

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Cary, North Carolina
Vestry Minutes
July 20, 2026**

Mission Statement: Worship. Serve. Grow.

Identity Statement:

St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Cary is home to an active, caring, and diverse congregation of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina. Through corporate worship, spiritual development, fellowship, and service we continue to grow together in faith. We strive to be Christ's welcoming, reconciling and transforming presence in the world through our many and varied ministries.

Call to Order:

Senior Warden Randall Robinson called the vestry of St. Paul's Episcopal Church to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, July 20, 2026. In attendance were the Rev. Dr. James Weldon, Vicki Bradley, Katie Bricio, Tim Buckley, John Goehrke, Colette Hibberd, Andrea Johnson and Glenda Swann. Carrie Hess, Cindy Kager, Allison Moon and Victor Talbird were absent. Clerk Lanny Wase was also present.

Formation: Vicki Bradley opened the meeting with a prayer. Glenda Swann volunteered to bring the opening prayer for August. The vestry agreed to continue with opening prayers and also to conclude the meeting with a daily devotion.

Review:

1. June Vestry Minutes: Colette Hibbard made a motion to approve as written the June 15, 2026 minutes. Vicki Bradley seconded and the motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.

2. June Action Register: The action register was reviewed. Vicki Bradley had obtained the chapel renovation plans from the last Capital Campaign. The other items were discussed during the meeting and the register updated.

Discussion:

1. Potential, New Additional Tenant for Curry Center: Amy McMann, LCSW, is interested in leasing space in the Curry Center for therapy and counseling. Her work seems to fit with the established mission of the Center. A general discussion followed on what should be required of potential tenants. It was decided that references should be checked. Also, there should be a background check, which could include financial and criminal checks. The diocese provides helpful information and a suggested vendor, Protect My Ministry – a leading provider of background checks for churches and faith-based organizations. Brandy Satterfield or Jeff Kager gives potential tenants a tour of the Curry Center. The key they receive only accesses the Curry Center. Glenda Swann will follow up on Amy McMann's references and talk with Brandy about getting background checks done. Vicki Bradley made a motion to approve leasing to Amy McMann if the references and background checks are okay. Glenda Swann seconded and the

motion was passed by unanimous voice vote. It was also decided to gather a committee at some point to review the future, vision and mission of the Curry Center.

2. Request to Start New Ministry: Parents Launching Young Adults: Julia Rudy and Christina Catton have presented a proposal for this new ministry. This ministry will serve parents whose sons and daughters have graduated from high school and are between 18 and 23 years old. The group will meet several times a year, primarily off church property on Saturday mornings (for coffee) or a weekday evening for an occasional meal. Through casual meetups, they hope to address the emotional needs of parishioners experiencing this transitional event in their families. Erica Ridderman has been their staff contact. They expect to have no budget needs. Katie Bricio made a motion to approve this ministry. John Goehrke seconded and the motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.

There was a discussion about reviving the Ministry Leader Resource Committee (MLRC). When this ministry was active, it approved new ministries, hosted semi-annual ministry fairs, maintained a ministry leader email distribution list, provided a current Handbook for Ministry Leaders, and hosted periodic training or networking opportunities for leaders or potential leaders. Glenda Swann volunteered to talk with Mary Kintz about creating a post to see if there are people interested in working on this ministry.

3. Diocesan Convention Delegates: The 211th Annual Diocesan Convention will take place Friday, November 20 and Saturday, November 21 at the Benton Convention Center in Winston-Salem. There is also an optional program on Thursday evening, November 19, and all delegates are encouraged to attend. The theme of this year's convention is "Go Make Disciples!" Delegates do not pay their registration fee but are responsible for making their own hotel reservations. There are two hotels connected to the Benton Center: a Marriott and an Embassy Suites. St. Paul's is allotted four lay delegates. We have one returning delegate, Cathryn Lamb, through 2026. Katie Bricio and Vicki Bradley volunteered to be three-year delegates, serving through 2028. One additional delegate and two or three alternates are needed. The deadline for registration is August 3, 2026.

4. Lobster Fest Funds Wording: The Lobster Fest Committee will begin publicity in August for the October event. The following wording for their publicity was approved: "All proceeds will be used to support ministries that bring hope, healing and practical support to our local community and the world. Learn more on our ministries page." It was noted that the small cards with information about St. Paul's many outreach ministries were an excellent idea. It would be great to have something similar again this year. Also, the video presentation in the Parish Hall about outreach was well received and could be repeated this year.

Reports:

1. Rector's Report: Fr. Jay reported on several topics.

- **Associate Rector Search:** Fr. Jay is currently reviewing applicants for Associate Rector. Some of the applicants seem to be ideal. There will be an opportunity for some vestry members to meet with top candidates in mid-August. He hopes to have the new Associate on board by mid-September or the first of October.

- **Erica Ridderman:** Fr. Jay praised Erica for the work she has done and is continuing to do for the parish. She has really stepped in where needed.

- **Brighter Days Ahead Project:** This campaign to raise \$30,000 by the end of July is intended to fund renovations to the youth wing, along with painting, cleaning, and refreshing portions of the hallways, narthex, and parish offices. Fr. Jay reported that approximately \$12,000-\$13,000 has been raised so far. Facilities Manager Jeff Kager is overseeing the project. In the Youth Wing, the accordion doors will be replaced, as well as painting and new flooring. Other areas in the main building will be freshly painted. It is hoped that all this work will be completed before the Labor Day Weekend.

- **Natalie's Vacation Coverage:** Natalie Sroka will be on vacation in mid-August. Volunteers are needed to answer phones, check on pastoral care issues and emergencies, and to be present in the office for visitors.

2. Building Use Guidelines: Vicki Bradley reported that the sub-committee has met and begun to review both the Policies and Guidelines with the idea of eliminating the overlap and creating one document. They are considering changing references of "donation" to "charges" or "fees." But questions have arisen about how, when and if to charge parishioners. They also might consider recommending background checks if the accountable person has ongoing access to the facility. There is also a question of more protections and accountability for events that include minors. ServSafe offers food and alcohol safety training and certification exams. It was not known if anyone in the parish is currently certified. This might be good to explore.

3. Parish History: There was a discussion about plans for the Parish History Day in the fall. Katie Robinson and Ottis Cowper who had worked with a group gathering parish history were contacted. They are happy to share information with a facilitator but wouldn't want to lead. Randall Robinson will contact the facilitator.

4. Warden's Reports:

- **REALM Adoption Update:** Glenda Swann reported that as REALM goes live, all parishioners will need to check the information on their profiles. For the rollout, specific groups will be asked to do this, starting with the Vestry and the Prayerstichers. The next two groups will be the Lobster Fest Committee and the Endowment Board. Users will be emailed instructions and a link and this initial process should only take about ten minutes. Instructions can be revised or clarified if needed before REALM is introduced to the whole parish.

- **Fall Stewardship:** Randall Robinson reported that he plans to ask the team from last year if they are willing to serve again. Vestry members Colette Hibbard and Glenda Swann volunteered to help with Stewardship. Randall will work on finding a leader for the campaign.

5. Treasurer/Finance:

Treasurer John Goehrke reviewed the June financial reports. He started by noting that the Preschool had a strong finish to their year with a positive income of over \$4,000. For the parish, total income of \$61,348 was unfavorable to budget by (\$11,474) and unfavorable year to date by

(\$187). Total expenses of \$116,894 were unfavorable to budget for the month by (\$1,334) and unfavorable year to date by (\$41,939). Net income of (\$55,546) was unfavorable to the budget by (\$12,809) for the month and net income year to date of \$38,149 was unfavorable by (\$42,126). Month end total cash was \$432,971. Of this amount, \$256,777 is earmarked for restricted funds. There was \$181,137 in operating cash. Katie Bricio made a motion to file the June Treasurer's Report, Statement of Financial Position MTD Change and Statement of Activities MTD with these July minutes. Vicki Bradley seconded and the motion was passed by unanimous voice vote.

John also reported that the estate of Tom and Marjatta Thamm has left an undesignated gift to St. Paul's of approximately \$31,000. The Thamm's were instrumental in getting the Memorial Garden started in 1994. John suggested that part of this money could be put into the Memorial Garden fund. He will check with Brandy Satterfield to see if they signed a Donor Agreement. A decision about designating this money was tabled until the next vestry meeting.

Elephants and Flamingos

Elephants: There were no Elephants.

Flamingos:

- Glenda Swann reported that Diocese has created a new Junior Warden Collaborative Group. This is a volunteer-led effort that intends to create a network of shared knowledge, experience and support for all diocesan congregations. She has shared this information with Facilities Manager Jeff Kager.
- Glenda Swann and Jeff Kager have set up a meeting with someone who writes grants. They will talk with him about perhaps finding a grant to replace aging AC units in the Education Building. His fee for writing grants is \$5,000.
- Andy Kintz has built beautiful tables to sit between the chairs on the altar. They were made to match the furniture already in place.
- The new walkway to the Memorial Garden is completed and looks great. Julia Rudy is in the process of getting landscaping quotes. There is currently approximately \$8,800 in the fund to complete this project. The total cost will be in the range of \$15,000-\$20,000.
- Tim Buckley reminded everyone that Vacation Bible Camp will begin next Monday. Items are still needed from their Amazon Wish List. Volunteers are also needed to help set up on Friday afternoon from 1:00-4:00 and on Sunday after the last service.

Adjournment

The meeting closed with a devotion for "At the Close of Day" and was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lanny Wase, Clerk