

**The Church of St. John the Evangelist  
Parish of Douglas and Nashwaaksis  
Vestry Meeting – February 5, 2026**

The vestry of St. John the Evangelist Church, Parish of Douglas and Nashwaaksis, met on February 5, 2026, at 7 pm. Present were Bill MacKenzie, Nancy Stephens, Ben Mersereau, Carol Jones, Donna Price, Jeanne Sayre, Steve Hart, Michael Clark, Heather Storey and Chase McLean.

**Additional Items for the Agenda** – Pastoral Matter (New Business); Prayer Breakfast (New Business); Mats (Church Properties) and Floors (Business Arising).

**Approval of the Agenda** – Moved by Jeanne, seconded by Michael, that the agenda be approved as amended. Carried.

**Approval of Minutes from the January Meeting** – Moved by Ben, seconded by Donna, that the minutes be approved as read. Carried.

**Correspondence** – Interest on account, the bank is asking for direction  
Lay Reader Day May 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Parish Annual Return

**Business Arising** – *Ants* – They are in the kitchen and washrooms, and these areas should be sprayed with Home Defence by Ortho. We will ask Josh to order it and ask Darrell to spray the areas.

*Microphones* – We have a new headset and new lapel mic. The new headset is working well.

*Floors* – Donna spoke with the custodian at her school (Mike Haley) and asked if he would consider coming here to show us how to use the buffer. He will consider this.

### **Committee Reports**

**Finance and Admin** – no report

**Youth and Seniors** – no report

**Treasurer's Report** - Ben put together a draft budget, and the highlights are attached. This will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

**Church Properties** – *Stone Church* – We will contact Father Matthews of the Orthodox Church to see if they are still interested.

*Mats* – the entry way mats are quite worn and need to be replaced.

**Willing Wonders** – Women’s Brunch will be held May 9<sup>th</sup> with guest speaker The Ven. MARIA Shepherdson, Archdeacon of Woodstock. May 2<sup>nd</sup> is our bake sale. Willing Wonders is providing a reception for the bishop’s visit March 1<sup>st</sup>, and for the World Day of Prayer March 8<sup>th</sup>.

Bill received an acknowledgement from the diocesan treasurer that they had received the submission for a Martha’s Pantry grant.

**Worship** – Ben will be taking a Morning Prayer service.

Bruce plans to finish Lay Reader training in June, and he will be offering additional training in September. He is also interested in having a lay reader reference in the library.

**Cemetery** – no report

**New Business** – Men’s Prayer Breakfast – We have been asked to host the next prayer breakfast, tentatively scheduled for March 21<sup>st</sup>. They will need four volunteers in the kitchen.

*Pastoral Care* – a parishioner has felt that she has been abandoned by us, as nobody has been in touch with her. She has been contacted, and she has the need for drives to visit her husband at Pine Grove Nursing Home. This is something to be addressed, as there are probably people who don’t make it to church who would like to be contacted. We will need to check to see who has given permission to be contacted.

**For Prayer** – Our Honorary Assistants – David, Bruce and Keith  
Our Parish – Darrell and Josh

**Next Meeting** – Annual Meeting Sunday, February 22, 2026, after the 10:30 service.

The meeting closed at 8:30 with prayer and the grace.

Respectfully submitted,

*Carol Jones*

Carol Jones, Vestry Clerk

Attachment: Draft Budget Highlights

## Highlights and assumptions for 2026 Draft Budget

- Projecting a small surplus of \$8,843
- Unrestricted offerings of \$220,000. Historical unrestricted offerings were:
  - 2025: \$217,667
  - 2024: \$233,315
  - 2023: \$240,905
  - 2022: \$251,748
  - 2021: \$243,435
  - 2020: \$229,422
  - 2019: \$249,235
  - 2018: \$255,092
- Salaries and Wages of \$140,000. This reflects a 2% increase for staff, and assumes a \$1,000 per month clergy stipend for each of our three Honourary Assistants starting in March and ending in September, when I have assumed we would have a new rector. If we don't have a new rector in September, the net savings per month between salary and housing allowance for the rector and the stipends for the honourary assistants is about \$4,600 per month.
- Shared ministry assessments of \$39,523
- Other expenses and revenue budgets in line with actuals from 2025, apart from maintenance, as hopefully this will be a less expensive year for us. Luckily we have the 75 Main Street Improvement Fund to dip into if there are any major building issues.