

St. John's Episcopal Church Lancaster, PA

Vestry

St. John's Episcopal Church accepts the basic authority of the Canons of the General Convention of the Episcopal Church, the Canons of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the Charter of Incorporation of St. John's Church, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

It is essential that Vestry members agree to fulfill the responsibilities and duties of their position as outlined herein until their office ends, and to fill vacancies with individuals who are also committed to fulfilling these responsibilities and duties. The actions of the Vestry are directly related to St. John's continued vitality and strength. Vestry terms and conditions of election are outlined in the By-Laws.

The Rector and Vestry of St. John's are committed to the concept of mutual ministry with common faith and purpose. Responsibilities of the Vestry follow.

1. Participate in worship faithfully.
2. Help define and articulate the mission of the congregation. Support the mission by word and deed.
3. Manage the business affairs of the parish, acting as a board of directors. Attend meetings regularly and prepare for them by reading the materials that are provided. Participate responsibly in the deliberations of the Vestry. Represent the interests of the greater St. John's community.
4. Issue a call to the rector. Ensure that there is an annual review of mutual ministry.
5. Ensure adequate resources for leadership. Model leadership by discovering and exercising our own gifts for ministry.
6. Ensure adequate financial resources. Model stewardship by increasing our proportional giving with tithing as a goal.
7. Formulate a budget and manage resources effectively.
8. Determine that appropriate programs, policies, and procedures have been developed and are followed.
9. Formulate a comprehensive long-range plan for worship, education, outreach ministries, finance, pastoral care, lay ministry, property management, stewardship, parish life.
10. Exercise care and good judgment with confidential information.
11. Assess our own effectiveness as individual Vestry members and as a Vestry.

Approved 12/19/05