

WOMEN OF ST. THOMAS

Meeting Minutes September 16, 2025

The meeting was held in the parish hall and began at 6:00 with a prayer given by Rev Colette. All were invited for refreshments and hospitality until 6:30 at which time Kelley Marshall and Mary Blaney called the meeting to order.

Who are We? The overwhelming response was we are a family.

Open discussion:

Sallie Johnston was asked what she felt the younger families would like to see at the church. She responded she felt there is a need for some sort of Sunday school program during worship time for the children ages 2 to 4 years old outside of nursery. It could be lead by the mothers on a rotation. She thought this age group was the largest and would encourage more participation by parents.

Someone reported that a church member noted she felt there had been low attendance at recent funerals. It was pointed out that a lot of members are in the choir and working in the parish hall.

There was discussion of being more intentional in reaching out and involving newer members. A pamphlet with all of the information of the variety of programs, groups and outreaches was shared with the group. Recommended putting it in pews and having information on website. It was suggested during the stewardship breakfast on November 16th, each guild, outreach, and program provide information tables so members can ask questions and sign up.

A suggestion of having a young adult bible study during the week in the mornings or evenings.

Funeral Guild reported that we have had many funerals recently and would love to have more volunteers. Altar and Flower Guilds would also like to have more help.

Rev Colette shared some of the planned upcoming events this fall and need volunteers!!
*Men's Club doing a free breakfast before the IOH Art and Music Festival. She would like to have a "Cooling Station" in the Parish Hall for the day providing water and restrooms for festival goers.

*Pet Blessing Sunday October 5th having pet vendors and a rescue organization along with the blessing

*All Saints Service November 1st

*Trunk or Treat on St Thomas Avenue on Halloween night.

Additionally, there are plans this spring for an Art Show, Flower Arranging Class and Cooking Class. Again, volunteers are needed to assist.

Wednesday night suppers were discussed and the question of making them more young family inviting. The church will begin providing coloring sheets and crayons to help keep younger children occupied during the supper.

Lastly, Lizann Roberts shared what brought her to St Thomas Church. She was asked to participate with the Christmas Tour of Homes and had fun! Whatever we do, we do with joy in our hearts! Meeting concluded in prayer lead by Jane Gilchrist.

Meetings will be held the 3rd Tuesday each month.