

St. John in the Wilderness

Parish Council Meeting Minutes - Thursday September 10, 2026

Present: Rev. Sherry De Jonge, Kathy Morris, Peter Langille, Brian Bradford, Mike Moloney, Deb Walker, Brian Fogg, Haley Walker, Brent Anderson, Sandra Fraser, Gwen McBean

Regrets: Susan Halliday, Ingrid Schmid, Sandy Dawson, Karen Wilson, Aruna Anderson

Scribe: Mike Moloney

Opening – Rev Sherry DeJonge opened with a Sept 10, 2026 word of the day: The kingdom of God is like a mustard seed.

Reviewed previous Minutes, (no corrections)

MOTION to accept by Deb seconded by Brian PASSED by All.

Business arising from the minutes.

None.

Rector's Report

A stewardship plan is required by the Diocese by mid-October.

I will be taking a Sunday this fall (looks like in November at this point) to visit family away.

Pastoral care was completed at Vision Nursing Home and Afton Park Place through out the summer.

Bible Study begins Sept 17th.

Deanery Clericus (2.00) and Deanery Council (7.00) are 22 September 2026 at St John the Evangelist in Strathroy.

Please have Paul Wooley in our prayers as he is currently in palliative care. (Post meeting: Paul passed away September 15, 2026.)

We have an invitation to St. Paul's, Point Edward, in Brand Hall on 01 October at 7.00 pm, to view a documentary put out by the Anglican Church of Canada regarding the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, regarding colonial policies in Canada, and how the church was involved.

Blessing of the Animals will be on St Francis of Assisi Sunday, 04 October 2026.

The blessing of the new doors will be 18 October 2026.

Wardens' Report

Photo directory is being wrapped up. Going to be sent to parishioners as a downloadable PDF file. A big thank you to Kathy and Haley for all your work to get this done.

Peter gave an update on the selection committee progress. We had one candidate that we interviewed in July, but the group decided the candidate was not a good fit.

Property Committee – Brian B.

July 3, 2026: Handy Bros fixed a condensate water leak on the hall HVAC system.

August 31, 2026: The East Bathroom has been updated with a comfort height toilet and a new handrail on the wall. A new mix water faucet was also installed replacing the old single hot and cold taps. Thank you, Aruna, for your generous donation.

September 9, 2026: Tim Hutton and crew, from TH Siding & Eaves Troughing, installed new eavestroughs, eaves guards, and downspouts on the vestibule and south side of hall. The old ones had damage that was not easily repairable. Tim, with this, over the last 20 years or so, has now installed all the eaves and guards on our building.

Come Clean, Gab, Maybe Bring Cookies: Please mark Saturday, October 17 from 1 to 4 pm on your calendars to come to the church and help with a general clean-up of the grounds and interior. We did this last year, and it was a wonderful, heartwarming, social, and productive day! The Property Committee folk and a core group of other volunteers do maintain the facility; however, like last year, it is time for more perspectives and hands....many eyes and hands help to get many tasks identified and done in an afternoon of gathering, gabbing, and deep-cleaning/clean-up!

We are in the final stages of looking at increasing insulation in the north wall of the hall, the east wall of the office and the north wall of the kitchen. We believe the hall north wall is missing a vapour barrier. This is to resolve the repeated cold water freezing in the west bathroom and the one time freezing of the hot water for both bathrooms. The hot water line freeze would be in the north kitchen wall or east office wall. The insulation would also need to extend to the ground to prevent moisture from reaching the hall north floor joists. We have reviewed a couple of different solutions and decided to go with TNS Gutters. Work would most likely start late September or the beginning of October 2026.

MOTION: To spend up to \$9,000 to install more insulation and new siding on North Hall Wall, North Kitchen Wall and East Office Wall. Accept by Mike SECONDED by Gwen PASSED by All

ACW Report

First meeting after the summer break has not occurred yet.

Treasurer's Report

Bottom line we are in good shape due to our expenses being down. 2nd installment of \$8,600 for apportionment will be sent in August. Leaving the last installment to be sent later this year.

We are 15% below on expense. However, we are also 4% down on envelope givings. This is a bit of a worrying trend.

Utility cost up overall. Year to date electricity is up \$2100 however natural gas is down \$800 leaving a net increase of \$1300.

MOTION to accept by Brian seconded by Peter PASSED by all.

New Business

Looking at getting fund script starting in October so ready for Christmas.

Correspondence

Indwell looking for a donation from St John in the Wilderness. Will be reviewed at later date.

Other Business

None

MOTION to adjourn by Sherry