

**Minutes of Meeting of Vestry of
St. Paul's Episcopal Church of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Inc.
Date of Meeting: March 17, 2026**

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

Vestry Members:

Vestry Member Name:	P = Present A= Absent
Baumann, Kim	A
Clemmons, Sandy	P
Davis, Jeff	A
Enzor, Katie	P
Fahnestock, Bruce	P
Goodman, Ted	P
Green, David	P
Groutt, Dixie	P
Hebden, Susanne	A
Kropog, Jennifer	P
Miller, Lynne	P
Rhea, Lisa	P
Sullivan, Barbara	P

Clergy Present:

Rev. Michael Whitnah

Rev. Josh Wilson

Staff Present:

n/a

Others Present:

Don Whitfield

Don Clayton (clerk)

David Rowe (via Zoom)

1 The Meeting was opened with a prayer by Michael Whitnah.

2

3 The Agenda was amended to include (under the Financial report) adding an additional signer to
4 the Connect account; motion to approve the amended agenda by Ted Goodman, seconded by
5 Dixie Groutt, approved unanimously.

6 **Review of Minutes**

7 The minutes from the February meeting were corrected to include the underlined "...not to
8 exceed \$4,500 per vendor in a calendar year." Motion to approve by Sandy Clemmons,
9 seconded by Katie Enzor, approved unanimously.

10 **Financial Report (Don Whitfield)**

11 Pledges paid in advance are better than planned (\$226k YTD versus \$219k full year budget). We
12 have 24 pledges paid in full, which has helped boost our cash position. Overall YTD revenue is
13 ahead of both budget and last year, with a couple of exceptions:

- 14 (1) Unpledged gifts is running at 80% of the budgeted amount, and
15 (2) Other Income, where we have not yet received the \$11k Made to Flourish Grant.

16 Expenses are in line, with Music slightly ahead of budget. It is important to note that we
17 have a different cost structure this year versus 2025, with the addition of the Music Director
18 and Pastoral Resident.

19 Revenues and expenses are in line on the 323 East Main Street property, and our mortgage
20 balance is down to \$1.06M (versus the original \$1.3M).

21 Don added columns to the Restricted Funds report to show the current month income and
22 expense from each account. Note that we received a \$9k gift in February (listed under
23 "Salary Supplement") that will be used to supplement compensation in some yet-to-be-
24 determined fashion. Overall, while the restricted account balance is growing, we have
25 unrestricted cash of \$506k plus \$268k in the "quasi-endowment" account, so we are in a
26 very strong position in terms of cash.

27 Ted Goodman asked where we have the \$506k; Don responded that it is in a mixture of
28 checking and savings, and that it is a Finance Committee decision whether and where to
29 move any extra cash.

30 The Connect Ministry team has asked to add Dan Felciano as an additional signer, since
31 they prepare their own checks. Motion by Sandy Clemmons, seconded by Bruce
32 Fahnstock, approved unanimously.

33

34 **2026 Vestry Goals Discussion (David Green)**

35 David asked each Vestry member to look at their area and frame up goals as appropriate.

36 **Liaison Reports:**

37 **Worship and Music (Dixie Groutt)**

38 Parish Hall Tech Proposal – Dixie reported that their team met with two vendors, and
39 selected PAVS because of their 20-year track record and staff size (10). Their proposal
40 includes wall-mounted movable rack, which will simplify maintenance. They would plan to
41 complete the project by mid-May, with a minimal (3-5 day) disruption. Their proposal does

42 not include any electrical or network (additional IP addresses) changes that may be
43 required. After some discussion on what the scope of that additional work might be, Ted
44 Goodman moved to proceed with the PAVS proposal, with a budget not to exceed \$25k
45 total, including electrical and network changes. Seconded by Bruce Fahnestock, approved
46 unanimously.

47 **Children and Youth (Kim Baumann, Sandy Clemmons)**

48 Nothing to report.

49 **Alpha (Lynne Miller, Lisa Rhea)**

50 Will have something to report next month.

51 **Finance (Bruce Fahnestock)**

52 Nothing to report.

53 **Stewardship (Jennifer Kropog)**

54 Currently gathering their committee, will have first meeting in April.

55 **Playground (Ted Goodman)**

56 Estimate from the first contractor was untenable, so they will be meeting with a different
57 contractor. On the positive side, Heather has confirmed that a playground is covered under
58 our current insurance policy, so that will not be an impediment.

59 **Parish Life (Susanne Hebden, Barbara Sullivan)**

60 Nothing to add to written report.

61 **Newcomers (Katie Enzor)**

62 Nothing to report.

63

64 **Warden Reports:**

65 **Senior Warden (David Green)**

66 Nothing to add, beyond a reminder to flesh out goals for the year.

67 **Junior Warden (Jeff Davis)**

68 (Not present to report)

69

70 **Clergy Reports:**

71 **Pastoral Resident's Report (Josh Wilson)**

72 We have had good, energetic Youth meetings. Josh has kicked off a Wednesday morning
73 coffee group, with 6-8 youth attending.

74 The Scatter Survey closed with a 34% response rate, which is on the high end of the
75 expected 25-35%.

76 Josh's ordination is scheduled for Wednesday April 15. In addition to Bishop Bauerschmidt,
77 The Rt. Rev. Ann Ritonia, Bishop Suffragan for the Armed Forces and Federal Ministries, will
78 be in attendance and will preach.

79 **Associate Rector's Report (Michael Whitnah)**

80 Lenten Soup Suppers are going well, with all of the sessions facilitated by lay leaders.

81 We have interviewed three seminarians; we have a final interview with one candidate and
82 then we will then extend an invitation. (This will be a year-and-a-half engagement.)

83 On April 26, Jane Brown from St. Andrew's Sewanee will attend our Christian Education
84 hour to talk about the school.

85 Holy Week is coming up; Michael encouraged all Vestry members to be present and
86 participate in Holy Week services and activities.

87

88 **Staff Reports**

89 **Formation & Liturgy (David Rowe)**

90 We are offering an Explorers Course, with 14 people participating, which will finish up in
91 late April.

92

93 **Executive Session**

94 After the Executive Session, Bruce Fahnstock moved to provide supplementary
95 compensation to clergy and staff per the schedule defined in the Executive Session. Dixie
96 Groutt seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

97

98 After Compline, the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Clayton
Clerk of the Vestry