MINUTES, NEMAC (Northeast Mission Area Council) Meeting April 22, 2026 (Rev 02)

ATTENDING IN-PERSON: St. Andrew/Epiphany: Rev. Lisa O'Rear (Co-Chair), Andrew Spiesman (Secretary), and Nancy Geiger. **VIA ZOOM:** St. Christopher: Linda Sylor and Laura Cotton; St. Martin: Cheryl Gray; St. Peter: Emily D'Alessandro, Jacob Dinsmore; St. Hubert: Diane Hunt; Grace: Harry Dodds

OPENINGS

The meeting opened with a prayer at 6:04 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, **January 21, 2026 Meeting.** *Move for Approval*: Nancy Geiger (Epiphany) *Second*: Diane Hunt (St. Hubert). The minutes were approved as submitted.

FINANCE REPORT. This was unavailable for this meeting. It was noted that a disbursement of $100 was approved at the last regular meeting for NEMAC to reserve a block of 30 tickets for the June Captains Game.

NEW BUSINESS

Funding Requests. A $500 request by Epiphany/St. Andrew to pay insurance costs for the upcoming Guns to Gardens - Safe Gun Surrender event on June 20 from 11 to 1 p.m. at the Church of the Epiphany was submitted. A request was also made for volunteers to help with the event. Due to the NEMAC Financial Report being unavailable for several meetings, a motion for approval subject to availability of funds was made by Laura Cotton and Seconded by Linda Sylor (Both, St. Christopher). The motion passed unanimously.

Diocesan Council Report. Discussion was had about mission areas (and NEMAC) based on a conversation of Co-Chair Sandy Pavick (Christ Church) — and Audra Abt (Cannon for Innovation & Congregational Development).

Rev. Lisa O'Rear (Co-Chair) noted that cooperation between regional parishes is important based on declining church attendance and resources. Working together, we can do the work of Jesus. Nancy Geiger (Epiphany and Diocesan Council member) explained that the subject was discussed by the Council due to parishes closing in the Southern parts of the Diocese, sometimes leaving just two parishes in a mission area. Linda Sylor (St. Christopher) suggested that research should be done to see how other Diocese groups handle mission areas. Nancy Geiger (Epiphany) said the issue will be discussed further by the Diocesan Council at their June meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

—The NEMAC Captain's Game event is scheduled for Friday, June 12 at 7 PM, with tickets costing $15. Information and a flyer for churches has been sent to all NEMAC members via email. After discussion, it was decided that churches will try to have ticket orders in by mid-May.

—Rev. Lisa O'Rear (St. Andrew/Epiphany) There is no update; most of any planned program training sessions are full.

PARISH UPDATES

St. Hubert. Diane Hunt reported that they are working on creating fellowship opportunities for the parish and that Cora, Rev. Mikayla Dunfee's baby girl will be baptized April 26th.

St. Martin. Cheryl Gray reported that Rev. Anna Sutterisch is working with church youth to encourage participation in worship. They have many events coming up. Recently, a concert by the church organist was attended by over 100 people. A celebration of New Ministry for Rev. Sutterisch and St. Martin's will be held on June 4th.

St. Christopher. Linda Sylor and Laura Cotton reported that the parish is very pleased with their New Priest-in-Charge, Rev. Gabriel Lawrence. They have celebrated two baptisms since his arrival. The St. Christopher Bargain Box is Friday, April 24th, with a focus on housewares. Planning has begun to celebrate the centennial of St. Christopher that will be marked next year.

Grace. Harry Dodds reports that the final service for Interim Rector Jeff Baker is Sunday, April 26th. The Grace new Rector, Steve Ashby will be starting soon.

Church of The Epiphany. The Guns to Gardens event will be held June 20th, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

St. Andrew. Rev. Lisa O'Rear reported that the church's Bocce Tournament will be starting in July. All are invited to form a team and join the fun. Cost for a team is $150 and the proceeds benefit church ministries. Team applications are available on St. Andrew website.

CLOSING PRAYER: The Lord's Prayer

MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:46 p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, July 23, 2026, 6 p.m., in-person at St. Andrew — or online via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted, Andrew Spiesman, Secretary, NEMAC