

Church of the Advent Vestry Minutes

June 21, 2026

Attendance:

- Present: Fr. Alan Leonard, Richard Hudson (Sr. Warden), Joanne Morrison (Jr. Warden), Angela Gloria, Carol Obligado, Larry Morier, Diane DePietro, Tom Crane, Pam Kelly, Charlene Snyder
- Absent: Anna DeForest, Karann Murphy
- Guests: Lew Price (Finance Committee), Ian Crane, Joel Rutenberg

Meeting was called to order at 10:45 with a prayer by Fr. Alan

Motion to accept May minutes by Joanne, seconded by Larry. Approved unanimously

Finance Committee Report – Lew

- Lew distributed the May financial report. He noted that Sherrie continues to do a wonderful job!
- He noted that some people pay quarterly so monthly contributions are not distributed evenly throughout the year.
- Income from Diocesan Investment Trust & Ameriprise also come in irregularly so that affects the monthly numbers.
- Lew noted that since some folks pay their full pledge at the start of the year we're actually about balanced toward the budget income estimate at this point in the year.
- Building maintenance is above budget already for the year, mostly from the Vector Security System required upgrade monitoring fees, lots of snow removal, South Jersey Gas with the extra cold winter and HVAC repairs.
- Fr. Alan noted that the next installment on his medical insurance coverage is coming up and that the color copier is in need of repair.
- Payroll, office supplies, and most other expenses are similar to budgeted numbers.
- We received some extra donations for memorials.
- We are up to date with our diocesan contribution
- Fr. Alan noted that we are saving money with supply organists and clergy with fewer services during the summer.
- Lew noted that our Non-restricted Fund balance that is used for paying monthly expenses is quite low. (\$6813). He suggested that in the past we have borrowed funds from some of our Restricted Fund lines in the past to tide us over until quarterly payments, etc. come in. The plan is to do that again, so we don't have to borrow with interest.
- Richard noted that unless funding streams change, the church will run out of money by 2030-2031.
- Lew explained that the church painting project has exceeded its funding goal. We had an anonymous donation of \$15,000, received the other \$15,000 plus more before we even put the facility maintenance request letter. Anything over the cost of the painting will go into the Property Fund for capital expenses.

- A motion was made to accept the finance report by Larry with a second by Richard – Approved unanimously. Lew left the meeting after the vote.

Rector – Fr. Alan –

- With summer being here, we are getting lots of visitors. Fr. Alan asked everyone to make sure to greet visitors.
- Upcoming Ring the Bell for 4th of July & Church Picnic should be fun events.
- Charlene noted that they visited two homebound folks and took communion and the newly blessed prayer shawls which were well received. Fr. Alan & Deacon Charlene will try to meet all of the homebound folks this summer.

Sr. Warden – Richard

- He has received good feedback from homebound folks regarding recent visits.
- MAC piano may be swapped out for something more versatile for multiple styles of music. They are working with Cunningham Piano to choose the best model for MAC. There will be no further cost to the church.
- Inventory needs to be completed. Could the Alter Guild help since some of us don't know the names of the items? Pam & Angela will coordinate this.

Jr. warden – Joanne

- She has been managing social media and keeping things online up to date.

Old Business

- Fr. Alan nominated Joel to serve the unexpired vestry term. There were no other nominations. Joel was elected unanimously.
- Joel has also graciously agreed to be vestry clerk again. Pam made the nomination. Joel was unanimously elected.
- Fr. Alan has talked with our insurance company regarding increasing our Officers & Directors Liability as requested by the vestry. To go from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000. It would cost an additional \$2500. They charge by the calendar year. Total Church Property Insurance currently is \$14,000+. Our account manager at Church Insurance expressed an opinion that \$1,000,000 is currently standard and sufficient. Fr. Alan noted that Church Insurance would litigate any suit and we would not need to obtain our own attorney. Several folks expressed feelings that we really need to upgrade to \$2,000,000. There were also concerns regarding us already having a deficit budget and incurring this additional expense. A request was made for Fr. Alan to contact the diocese to obtain figures on the number of churches in South Jersey who had recent law suits.
 - A motion was made by Larry & seconded by Richard to increase our Officers & Directors Insurance from \$1,000,000 to \$2,000,000 at the cost of \$2500.
 - Pam suggested an amendment to start the extra coverage as of January 2027. Tom seconded the amendment. Motion carried.
 - There was discussion of the amended motion. The amended motion to start coverage in January of 2027 was approved. Fr. Alan will contact Church Insurance.

- Carol & Larry confirmed that ECM has paid the fee for the rental at CMC Park & Zoo for the church picnic on July 19. ECM will cover the costs of the meats for the BBQ & potluck donations will be organized by ECW.
- Carol reminded everyone that folks are needed to help at the July 4th Ring the Bell event.

New Business

- Calendar Review
 - Community breakfasts will be this coming Saturday, July 25th & August 29th.
 - This Thursday's ECW meeting will include cookie baking.
- Carol noted that ECW & ECM will be participating in the MAC Yard Sale on Oct 3.
- Fr. Alan noted that he has requested a meeting with the bishop regarding finances. Fr. Alan, Lew, Richard & Joanne will attend. Richard will create the agenda.

Next meeting is August 16 after the 9:00 service.

A motion for adjournment was made by Joel with a second by Pam at 12:05. Approved Unanimously.