

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Barrington, Illinois

Minutes of the Vestry Meeting of Monday, July 20, 2026

7:00 p.m. – Conference Room and Virtual

Present – In Person: Liz Gabis (Senior Warden – 2027), Bob Hoyler (Junior Warden - 2027), Sam Adams-Lanham (2027), Wes Kimes (2027), Lynn Mayberry (2027), Bob Wonder (2028), Cathy Koehlinger (2029), Pat Okonek (2029), BJ Seagrist (2029), John Davis (Treasurer), Craig G. Anderson (Clerk)

Present – Virtual: Craig W. Anderson (2028)

Absent: The Rev. Ralph Osborne (Priest-in-Charge); Jeff Tolle (2028)

1. Call to Order and Confirmation of Quorum

There being a quorum present, Senior Warden Liz Gabis called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Opening Prayer

The Wardens, Vestry members, and Clerk offered the opening prayer in unison.

3. Approval of Agenda – July 20, 2026

Junior Warden Bob Hoyler moved, and Lynn Mayberry seconded, that the agenda for this evening's meeting be approved as presented. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes

Vestry Meeting of June 15, 2026

Senior Warden Liz Gabis moved, and Bob Wonder seconded, that the June 15, 2026, Vestry meeting minutes be approved as presented. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

5. New Business

Search Committee Update

Parishioner Renee Buxton provided an update on the Rector search process, including the vetting and discernment components, various questions asked, and priorities for St. Michael's. Search Committee members Gwynne Johnston and Sam Adams-Lanham also provided comments and observations regarding the search process.

Members of the Vestry offered comments, observations, acknowledged and thanked the Search Committee for its work, and discussed next steps.

Junior Warden Bob Hoyler moved, and Bob Wonder seconded, that the Vestry enthusiastically request that the Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago authorize the Wardens to proceed with the call of Fr. Nathan Huddleston as St. Michael's next Rector. Upon a voice vote: 9 Ayes; 0 Nays; 1 Abstention (due to concurrent membership on the Rector Search Committee). Motion carried.

Safety & Building Security Policy

Senior Warden Liz Gabis provided a summary overview of the provisions and updates to St. Michael's Safety & Building Security Policy. Vestry members commented on safety concerns being addressed and responsibilities of outside groups which are allowed to use church facility space. Also, other people who will need to complete safety training requirements were noted.

Lynn Mayberry moved, and Sam Adams-Lanham seconded, that the Safety & Building Security Policy be approved. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

Stewardship 2026

Sunday, October 11, 2026, will be Stewardship Service Day, featuring the 44th Annual CROP Walk.

6. Old Business

Building and Grounds Update

Craig W. Anderson has been providing weekly updates to the Vestry on the rectory repair and improvement project, which continues to move forward in a timely manner.

BJ Seagrist noted some additional work needed for the rectory deck. Also, the lavalier microphone and transmitter improvements in the church nave are functioning well.

"Safe Church, Safe Communities" Follow-Up

Completion of Code of Conduct acknowledgements and Praesidium Academy online training requirements for Vestry members, Wardens, and officers is nearing completion. St. Michael's staff and ministry leaders also are required to complete certain requirements.

Phased Employment Plan for Fr. Osborne

Junior Warden Bob Hoyler noted part-time employment provisions and compensation level for Fr. Ralph Osborne as Priest-in-Charge for August 2026.

Sam Adams-Lanham moved, and Bob Wonder seconded, that the part-time employment provisions and compensation level for Fr. Ralph Osborne to serve as St. Michael's Priest-in-Charge for the month of August 2026 be approved. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

Financial Report

Treasurer John Davis provided a summary overview of St. Michael's financial report June 2026, distributed to the Vestry.

Wes Kimes moved, and Pat Okonek seconded, that the June 2026 Financial Statements be approved as presented. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

Preschool Update

Cathy Koehlinger advised that she has been working with Janelle Aynessazian, Little Angels Christian Preschool Director, on strategic planning; noted that enrollment is solid; and thanked Senior Warden Liz Gabis for assistance related to search for a music teacher.

Ice Cream Open House

Pat Okonek provided a progress update on plans for St. Michael's Neighbor Appreciation Ice Cream Social Open House event on Saturday, August 8, 2026. Volunteers are still needed to assist with various tasks, including lifting and moving equipment and supplies prior to, during, and after the event.

Communications Manual

Junior Warden Bob Hoyler noted reasons for the St. Michael's Episcopal Church Communications Manual, which provides a formalized process for release of communications from staff members, ministry leaders, volunteers, and contractors who create, approve, and/or distribute communications on behalf of St. Michael's.

7. Closing Prayer

The Wardens, Vestry members, and Clerk offered the closing prayer in unison.

8. Motion to Adjourn

Senior Warden Liz Gabis moved, and Junior Warden Bob Hoyler seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Upon a voice vote: All Ayes; No Nays. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Craig G. Anderson

Craig G. Anderson, Clerk