

**Minutes of Meeting of Vestry of
St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Inc.**

Date of Meeting: August 20, 2024

Method of Meeting (i.e. virtual or in person): In Person

Vestry Members:

Vestry Member Name:	P = Present A= Absent
Burgess, Nick	P
Casteel, Matt	A
Clemmons, Sandy	A
Davis, Jeff	P
Farrer, Andrew	P
Green, David	A
Kellerman, Allison	P
Kropog, Jennifer	P
Kyriakoudes, Louis	P
Miller, Brad	P
Nix, Kyle	A
Peek, Scott	P
Smith, Ione	P

Clergy Present:

Dr. Blaess

Rev. Whitnah

Others Present:

Don Whitfield

Ted Goodman (clerk)

David Rowe

1 **The Meeting was opened with a scripture reading from Hebrews by Sandy Clemmons**
2 **(Chaplain).**

3

4 **The Agenda was approved by acclamation. Motion to approve by Andrew Farrar, seconded**
5 **by Brad Miller.**

6 **Review of Minutes:**

7 The minutes from the last meeting were approved by unanimous vote. Motion to approve by
8 Scott Peek, seconded by Nick Burgess.

9

10 **Financial Report (Don Whitfield):**

11 We made the last payment of \$15,000 for the Great Rood. We have received memorial gifts that
12 will largely offset that cost. We have officially satisfied our gift to the Journey Home with a gift
13 of just under \$44,000. The main campus debt is now below \$3,000 and will be paid off next month.

14 The Junior's Building is financially supporting itself with its rental income as we had expected it
15 would.

16 We still have a favorable budget variance for the year but we expect that to contract soon because
17 August collections are typically low and this August has been no different.

18 Our insurance premiums have gone up and are 27% over budget.

19 Don called on Jeff Davis to update the Vestry on research Jeff has been conducting regarding
20 insurance coverage for the Church. Jeff Davis stated he, Heather Studenberg, and Brad Miller have
21 looked into quoting higher deductible plans from the current deductible of \$1,000 to various
22 amounts including \$25,000 deductible. A \$25,000 deductible would save the church about \$5,200
23 per year.

24 Jeff recommended that the Church select at \$25,000 deductible. The Vestry engaged in an
25 extended, in-depth discussion regarding the benefits and drawbacks of having a \$25,000
26 deductible. Ione Smith made a Motion to select the \$25,000 deductible, seconded by Louis
27 Kyriakoudes. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

28 Jeff Davis made a motion to approve the Financial Report, seconded by Brad Miller. Motion
29 carried by unanimous vote.

30

31 **Committee Reports:**

32 **Finance and Administration Report (Jeff Davis):**

33 See above.

34 **Stewardship Report (Jennifer Kropog):**

35 Estimate of Giving cards will be placed in the mail around September 9, 2024, and have
36 already been mailed to the Vestry Members.

37 **Communications Report (Scott Peek):**

38 Nothing to add to written report.

39 **Arts, Design & Gifts Committee (Louis Kyriakoudes)**

40 The Great Rood has been delivered and will be installed soon following assessment of the
41 support systems by an engineer.

42 **Worship and Music Report (Ione Smith):**

43 They are planning various parties for various constituencies within the Church including
44 the Youth and the Choir, etc.

45 **Membership Engagement (David Green, Sandy Clemmons, Jennifer Kropog):**

46 Nothing to add to written report.

47 **Children's & Youth Discipleship Report (Kyle Nix):**

48 Kyle was not present but sent a written report. Youth activities are off to a strong start.

49 **Parish Life (Allison Kellerman & Ione Smith):**

50 Nothing to add to written report.

51 **Outreach Report (Nick Burgess):**

52 Nothing to add to written report.

53

54

55 **Wardens' Reports**

56

57 **Jr. Warden's Report (Andrew Farrer – Maintenance):**

58 Andrew presented about various water heaters that have been replaced and some
59 inspections and maintenance to the fire suppression systems and exit signage.

60 **Sr. Warden's Report (Brad Miller)**

61 Brad updated the Vestry on questions and comments and discussions that occurred at the
62 Parish Meeting last week.

63 **Clergy Report:**

64

65

66

67 **Rector's Report (Dr. Blaess):**

68 Dr. Blaess presented Resolutions Honoring The Rev. Gene Wise and The Rev. James K.
69 Polk Van Zandt. Motion to approve by Richard, seconded by Alison Kellerman. Motion carried
70 by Unanimous Vote. These Resolutions are attached to these minutes.

71 St. Paul's has been approved to advance to the next step of the application process for *Made*
72 *to Flourish*, which will include interviews of various people and organizations within the Church,
73 including Clergy and the Vestry.

74 Dr. Blaess stated that Brad Miller will be leading the search for a new Music Director.
75 Nominations for the Search Committee will be accepted soon. This committee will function to
76 assist Kristine in searching for and selecting the new Music Director.

77 Kristine was contacted by last week **Funmi Odidi**, an ordained Episcopal Priest who is
78 performing a Chaplaincy Residency at St. Thomas Rutherford and wants to assist with worship on
79 Sunday Mornings. This will allow the clergy to rotate through Children's Church.

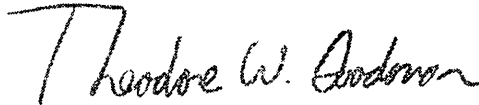
80 Kelly Moody will be ordained as a Deacon December 5, 2024.

81 **Executive Session:**

82 Nothing to report from executive session.

83

Respectfully submitted,



Theodore W. Goodman
Clerk of the Vestry

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church-Main Campus
Statements of Operations and Cash Flows**

	For the Month Ended 07/31/2024		For the Seven Months Ended			For the Year Ending 12/31/2024				
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Prior Year	Budget	\$ Var CYR	% Var CYR	\$ Var PYR	% Var PYR
Revenues										
Pledges	\$ 61,999	\$ 59,290	\$ 534,356	\$ 456,373	\$ 466,758	\$ 756,291	\$ 77,983	17.1%	67,598	14.5%
Unpledged Gifts	9,743	5,156	74,488	37,932	36,713	78,500	36,556	96.4%	37,775	102.9%
Endowment Income	15,738	15,712	31,477	31,425	31,569	62,850	52	0.2%	(92)	-0.3%
Other Income	1,737	1,080	14,296	12,616	15,886	33,010	1,680	13.3%	(1,590)	-10.0%
Total Revenues	89,217	81,238	654,617	538,346	550,926	930,651	116,271	21.6%	103,691	18.8%
Expenses										
Clergy	23,763	24,588	170,569	169,117	162,851	291,557	(1,452)	-0.9%	(7,718)	-4.7%
Music	4,089	4,097	35,881	36,304	44,245	62,719	423	1.2%	8,364	18.9%
Church Programs	5,149	4,376	31,175	33,539	30,176	53,727	2,364	7.0%	(999)	-3.3%
Other Church Programs	21	1,096	10,805	11,296	10,300	19,900	491	4.3%	(505)	-4.9%
Youth Ministry	1,540	1,546	10,472	10,820	4,461	18,548	348	3.2%	(6,011)	-134.7%
Operations/Maintenance	24,514	21,963	96,246	106,909	119,528	182,419	10,663	10.0%	23,282	19.5%
Administration	23,357	26,926	122,199	118,044	112,359	202,377	(4,155)	-3.5%	(9,840)	-8.8%
Outreach	9,211	9,461	70,979	71,854	66,904	128,285	875	1.2%	(4,075)	-6.1%
Debt Service (Interest)	38	39	735	677	5,346	709	(58)	-8.6%	4,611	86.3%
Total Expenses	91,682	94,092	549,061	558,560	556,170	960,242	9,499	1.7%	7,109	1.3%
Net Income/(loss)	(2,465)	(12,854)	105,556	(20,214)	(5,244)	(29,591)	125,770	622.2%	110,800	2112.9%
Principal Repayment	7,536	7,535	52,285	52,342	47,673	65,144	57			
Net Operating Cash Flow	\$ (10,001)	\$ (20,389)	\$ 53,271	\$ (72,556)	\$ (52,917)	\$ (94,735)	\$ 125,827			

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church-323 Main Street
Statements of Operations and Cash Flows**

	For the Month Ended		For the Seven Months Ended			For the Year Ending				
	07/31/2024		07/31/2024		07/31/2023	12/31/2024				
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Prior Year	Budget	\$ Var CYR	% Var CYR	\$ Var PYR	% Var PYR
Revenues										
Rent Income	\$ 9,019	\$ 9,019	\$ 61,186	\$ 61,185	\$ 58,420	\$ 106,279	\$ 1	0.0%	2,766	4.7%
Interest Income	356	45	2,548	790	-	1,000	1,758	222.5%	2,548	#DIV/0!
Total Revenues	9,375	9,064	63,734	61,975	58,420	107,279	1,759	2.8%		9.1%
Expenses										
Insurance	958	704	958	704	750	1,408	(254)	-36.1%	(208)	-27.7%
Building Maintenance	-	174	1,335	1,220	-	2,091	(115)	-9.4%	(1,335)	#DIV/0!
Office Support Staff	671	671	4,697	4,697	4,697	8,052	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
Office Support Supplies	44	44	308	308	308	528	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
Banking Fees	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	#DIV/0!	-	#DIV/0!
Property Taxes	-	-	-	-	4,900	7,870	-	#DIV/0!	4,900	100.0%
Other Taxes	-	-	3,200	3,699	8,092	5,071	499	13.5%	4,892	60.5%
Professional Services	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
Debt Service (Interest)	3,196	3,196	22,942	22,942	23,803	39,063	-	0.0%	861	3.6%
Contingency	-	513	-	3,590	-	6,155	3,590	100.0%	-	#DIV/0!
Total Expenses	5,869	6,302	34,440	38,160	43,550	71,238	3,720	9.7%	9,110	20.9%
Net Income/(loss)	3,506	2,762	29,294	23,815	14,870	36,041	5,479	23.0%	14,424	97.0%
Principal Repayment	4,269	4,269	29,316	29,316	28,454	50,522	-			
Net Operating Cash Flow	\$ (763)	\$ (1,507)	\$ (22)	\$ (5,501)	\$ (13,584)	\$ (14,481)	\$ 5,479			

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Restricted Funds, Cash and Debt

Account #	Account Title	Account Type*	Activity Year To Date			
			01/01/24	Income	Expense	07/31/24
80005	Memorials	Other Operating Income	\$ 54,677	\$ 13,880	\$ 15,022	\$ 53,535
80002	Christian Education	Donations Restricted for Operating Purposes	1,297	693	1,986	4
80003	Altar Guild	Donations Restricted for Operating Purposes	516	1,002	516	1,002
80006	Pastoral Residency	Donations Restricted for Operating Purposes	-	5,000	-	5,000
80007	Music	Donations Restricted for Operating Purposes	22,827	2,550	8,210	17,167
80021	Music-Organ Fund	Donations Restricted for Operating Purposes	17,446	-	3,360	14,086
80036	Youth Fundraisers	Donations Restricted for Operating Purposes	15,426	375	8,785	7,016
80046	Continuing Education-Staff	Donations Restricted for Operating Purposes	-	-	-	-
80067	Flower Guild Operating Funds	Donations Restricted for Operating Purposes	6,215	3,532	4,465	5,282
80077	Piano Fund	Donations Restricted for Operating Purposes	25	165	190	-
80100	Salary Supplement	Donations Restricted for Operating Purposes	7,365	14,000	7,438	13,927
80101	Benefit Supplement	Donations Restricted for Operating Purposes	-	-	7,845	(7,845)
80001	Rector's Discretionary	Funds Restricted for Transmittal to Another Recipient	4,346	2,154	1,826	4,674
80004	Cursillo/Ultreya	Funds Restricted for Transmittal to Another Recipient	3,563	-	-	3,563
80010	Bishop's Discretionary Fund	Funds Restricted for Transmittal to Another Recipient	-	2,327	2,277	50
80026	UTO	Funds Restricted for Transmittal to Another Recipient	61	-	-	61
80038	ECW-Women's Ministries	Funds Restricted for Transmittal to Another Recipient	5,543	-	-	5,543
80058	Associate Priest's Discretionary Fund	Funds Restricted for Transmittal to Another Recipient	1,173	-	239	934
80093	Daughters of the King	Funds Restricted for Transmittal to Another Recipient	1,862	875	700	2,037
80098	Scouts	Funds Restricted for Transmittal to Another Recipient	-	-	-	-
80015	Columbarium	Gifts to Capital Campaign or Building Fund	26,001	2,800	1,840	26,961
80016	Building Fund	Gifts to Capital Campaign or Building Fund	(600)	220	-	(380)
80054	Debt Reduction-Above and Beyond	Gifts to Capital Campaign or Building Fund	6,160	20,350	26,510	-
80095	Memorial Garden Project	Gifts to Capital Campaign or Building Fund	9,699	1,909	11,387	221
80096	Designated-Campus Improvement	Gifts to Capital Campaign or Building Fund	53,075	6,411	23,916	35,570
80097	Roof Replacement	Gifts to Capital Campaign or Building Fund	-	-	-	-
80009	Food Bank	Support of Outreach Ministries	450	2,180	1,220	1,410
80050	Angel Tree Program	Support of Outreach Ministries	1,283	-	-	1,283
80060	Troop Support	Support of Outreach Ministries	1,508	-	-	1,508
80072	Episcopal Peace Fellowship	Support of Outreach Ministries	120	-	-	120
80073	Franklin Heights	Support of Outreach Ministries	-	-	-	-
80080	Outreach-People in Need	Support of Outreach Ministries	226	452	-	678
80082	Dandridge Trust/Coldest Nights	Support of Outreach Ministries	15,145	2,030	4,540	12,635
80092	The Journey Home	Support of Outreach Ministries	1,080	42,736	43,816	-
80094	Connect Ministry	Support of Outreach Ministries	10,964	16,371	23,037	4,298
80099	Prison Ministry	Support of Outreach Ministries	2,270	-	-	2,270
Total Restricted Funds			\$ 269,723	\$ 142,012	\$ 199,125	\$ 212,610

* Aligns with Parochial Report

Cash Balances-First Horizon:

General Operating	\$ 133,578
Savings	250,271
323 E Main General Operating	59,630
323 E Main Savings	105,264
Connect	4,410
Total	553,153
Less: Restricted Funds	(212,610)
Unrestricted Cash on Hand @ 07/31/24	\$ 340,543

Average Days Cash on Hand

109

Endowment Fund Balances

Anderson Fund	\$ 23,357
Read Fund	139,363
Williams Fund	1,300,417
Quasi Endowment Fund	249,774
Total Endowment Funds-Market Value @ 06/30/24	\$ 1,712,911

Debt Balances-First Horizon:

Main Campus (@ 2.42%)	\$ 10,410
323 East Main (@ 3.34%)	1,144,058
Total Debt @ 07/31/24	\$ 1,154,468

Communications

Scott Peek

August 2024

The fall issue of the epistle is scheduled to come out in September. We have heard back from a few folks and will begin the ministry spotlight series this week.

Sandra Clemmons
August 2024 Report

Sandy Clemmons

I have attended Alpha planning sessions and made contact with members on my vestry list.

Youth and Children's Ministry Report

August 2024

Kyle Nix

Youth/Children's Events

Christian Education has begun and our Youth kicked off their season with a celebration at the Bartsch residence. Catechesis is in full swing and SNL is beginning. We are excited for another full year of children and youth events!

Current Topics of Discussion

No major topics of discussion at this time.

Current Needs

Continued support for, and participation in, youth events!

**Minutes of Meeting of Vestry of
St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Inc.
Date of Meeting: July 16, 2024**

Method of Meeting (i.e. virtual or in person): In Person

Vestry Members:

Vestry Member Name:	P = Present A= Absent
Burgess, Nick	P
Casteel, Matt	P
Clemmons, Sandy	P
Davis, Jeff	P
Farrer, Andrew	A
Green, David	P
Kellerman, Allison	P (via Zoom)
Kropog, Jennifer	A
Kyriakoudes, Louis	P (via Zoom)
Miller, Brad	P
Nix, Kyle	P
Peek, Scott	P
Smith, Ione	P

Clergy Present:

Dr. Blaess

Others Present:

Don Whitfield

Ted Goodman (clerk)

David Rowe

1 **The Meeting was opened with a devotional and prayer by Sandy Clemmons (Chaplain).**

2

3 **The Agenda was approved by unanimous vote. Motion to approve by seconded by Brad**
4 **Miller, Seconded by Jeff Davis.**

5 **Review of Minutes:**

6 The minutes were approved. Motion to approve by Matt Casteel, seconded by Scott Peek,
7 unanimous.

8

9 **Financial Report (Don Whitfield):**

10 Not a lot has changed. Trends continue favorably. We have a \$115,000 favorable budget variance
11 YTD. We have a favorable budget variance on both pledged and unpledged gifts. We did not incur
12 as much expense on VBS as we had budgeted.

13 Juniors is going just as we expected.

14 We have received a \$5,000 restricted gift for the Pastoral Residency. The payment to Journey
15 Home was transmitted today. This was a restricted gift so it does NOT impact the \$115,000
16 favorable variance discussed above.

17 Our debt for Juniors is under \$1,150,000.

18 Motion to approve financial report by Nick Burgess, Seconded by Ione. Motion carried by
19 Unanimous Vote.

20 Don presented the three (3) year Pro Forma. Don provided an in-depth and detailed explanation of
21 how the various numbers for the pro forma were determined. It includes a cost of adding a third
22 service in 2026, with an additional cost of \$20,000 as anticipated costs for additional musicians, a
23 Stewardship Coordinator, and a communications director over the next few years. Don explained
24 that the Pro Forma is a three-year budget that will help St. Paul's plan to support our growing
25 ministry. Kristine explained that a vote to approve of this Pro Forma is NOT binding, it is just a
26 vote to approve the vision of the Pro Forma.

27 Motion to Approve Pro Forma as presented by Jeff Davis, seconded by Allison Kellerman. Motion
28 carried by Unanimous vote.

29

30 **Committee Reports:**

31 **Finance and Administration Report (Jeff Davis):**

32 Motion by Jeff Davis to accept Liz Huber's request that she be removed as an authorized
33 signer on the Connect First Horizon Account. Liz made this request because Liz is reducing her
34 level of involvement with the Connect Ministry. Seconded by Ione Smith. Motion carried by
35 Unanimous vote.

36 Motion by Jeff to add **Lance Ikard** as an authorized signer on the Connect First Horizon
37 Account, seconded by Matt Burgess. Motion carried by Unanimous vote.

38

39 **Communications Report (Scott Peek):**

40 The Epistle will go out in September. The Church’s social media will start to do a “ministry
41 spotlight” of the various ministries being conducted by members of St. Paul’s.

42 **Arts, Design & Gifts Committee (Louis Kyriakouides)**

43 The Rood is moving even quicker than anticipated. It is expected to arrive before the end
44 of this Summer.

45 **Worship and Music Report (Ione Smith):**

46 Angela has announced her upcoming retirement. They are working to get a special needs
47 parents’ group and support group for families of special needs children.

48 **Membership Engagement (David Green, Sandy Clemmons, Jennifer Kropog):**

49 David stated that main focus for engagement is the Alpha Program and that is going very
50 well.

51 **Children’s & Youth Discipleship Report (Kyle Nix):**

52 School starts back in about three weeks.

53 **Parish Life (Allison Kellerman & Ione Smith):**

54 Nothing to add.

55 **Outreach Report (Nick Burgess):**

56 Nothing to add to written report.

57

58 **Wardens’ Reports**

59 **Jr. Warden’s Report (Matt Casteel – Administration):**

60 The property line fence and HVAC fencing have been approved by the historic zoning
61 commission. That will be installed within 30-45 day. Emergency lighting is being updated.
62 Sanctuary lighting is very dim so they will get S&W to look at that.

63 **Sr. Warden’s Report (Brad Miller)**

64 Brad thanked everyone for all of their hard work. The Stewardship committee has been
65 doing great work.

66 **Clergy Report:**

67

68 **Rector's Report (Dr. Blaess):**

69 The next steps in the music director search is to form a search committee and conduct a
70 parish-wide survey. Our *Made to Flourish* application has been submitted and we are waiting to
71 hear back. Dr. Blaess explained that the Residency Position will be hired by the same process that
72 an associate rector is hired. So, an ad hoc committee will be convened by Kristine, a job
73 description will be written and disseminated, and interviews will be conducted. It will soon be
74 time to be thinking about next year's vestry class. So, be contemplating who might be some good
75 people for the vestry.

76 **Executive Session:**

77 Nothing to report from executive session.

78

Respectfully submitted,



Theodore W. Goodman
Clerk of the Vestry

Member Engagement Report

August 2024

David Green

Sandy Clemmons

Jennifer Kropog

Overall goal for Liaison Assignment:

Member Engagement: Improve engagement among parishioners and other stakeholders as defined by the intrinsic spiritual value of those activities, as well as both the number of parishioners engaged in activities, the frequency of those activities, the duration of those activities, and the recurrence of those activities.

Liaison Update.

The Alpha Program is manifesting itself as an exceptional vehicle through which parishioner engagement is being realized.

Work to support the establishment of the Alpha program as a sort of umbrella initiative is encompassing multiple engagement opportunities for parishioners.

While the program has yet to officially commence, ***planning should begin now to use this initiative to springboard into long-term, sustained parishioner engagement.***

Over the next month, the Engagement team will reconvene to determine the best approach(es) for making this happen.

St. Paul's Outreach Committee

Vestry Liaison Report

This month's report reflects Outreach Committee's July proceedings, as the written report in July was issued after Vestry meeting.

Undie Sunday

Undie Sunday is slated for Sunday, September 29th. Jerry Redditt is the lead for this ministry, and she is assisted by the Wednesday Morning Bible Study.

Journey Home will be contacted to ensure that we promote the proper items and sizes that are most in need. Outreach will also ensure that promotional copy is provided to the front office for the weekly eblast the three weeks preceding the drive.

Historically, the Bible Study team did the counting, sorting, and delivery of the items to The Journey Home. This time around, it was indicated that the team is aging and will need help making the delivery to Journey Home this year in early-to-mid-October. Volunteers to assist will be tapped by Outreach Committee during our September meeting.

The Connect Ministry

Connect Ministry wrote 83 checks from January 1 - June 30, totaling \$18,300.40. Total number of families/households assisted were 75 (eight of these households were assisted with two needs).

Launch Point is a program coordinated by United Way and funded by grants from Tennessee Department of Human Services. A representative from Launch Point meets with the Connect ministry each session. From April 1 through July 15 Connect referred 10 clients to Launch Point, or 45% of total referrals. Of the 10 referrals, 2 are actively participating in the program and an additional 3 are on the waiting list to begin participation.

St. Paul's & First Baptist Church of Castle Street Joint Habitat Panel Build

St. Paul's Episcopal Church and First Baptist Church joined together on Saturday, June 22nd at FBC on Castle Street to spend the day building the Exterior and Interior wall panels for Michelle's home. The name for the build was "Together We Build" (celebrating the two churches coming together for this Habitat project). The theme is "Two Churches, One Mission,

Building Futures,” and this was inscribed on the T-Shirts which were distributed to all the volunteers. Michelle, the Homeowner, attended the Joint Build and joined in constructing the wall panels. After each panel was completed volunteers wrote various prayers and well wishes on the studs to provide the spiritual warmth that was conveyed in the process of constructing the panels. Volunteers were treated for lunch in the First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.

These panels were later installed on her Lot at Legacy Pointe, the Habitat for Humanity community located on Twin Oaks Drive. It was a rather hot day, but it was certainly nice to do the construction in the First Baptist Parking lot where the large tree canopy provided much appreciated shade. Between the two churches there were 58 volunteers that put in 118.5 volunteer hours, and the panels were loaded onto flatbed trailers for transport to the build site at Legacy Pointe.

Many photos are available at <https://www.rchfh.org/1st-baptist-st-pauls-panel-gallery/>

Newt has served on this committee and led the Habitat ministry for many years. He is now stepping down, and Mike Grout will join our committee and function as the Habitat Liaison moving forward. Many, many thanks to Newt for his many years of service!

Death Row Ministry

There are at least 4 individuals (Robin Bayne, Sandy Clemmons, Linda Johnson, and Stacey Owen) interested or already writing letters to or visiting individuals at Riverbend. Sandy and Robin met with Kristine and received her approval to have an initial meeting to gather with those interested in and those who are already writing letters or visiting an individual at Riverbend.

Hank Mills has been helping Robin with learning about the process and was able to identify a man on death row that Robin is planning to write to. He has also agreed to participate in the initial meeting at the Church to talk about the visitation process at Riverbend. This meeting is tentatively scheduled for some time in September. Sandy is going to (or may have already) connect with Reverend Joe Ingall about doing a future meeting/training/presentation. Robin also plans to look into resources on advocacy related to death row policies - like Tennesseans for Alternatives to the Death Penalty - <https://tennesseedeathpenalty.org/>.

It has been noted that at present, The Episcopal Peace Fellowship appears to have applied more focus towards issues in the Middle East and racial reconciliation than on advocacy for those sentenced to the death penalty. Bearing this in mind, the plan for this St. Paul's group is to provide mutual support and encouragement every few months (quarterly at most), host speakers, and learn about advocacy opportunities.

Previously, the ministry has been called “Death Row Prison Visitors.” There is some consideration being given to changing the name to “Death Row Prison Ministry” as not everyone is visiting – some are just writing letters. And the idea of writing may be more attractive to some folks than the idea of visiting.

Saint Paul’s Tablecloth for Events

An idea was brought to Outreach of purchasing a St. Paul’s tablecloth that could be used at various events where St. Paul’s has a table. A rough image of what this cloth might look like is provided below. Other details are as follows:

- Initial rough estimate is that a tablecloth like this would be used at least 5-10 times per year; a durable one would last for several years
- One of our parishioners came up with the idea as they were preparing for our table appearance for the Juneteenth holiday. We don't really have much in the way of permanent displays, and they had to repurpose a yard sign to identify our booth. The thought was that some sort of table covering would not only offer a more professional look when we make appearances but would also cut down on the need for ad-hoc signage.
- Potential vendors are still under exploration. Exact cost is TBD, but some initial estimates would put it in the neighborhood of \$100-\$200 for a single tablecloth.

Outreach will further discuss the use of committee funds to procure this tablecloth at our September meeting.



Coldest Nights

We have sent a check for \$4,000 to The Journey Home to help defray the cost of staffing. This is the amount we send them on an annual basis. The Coldest Nights fund is currently healthy. As such we will not request funding from the Dandridge Trust this year. Lisa will provide a final grant report to the Dandridge Trust this summer. The report will provide numbers on persons served, nights opened, etc. as well as thank them for their support.

Summer Food Drive

690 food items were collected. A young man named Anderson from Boy Scout Troop 1108 helped to count, load, and deliver them to Nourish Food Bank. There is not, as of yet, a final count on how much money was collected in addition to the food items. We will share that at our next meeting in September.

Other Items

At our next meeting we will discuss the status of all ministries as well as the idea of transferring the reserve food donation funds to Nourish Food Bank for their backpack program. We will also discuss utilization of other reserved funds and the possibility of working with Inspiritus on their art project.

August 2024 Parish Life Report

Completed Events:

Pending/Upcoming events:

Debt Retirement celebration/ Welcome Back Party/ Gratitude kick-off

Baked potato bar

Suzanne Hebdon is leading

Gratitude Gathering

Jennifer Kropog is organizing

Nice reception with hand held snacks/foods

Future Events to Consider

Is there going to be a dedication of the Great Road?? If so- a reception?

6. Worship Report – August 2024

- **Music**
 - Angela Tipps reports she is wrapping up the choir summer routine
 - A national search for a new Music Director is in the planning stages
 - Search committee led by Kristine senior warden Brad Miller to be determined - process has started
- **Verger/Acolytes**
 -
 - No new concerns to report
- **LEM/Lector/Eucharistic Ministers**
 - No new concerns to report. The summer is progressing smoothly.
- **Flower Guild**
 - No new concerns to report.
- **Altar Guild**
 - Gina Garner and Ione Smith hosted an Altar Guild Appreciation Tea on Saturday August 10th at 2 pm. During a team meeting which took place as part of the event, reorganization of the teams and other matters were addressed. Recruitment strategies were discussed and plans have been implemented for recruitment of new members. The Guild is specifically looking to invite more younger generation members in order for experience and knowledge of procedures to be able to be passed down; however, all new members are welcome.
- **Children's Ministry**
 - No update to report
 - Amanda O'Connor and Kelli are organizing the sensory bags which have arrived.
 - Sensory service option (can St Andrew's be used?); to be continued
 - Ione S., Amanda O, Ethan O,, and Heather S., discussed starting a special needs parent's support group (we need to set up a formation meeting) to be continued
- **Worship Access & Technical Support**
 - No new concerns to report
- **Ushers/Greeters**
 - Sandy and Richard have no new concerns to report
 - Greeting seems to be going well (per observation); discussed a sign near the front door pointing towards table with a greeter.
 - Ushers are now setting out the new parking sign and bringing it in on Sundays after the 10 o'clock service
- **Intercessory Prayers**
 - Intercessory Prayer is always looking for new team member.
- **Centering Prayer**
 - The Centering Prayer team is taking a break over the summer.
 - Kristi Hay is working with Michael to re-establish Centering Prayer in September to correlate with Alpha. Centering Prayer at 4:00 pm, Alpha at 5:00 pm. Michael and Kristi are meeting next week to discuss specifics.
- **Medical Response Team**
 - No update to report