

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Vestry Meeting, Wednesday, June 24, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 by the Rev. Dixon Kinser and the Rev. Nick VanHorn gave a devotion. The others in attendance were Jackie Piscetelli, Charlotte Broughton, Morris Friedman, Keith Googe, Kathryn Vernon, Jack Scruggs, Ralph Womble, John White, Sheldon Fort, Erin Adams, Lucy Paynter, Grady Phillips, the Rev. Erika Takacs, Julie Williams, Tom McDowell and Betsy Reiners.

Dixon asked for a motion to accept the minutes from May 27, 2025, as presented. Ralph Womble made a motion and Sheldon seconded the motion. The motion passed.

St. Paul's treasurer, Julie Williams gave a financial report. Here is a summary:

The Finance Committee met on June 17, 2025.

2025 Financial Highlights:

- Pledge and non-pledge income for 2025 are ahead of budget by \$28k and \$28k, respectively for the year, primarily due to a stellar January, but they are slowing
- Expense highlights:
 - Expenses over budget by \$44k primarily due to 3 payroll month
 - Operating expenses over by \$14k due to relocation costs
 - This will be repaid when the new employee sells home
- Audit was completed and went smoothly
- Capital Campaign
 - Only about \$100k is still owed to the church:
 - Around \$75k - \$100k of pledges are still due this year. A reminder letter from Victoria will go out soon.
 - There are about \$400k of estate gifts that will more than cover any remaining balance due.
 - The distribution of any remaining funds will be directed by the Vestry
- Stewardship
 - Tom, clergy and stewardship have been working on the wish list
 - The goal is to have the list in place by the end of the summer

In new business Nick shared the plans for the Summer Youth Trip to Florida. In an effort to cover a shortfall in the money the youth were able to raise for travel, Nick asked the vestry to consider financing a portion of the expenses. Sheldon made a motion to give up to \$4000.00 for the youth trip and Morris seconded the motion. The motion passed. Several vestry members expressed their willingness to assist in financing the trip reflecting on all St. Paul's does for others, that it feels right to help our young people in this way.

Parish Administrator, Tom McDowell shared information he had about a proposed window tinting project. For years he said we have dealt with high temperatures on the east side of the building due to the large amounts of glass and morning sun. Many of these windows do not have shades so temperatures can soar. Fifteen years ago tinting was added but it has faded and is providing little protection and he and Rick feel we need to re-tint. This should help with HVAC costs as well as maintaining comfortable workspaces. Tom asked for approval to spend up to 28, 000.00 for this maintenance project. The vestry discussed this proposal and asked several questions after which Jack made a motion to approve the expense and John seconded the motion. The motion passed.

In the Rector's report, Dixon announced the outdoor signage we proposed to the Forsyth County Historic Resources Commission was approved. This will include new signage at the Station which will be a big help with directions.

The Sesquicentennial planning continues, and Dixon hopes to have a budget to present at the next vestry meeting. He, along with knowledgeable lay volunteers and Stewardship director, Victoria Bass, are discerning the fundraising opportunity for an endowment. Dixon said we are inviting guest preachers and will have a publication produced with all the events listed.

A memorial gift for the Floristry has been received and will be used to equip the flower sacristy with some new additions to make the flower guild's work easier and better.

Dixon said he is planning a church wide email to update our members of the results of the What if/Cheerful Giving campaign and the current status of the preschool.

The young adult 20's and 30's ministry continues to grow and reach a population of folks who are craving community and the liturgy of the Episcopal church.

The Kanuga parish weekend is being planned, and we are eager to see how the fall weekend dates of September 19, 20, 21 lands with our members.

The History and Holy Places tours are very popular and the one for this month is overbooked. This has been a wonderful addition to what we offer to the community and our membership.

In clergy reports, Erika said the youth will be leading Morning Prayer the mornings of their summer youth trip so be sure and join them on Facebook the week of July 14. She gave a shout out to the Paraments Guild who are James Hardin, Cliff Dossel, and Matthew Phillips. They change out the frontal on the altar and have been busy because of the changing of the colors for the church seasons and all the funerals. Erika shared how well the Penni Bradshaw funeral went even with no electricity and praised our staff and volunteers for making it happen for the family. She reminded us of the next baptism date which is August 17 and that she, the clergy and staff will be evaluating and discussing our service leaflet and possible changes at a meeting in July.

Nick invited the vestry to view the youth lip sync videos and vote on their favorite. He reiterated how moved he was by the participation of volunteers and staff in the Penni Bradshaw funeral.

There was nothing to report by the Jr or Sr. wardens, Charlotte and Morris, respectively.

Keith said the Summer Enrichment camp has begun and there are 55 campers on campus along with counselors and volunteers for the next three weeks. He is so impressed with this ministry and all the work done to plan for a great, fun and educational time. The campers and their families are invited to worship with us n Sunday, July 13.

Dixon adjourned the meeting at 7:30.