the month) and when school was off. We also decided to purchase a curriculum. We went with one called Deep Blue Connects - At home with God. Part of the appeal of this curriculum was that for each Sunday, it has lesson plans for a wide range of ages.

The 2018-2019 Sunday School Year started on September 16th. As of October 28th, we have had 5 sessions and have been averaging 7 children per session. We have had three different adult teachers so far (Gina, Heather and myself).

Going forward, we hope to build on this momentum and hopefully get more adults involved in teaching. The idea behind buying the curriculum was to make it easier for someone to step in - rather than have to come up with content on their own.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Chan

## **n. Search Committee**

In July 2018, the vestry commissioned a search committee. Its mission is “one of preparation and discernment to enable the Vestry to fulfill its responsibility to elect and call a new rector for the parish.” To that end, the search committee members held group interview sessions (with 54 participants of diverse ages) that allowed us to draft a parish profile. This document describes our parish and goals, and identifies the talents and skills we seek in our next rector.

On Tuesday, November 6, the Search Committee will meet with Mother Meredyth Albright, Diocesan Transition Officer, to review completed drafts of the Parish Profile and responses to questions provided by the Office of Transition Ministry. We expect that after making minor revisions to these documents, they can be forwarded to the Bishop for approval, and our job ad can be officially posted.

Every transition takes longer than congregants would like, but the search committee’s progress is consistent with the normal timeline for such searches. We continue to feel hopeful that we will identify rector candidates who are well-suited to helping us continue to discern where the Holy Spirit is calling us.

Please continue to incorporate the Transition Prayer into your prayer routines.

*God our Creator: During this transitional period in our congregation, open our hearts to Your Holy Spirit, and help us to discern Your call. Guide each of us to realize our importance in the process. Help us to identify and use our individual spiritual gifts to develop the purpose and mission You have entrusted to us in your love and mercy. Sustain us as a vibrant, welcoming, and patient community that is ready to invite a new priest to share our journey. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Search Committee members are Jim Bliss and Patti Schaal, co-chairs; Margy Stahr, clerk; Tom Gallant, Greg Lamansky, Marsha Meurette, Shelley Miller, and Laura Ramsey. We will continue to provide regular updates as our work enters different phases. Thank you for your support and patience. ~Margy Stahr

## **o. NAOMI**

NAOMI (North Central Congregations Making an Impact) continues to appreciate our office space at St. John's and the use of space for meetings! We continue to address justice issues in our community and state by advocating for criminal justice reform, immigration reform, public transit expansion, poverty awareness and reduction, and racial equity. We are always looking for new members for our task forces. Please let me know if you have an interest.

### **5. Presentation of Parish Statistics**

Average Sunday Attendance (through October 15):

2018 – 69

2017 – 70.9

Average Non-Sunday Attendance for Services (through October 15):

2018 – 21

2017 – 74

Private Home Communion - 42

### **Baptisms in the past year:**

- Norah Ruth Morris (1/18/2018)

## **6. Other Business**

- **UTO** Ingathering in the amount of \$485.44 sent Oct 2018
- **Annual Convention Report**

A verbal report will be given by Dixie Terrell Wilhite and Ron & Lisa Alexander.

- **Christmas 2018**

Sunday, December 23: Church Decoration following the 10 am Eucharist.

Monday, December 24: Christmas Eve Family Eucharist at 4 pm

Monday, December 24: Christmas Eve Choral Eucharist at 10:30 pm

Sunday, December 25: Christmas Day at 9am

## **7. Blessing and Adjourn**

### **A Prayer for Mission**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**CHURCH STAFF & VOLUNTEERS:**

**Choir Director:** Julie Burgess

**Organists:** Cathy Veldhuizen, Patricia Metter, Julie Burgess

**Education:** Jason Chan (Sunday School), Cyndi Strampe,  
Ruth Schuette

**Sexton:** Kim Schoenberger

**Office & Website:** Theresa Ambord

**Altar Guild:** Ruth Schuette

ECW – Shelley Miller

**Buildings & Grounds:** Steve Miller

**OUR VESTRY MEMBERS:**

**Sr Warden:** Vickie Richmond Hawkins

**Jr Warden:** Steve Miller

**Clerk of Vestry:** Dixie Terrell Wilhite

**Vestry:** Julie Bliss (2020), Brad Bollmann (2020), Tom Gallant (2020),  
Travis Jensen (2019), Tyler McCormack (2019), Patti Schaal (2019),  
Pamela Glennon (2018), Georgia Moen (2018), Dixie Terrell Wilhite (2018),

**Treasurer:** Beverly Royer (since 2013)





330 McClellan St., Wausau, WI 54403  
[www.stjohnswausau.org](http://www.stjohnswausau.org)  
warden@stjohnswausau.org  
715.845.6947