

## Minutes of the Vestry of St. John's Church, Larchmont, NY

October 21, 2025

The Vestry held its regular meeting in person and by zoom. The membership constituted a quorum, as follows:

**Rector:** The Rev. Lisa Mason

**Wardens:** Pete Bennitt (Senior Warden), Chris Plunkett (Junior Warden)

**Vestry Members:** Erin Constabile, Melany Gray, Dacey Hall, Christine Healey de Casanova (via zoom), Gus Harwood, Ollie Maggard, Lexi Massey (via zoom), Trish Patterson, Sonny Wooten and Matt Wrzesniewsky

**Absent:** Adrienne Skinner and Brooks Powlen

**Guest:** Kurt Weisenfluh (Treasurer), Wyatt Lonegro (youth member), Shoji Mizumoto (seminarian)

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The Rev. Lisa Mason called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. Ministry Moments were shared and Chris Plunkett offered a meditation entitled "Like Sea Glass: Transformed by Love," written by Lori Wilson, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries.

### **Seminarian's report:**

Shoji Mizumoto shared his plans for several adult formation sessions, as well as a men's Bible study.

**Financial Report:** Financial reports were circulated in advance of the meeting. Treasurer Kurt Weisenfluh reported that revenues were up about 5% and spending was slightly down relative to the budget. Maintenance is much lower this year, due in part to the significant amount of tree work done in 2024 and the relatively minimal amount of snow removal required last winter.

The portfolio has yielded a 13.6% year-to-date return.

There was brief discussion of the new assessment formula, which will be presented for approval at the Diocesan Convention on November 15.

Kurt is working with his predecessor treasurer, Frank Pierson, to learn budgeting procedures.

The audit has been completed and the Church was found to be in compliance with accepted accounting practices.

There was brief discussion of a confidential matter involving an upcoming Department of Labor hearing. Lisa and Kurt will keep the vestry updated.

**Minutes:** *Upon motion duly made and seconded, the vestry approved the minutes from the September 16, 2025 vestry meeting, which had been distributed in advance.*

**Ushering:** There have been several recent Sundays where no one has volunteered to usher. In the short term, pending identification of a new ushering coordinator, Melany Gray has agreed to flag Sundays where no volunteers have signed up, alerting vestry members and other parishioners who have expressed interest in helping with this important ministry.

**Senior Warden's Report:** Pete Bennitt advised that he and Lisa had attended the first meeting of the nominating committee, convened by Susan Matelich.

Pete and Melany are working with Lisa and Lori Wilson on updating the employee handbook, with particular emphasis on several policies that apply to employees, including the creation of a new Acceptable Use/Technology policy. Pete invited interested vestry members to assist with this process.

The stewardship committee's work on the annual giving campaign is well underway.

**Junior Warden/Building and Grounds Report:** Chris Plunkett circulated a report in advance of the meeting. Gas service to 11 Alden has finally been restored. The plantings in the Rectory garden and the church lot on Grove Street have been completed and look good.

**Rector's Report:** Lisa briefly described the plans for All Saint's Sunday, which will honor the Rev. Kenneth Mackenzie, 5<sup>th</sup> Rector of St. John's. His daughter, the Rev. Darby Mackenzie, will speak at the service and her siblings and other family members will attend. Afterwards, Lisa and Kirk will host coffee hour at the Rectory.

On October 27, St. John's will host a special service offering prayers for peace.

During Advent, Lisa will lead morning prayer services at 7AM on Wednesdays, immediately followed by a discussion of the Book of Ruth. Compline services will be held Wednesday evenings at 7PM during Advent. After Advent has concluded, Compline will be offered by zoom on Wednesday evenings.

John Bradley and Robin Ingram will represent St. John's at the Diocesan Convention on November 15.

There was a brief discussion regarding the need to consider expanding the columbarium in the near future.

There being no further business to bring before the vestry, Lisa closed the meeting with prayer and adjourned the meeting at 8:27PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Melany Gray, Clerk

*Approved by the vestry, November 18, 2025*

**Future Meetings:**

November 18, 2025

December 16, 2025

January 20, 2026

January 25, 2026 (Annual Meeting)

Annual Retreat: February 6-8, 2026

March 17, 2026

April 21, 2026

May 19, 2026

June mid-year retreat TBD