

St. John in the Wilderness

Parish Council Meeting Minutes - Thursday June 11, 2026

Present: Rev. Sherry De Jonge, Brian Bradford, Deb Walker, Kathy Morris, Karen Wilson, Haley Walker, Aruna Anderson, Sandra Fraser, Ingrid Schmid, Sandy Dawson, Susan Halliday

Regrets: Brent Anderson, Mike Moloney, Gwen McBean, Peter Langille, Brian Fogg

Scribe: Deb Walker

Opening – Rev. Sherry opened with a reflection and prayer.

Reviewed previous Minutes, (no corrections)

MOTION to accept by Haley seconded by Sandra PASSED by All.

Business arising from the minutes.

None.

Rector's Report

Sherry said it has been a quiet and good month since our last Parish Council meeting.

Wardens' Report

The red front doors were blown ajar during the south winds last week.

Peter indicates we will participate in the Huron Farm Workers bike drive. They are looking for 350 bikes that are operable by the end of June – across the Diocese of Huron.

Our first outdoor service for St. John in the Wilderness will be on Sunday, June 21 weather permitting. Parishioners should bring lawn chairs.

Doug indicates he will talk with Bob regarding replacement of the Dogwood in memory of Charlene. The ACW donated the Dogwood, which Bob purchased on their behalf. The tree was girdled over the winter and is struggling to survive. Once Doug speaks with Bob, assuming the tree needs to be replaced, then:

MOTION by Rev Sherry: To spend up to \$400 on a tree to replace the dogwood in memory of Charlene Adams should the tree not robustly revive. Seconded by Aruna. Motion Carried.

Property Committee – Brian B./Mike M.

The church doors should arrive within a month.

We installed a hose tap in the north garden; this was donated by Deb Walker to the glory of God and in loving memory of her mother Lil Caluori Morris.

The northeast bathroom project: Brian Bradford will get 2 quotes over the next couple of weeks. Aruna Anderson is donating the funds for this project. Main drivers are a higher toilet, grab bars, and a single faucet delivering both hot and cold water (currently there is a cold-water faucet and a hot-water facet).

We are looking at how to improve the front eaves over the rector's office, hall, and sacristy. The downspout by the sacristy/church corner plugs easily with pine needles. Placement of downspouts will be considered, although the options are limited.

The hall floor was cleaned about 2 weeks ago by the Property Committee.

We will have a clean-up day in the fall, and we will ask, like last year, for congregation members to come join and help...even if it is to bring snacks. This was very successful last year. It was a good day of getting much needed items done and a good day of camaraderie.

ACW Report

The ACW had a fabulous luncheon of lasagna at the church. The Boys Home Director gave an outstanding talk on how the Boys Home has changed with society and now delivers unique services to each boy. They have transformed with societal needs. Kathy suggested we have the Director talk with the congregation during church in the fall.

ACW Hotdog Sunday is this Sunday, in celebration of Huron Camp's 80th Anniversary. Lanna will speak and we will have testimonials from the grown Langille kids.

Treasurer's Report

Haley indicated that for the first time this year we hit our monthly givings (for May). We are 3.7% below our givings target year-to-date. We had memorial donations in memory of Hazel Millholland. Our heating costs were \$2,000 more this year due electricity cost and perhaps temperature. We hope to regain some of that as summer comes and the heat pumps can show their efficiency in delivering air conditioning.

We have GIC ladders on a quarterly cycle with some of our cash funds.

MOTION to accept by Haley seconded by Kathy PASSED by All.

New Business

Sandra indicated that the plant sale raised \$1,085. It was also a wonderful community event. The conversations were heart warming.

Kathy has looked at the church survey from 2025 and has had input from parishioners, and she, Brenden, and Sherry are engaging to try to address a varied approach to music. In addition, Susan H will have some time off in the summer, so we will have different instruments or musicians involved perhaps.

Correspondence

Aruna reviewed the latest letter from the Anglican Foundation of Canada (AFC). Say Yes to Kids and Youth Ministry focus and successes are in the last letter. It is posted on the bulletin board labelled “Anglican Church” toward the north end of the hall.

Other Business

None.

MOTION to adjourn by Ingrid.

Closing

We closed with The Grace.