

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE CITY OF WILMINGTON

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA

JANUARY 25, 2026

9:00AM

Open doors. Open hearts. Open hands.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Agenda	4
January 26, 2025 Annual Meeting Minutes	5-8
Report of the Rector	9-10
Report of the Rector's Warden	11
Report of the People's Warden	12
Music Report	13
Worship Report	14
Administration Report	15
Membership	16
Long-Range Plan	17
Stewardship	18
Capital Campaign	19
Parish Life	20
Communications	21
Archives	22
Children, Youth and Family Ministries	23
Bellamy Memorial Garden	24
The Daughters of the King (DOK)	25
St. Fiacre Garden Guild	26
Gentlemen of Noble Poverty (GNP)	27
The Source Gift Shop	27
Flower Guild	28
Altar Guild	29
Technology	29
Community Ministries	30
Endowment	31-32
Treasurer	33-34
Financial Statements	34-38

AGENDA

The Annual Meeting of St. Paul's Episcopal Church Wilmington, NC January 25, 2026

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1) Call to Order and Opening Prayer | The Reverend Caleb J. Lee |
| 2) Appointments | |
| Secretary | Anne O'Dell |
| Parliamentarian | Herb Gant |
| 3) Approval of minutes from the 2025 meeting | |
| 4) Nominating Committee Report | Carol Field |
| and Election of New Vestry Members | |
| 5) Recognition of Retired Vestry Members | The Reverend Caleb J. Lee |
| 6) Rector's Report | The Reverend Caleb J. Lee |
| 7) Treasurer's Report | Scott Sheble |
| 8) Renovation Update | Mona Clites |
| 9) Warden Reports | Carol Field & Steve Haughey |
| 10) Special Recognition | The Reverend Caleb J. Lee |
| 11) New Business | |
| 12) Old Business | |
| 13) Special Vestry Meeting to Elect Wardens | |
| 14) Closing Prayer and Adjournment | The Reverend Caleb J. Lee |

2025 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Wilmington, NC Minutes of the 2025 Annual Meeting Sunday, January 26, 2025

Present: The Rev. Caleb J. Lee, Anne O'Dell (Rector's Warden), Steve Haughey (People's Warden), Barbara Banks, Steve Bucci, Tori Cannon, Ashley Eason, Carol Field, Lisa Sanders-Park, Denise Sheehan, David Tousignant, Phillip Weiss, Herb Gant (Parliamentarian)

Absent: Scott Sheble (Treasurer)

Call to Order and Opening Prayer

Appointments

For the business of this meeting, Father Lee nominated the current Clerk and member of the vestry, Tori Cannon for Secretary and Herb Gant to serve as Parliamentarian. Asking for and receiving no other nominations for these two appointments, a motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried for the appointments of Tori and Herb to their respective positions.

Approval of Meeting Minutes for the 2024 Annual Meeting

Father Lee invited those in attendance to read the minutes on pages 5-9 and consider for approval those minutes from last year's annual meeting. The parish was reminded that the report is an historical tool that is kept by our archivist, Ellen Weig, and let people who come after us to see what St. Paul's was doing in 2024. After a motion, and a second, the 2024 minutes were approved. Herb Gant, as Parliamentarian, certified that a quorum was present.

Nominating Committee Report and Election of New Vestry Members- Lisa Sanders-Park

In preparation for the Annual Meeting, the vestry appointed a Nominating Committee for the election of new members of the vestry. According to the bylaws of the parish, the Nominating Committee shall consist of the Rector and the outgoing members of the vestry. The members of the Nominating Committee are as follows: Anne O'Dell, Tori Cannon, Ashley Eason, Lisa Sanders-Park and the Rev. Caleb J. Lee.

The Nominating Committee presented the following nominees for election to the vestry:
Tori Cannon, who filled the vacancy left by Bill Anlyan and who is eligible for a full 3-year term
Karen Day
Cecelia Peers
Frank Wolf

All have accepted these nominations and now stand before this body for election. According to the by-laws, these names were published at least one month before the date of the annual meeting and nominations from the congregation were open until two weeks before the time of the annual meeting. There have been no further nominations.

Since there were only 4 nominees for 4 positions, a vote by acclamation was in order. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried. Father Lee congratulated the new members.

Father Lee recognized the service of the individual retiring members:

Ashley Eason is a member of the Daughters of the King and served as a liaison with the Parish Life ministry
Anne O'Dell has served in multiple roles including the People's Warden, Rector's Warden, Cofounder of the 1858 Circle, Advisor and Confidant to the Rector, Member of the Capital Campaign Committee as well as an HR Committee member.
Lisa Sanders-Park filled the vacancy for Chip Carter and served as a liaison for the Membership ministry and has been a champion for newcomers.

A Book of Common Prayer will be dedicated for each of you in thanksgiving for your service on the Vestry.

Delegates to Diocesan Convention

Father Lee announced that, in a departure from normal procedure, delegates to this year's Diocesan Convention will not be elected today. The change in process is due to the special circumstances of electing a new Bishop of the Diocese of East Carolina. The vestry will discuss how to proceed in light of this event and elect delegates who feel comfortable in helping to choose the next Bishop.

Father Lee recognized Rev. Michael Singer in his role as President of the Standing Committee of the Diocese of East Carolina. Father Lee also serves on this committee. Leon Tillery's position on the Bishop's Search Committee was acknowledged.

Rector's Report

"Thrive in 2025"

Father Lee opened with the words of Jesus: I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." -John 15:5

This reminds us that, in the midst of growth, it is God who makes things grow and we are merely vessels for the Holy Spirit.

Several ministries were identified as ways in which we hope to thrive in 2025:

St. Paul's Church provides traditional worship but it is alive and energetic and keeps parishioners engaged and allows us to thrive.

Under the leadership of Brendan Conner, Director of Music and Organist, our music program and choir have grown and been widely recognized as a significant contributor to thriving at St. Paul's.

St. Paul's continues to serve our neighbors and community through the Blessing Box, NourishNC, Rise Against Hunger, Angel Tree, Response to the needs in Western NC, Point in Time Comfort Bags, Foster Pantry Easter Baskets. The Community Ministries Committee has included outreach to Mother Hubbard's Cupboard and the Harrelson Center.

Hiring Isaac McDowell to become our Associate for Youth and Parish Life was an opportunity to grow the Youth Ministry. One example of the many activities that Isaac has planned includes an upcoming ski trip. Meghan Thomas has likewise grown the Children's Ministry through successful offerings including a "Parents Morning Out" that was full. Both groups have thrived by separating the children and the youth, allowing more time and energy to be focused on the individual group.

The Flower Guild is flourishing! The beauty during Holy Week in Easter and Christmas exemplified the leadership that Beth Richards has inspired.

Hospitality and Parish Life continue to provide nourishment through welcoming receptions on Sundays and at special events.

We continue to grow our budget through an increase in commitments to the Annual Stewardship Campaign and Special Gifts. The Capital Campaign has also been successful by raising 2.1M out of the 2.5M goal in order to complete Phase 1 and Phase 2.

Thirteen new members have joined the 1858 Circle by remembering St. Paul's into their estate planning.

There has been an unprecedented upswing from newcomers in the growth of commitments. Time. Talent. Treasure.

Father Lee outlined changes for 2025 with the challenge not to *survive these challenges but to thrive amidst them. We will be moving staff into the Ormond Center and recognize that there may be some anxiety attached to this adjustment. There is an ongoing effort to build support staff and volunteers to manage the reality of simultaneous growth with a major renovation. The hiring of a Church Administrator and a Financial Manager will also help to prepare for these anticipated inconveniences and to enable us to see them as opportunities and not challenges.*

Father Lee expressed gratitude for Father Singer, the Wardens Anne O'Dell and Steve Haughey, Kay Swindell and Judy Breny who stepped in after Catherine Powell left. He also thanked the parish staff, volunteers and ministries.

In closing, he thanked his wife Allen and his children for their consistent love and support.

Treasurer's Report—Carol Field, Finance Chair for Scott Sheble

Scott assumed the position of Treasurer this past year at the retirement of Judy Wilson. He reiterated that without the time, talent and treasure of the parish, St. Paul's could not exist and thrive.

Scott mentioned several of the accomplishments that St. Paul's has achieved in 2024:

- The Capital Campaign has raised over 2M, more than half of the 3.5M goal.
- Isaac McDowell was hired as the Associate Youth & Parish Life.
- Christian Bridges was hired as the Church Sexton responsible for opening and closing the church on Sundays.
- Realm was instituted as an upgrade to the existing software. Realm, a program that is designed for managing church communities, allows for tracking, analyzing and reporting information. Implementation and training has begun.
- The Stewardship Campaign was very successful, exceeding last year's total pledge amounts.
- Hiring of a Parish Administrator and a Finance Manager in 2025

Scott expressed being honored and blessed for being chosen to play an important role at such an important time. Father Lee noted that the various financial statements can be found at the back of the Annual Report.

Update on the Long Range Plan—Mona Clites, Chair

Mona shared that the goal of this committee is to implement the strategic plan for renovation and accessibility. In 2024, Gray Hudson with WKWW Architects worked on the development of Design Development drawings. The contract was finalized in the fall by the vestry. Structural and Mechanical Engineers are involved to help with the architectural drawings, cost estimates and to assist with the hiring of a contractor. Mona also mentioned members of the committee who have served throughout the process.

Mona noted that there is no definite date for construction.

Rector's Warden Report—Anne O'Dell

Anne paid tribute to the previous Rector's Warden, Bill Anlyan who resigned in August, 2024 in order to relocate to Raleigh. Anne was asked to assume the 6 months remaining in Bill's tenure and hoped to continue where he left off with the goal of making the transition as seamless as possible to accomplish the business of the church.

Anne also noted that the first Vestry meeting was held at St. Paul's on June 9, 1858. In the ensuing 166 years, St. Paul's enduring commitment, powered by the Holy Spirit, has survived the Civil War, World Wars, a pandemic, economic hardship and spiritual crises.

Father Lee presented Anne O'Dell with an original icon of St. Anne, Mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary made by a Ukrainian artist. This is in recognition of her many contributions to St. Paul's including: 3 years on the Vestry, Rector's Warden, People's Warden, Advisor and Assistant to the Rector, member of the Capital Campaign, Cofounder of the 1858 Circle, Grant writer, Human Resources committee and for her strong, servant leadership.

People's Warden Report—Steve Haughey

Steve noted that much has been accomplished but there is still much to do. An extensive list of highlights was provided to the parishioners. Among those were:

- HVAC improvements
- 16th Street doors were repaired
- Ormond Center modifications
- Wrought iron railing refurbished
- Trees were professionally trimmed

People's Warden Report—Steve Haughey-continued

Steve also noted events held throughout the year. Among those were:

- Parish Picnics
- New Member Social
- Weed & Feed Day
- Grounds Clean-up/Azalea Plantings
- Blessing of the Backpacks
- Hoggard High School Concerts
- Handel's Messiah

Additionally, fundraising through grant requests was successful in providing nutrients to the soil and ground cover, 100 Azaleas to beautify the campus, and refurbishing the wrought iron railing.

Steve acknowledged and thanked the Gentlemen of Noble Poverty and the grant writers for their work.

Agnus Dei Awards

David Tousignant

Described as a pillar of St. Paul's, David is a current Vestry member, a Verger, a member of the Gentlemen of Noble Poverty, former Senior Warden, Chair of the Endowment Board, Choir member and countless committees. David is also a veteran.

Spencer Weig

Spencer is the current Chair of the Endowment Board, a former Senior Warden, EFM mentor, Altar server, a member of the Gentlemen of Noble Poverty and cofounder of the 1858 Circle.

Ellen Weig

Ellen is being recognized for her exceptional service to St. Paul's. Her work as the archivist of St. Paul's has continued the tradition of record keeping. She promotes St. Paul's as a living organism with DNA and personality. Her work on race and the history of St. Paul's has sparked interest in its unique history around the larger Episcopal Church.

Diane Matz-Kane

Recognized as the longest serving employee under Father Lee's tenure, Diane has been the bookkeeper of St. Paul's for 10 years. She has announced her retirement on February 28th.

New Business

There was no new business at this meeting.

Old Business

There was no old business at this meeting.

Adjournment and Prayer

There was a motion and second to adjourn the Annual Meeting. The motion was approved.

Following the Annual Meeting, Father Lee called for the 2025 Vestry to come forward for the purpose of electing Wardens and officers.

Carol Field was nominated by Father Lee to be the Rector's Warden. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried.

Steve Haughey was nominated to be the People's Warden. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried.

Scott Sheble was nominated to be the Treasurer. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried.

Anne O'Dell was accepted as Clerk of the Vestry by acclamation.

Father Lee adjourned the meeting with a Prayer for the Church found on page 280 in the Book of Common Prayer.

REPORT OF THE RECTOR 2025

2025 has been a year of continued growth. This past winter, we welcomed two new full-time staff members in Finance and Administration, Lynne Rooks and Jeanne Fitzpatrick. In early spring, we moved our offices to the Ormond Center in anticipation of accessibility renovations in 2026. Holy Week and Easter attendance hit record highs and we gladly hosted an Ordination. Cheryl Wagoner and James Green were both ordained deacons, and we had the distinct privilege of being the field education congregation for James as he prepared for the priesthood. In June we hosted another successful Yard Sale and Summer Arts Camp, followed by a lively concert fundraiser for Glory Ridge by yours truly. In July, youth and adults traveled to Madison County for mission work and staff members and ministry leaders met to plan for the program year. In September it was announced that I was on the slate of candidates under consideration for the IX Bishop of East Carolina. This news was met with mixed emotions throughout the congregation and we settled into the fall in anticipation of what was to come. The Reverend Sarah Fisher was elected to become the IX Bishop of East Carolina and the following day I was honored to receive a standing ovation of thanksgiving for the outcome and my continuation as Rector of St. Paul's. It is an honor and privilege to serve as your rector and to continue the work I have been called to do here with the people of St. Paul's. There is so much good work to do together. We continue in 2026 with the following vision:

Under Construction



St. Francis of Assisi was once praying in the little church in San Damiano, when he had a mystical experience. Christ on the cross of what would become the Cross of St. Francis, or the San Damiano Cross, lifted his head and said to Francis, “repair my church.” At the time, the little chapel in San Damiano was in ruin, so he took the vision as a local calling to repair the little church as well as other local churches. St. Francis was a community man and this vision inspired with great zeal. What Francis would later come to understand is that God had a larger calling on his life, to which this was a part. But his great “repair” to the Church was the founding of the Franciscan Order, which began with the followers that Christ began to send to him shortly after the vision.

It is clear to me that God has spoken directly to me this year, through prayer and experience, that my calling is to continue with you in repairing the church.

As people of God, both personally and corporately, we are always “under construction.” We are in the continued process of formation. This past year, in my own spiritual and vocational discernment, that has become abundantly clear. I am a work in progress. So are you. So is St. Paul's. With all of the projected renovations at St. Paul's edging closer to reality, it might be wise to reflect on and live into how we are all under construction. Jeremiah would say that God is the potter and we are the clay. God is fashioning us into what God intends for us to be; not who we think we may need to be. I have learned that, once again, this year. How do we keep that perspective? It starts by living into the truth that we are all “under construction.” St. Paul's will be under construction this year; in more ways than one.

Campus Renovations

We are pretty certain that renovations will begin sometime after Easter. This is exciting. We also recognize that with renovations come disruptions in our patterns and ways of being. Let's be patient with one another and live into what God is doing while our campus is “under construction.”

Our Church Size has Shifted

We have navigated through a major change in how St. Paul's operates by finally reaching Program size status. We have shifted from a Transitional size congregation to Program size congregation. Our Average Sunday Attendance was 227 in 2025, up from 210 in 2024. This new average puts us on the lower end of Program size congregations. It is important for us to know what some of the characteristics are for a Program size congregation.

From Church Size and Its Implications, Episcopal Church Foundation, 2012

Program Size congregations account for 15% of the congregations and 23% of the worshippers. At this size resources are available to create a variety of programs and multiple member staffs are common. This is a truly

“multi-cell” organization. The shift to this level is very difficult, often requiring more resources than are immediately available. Many congregations feel “stuck” at the transitional size, unable to fly past the turbulence to program size. In program-size parishes the role of the rector shifts from one of being a hands-on pastor to managing a staff and delegating much of the responsibility. The role of the vestry shifts as well, with that body exercising oversight and relational authority, rather than focusing on tasks. Much energy in a program size church is spent on recruiting, training, equipping and empowering both volunteers and additional paid staff. Clergy and lay leaders alike may or may not be comfortable in their new roles – and at the cusp between transitional and program sizes they need to begin building the infrastructure that will allow them to step into these new responsibilities. New member incorporation takes place through the groups. It is no longer possible for everyone to know everyone else. Equipping and letting go are inherent challenges for this church size. Having more active members generally means needing more diverse programming. Fights are over the identification of priorities and the allocation of resources.

So what?

This means that although we have navigated through the challenges of a shift in church size, St. Paul’s is still “under construction.” Just like our individual bodies change, so will our corporate bodies change. We will continue to shed the old to make way for the new. Let’s be open to the truth that we are still “under construction” as a congregation.

Refined Vision, New Logo, New Website

As we work to make our campus more accessible and live into who we are as a program size congregation, there is also a need to define and refine who we are as a church and what the public understands us be. We are known for our worship and hospitality. It is time for the public to know that more fully through an updated vision, logo, and outward facing website. I have recently heard that the new red doors of the church are digital platforms. Are our digital red doors open and welcoming at St. Paul’s? This is an area in which we are still “under construction.” St. Paul’s will put significant emphasis on a refined vision, new logo, and new website this year.

So, let’s get to work.

Faithfully,

Call+



Pictured above: Top - Easter Day Eucharist. Bottom Left - The Lee clan at Happening closing. Bottom Center - Fundraiser for Glory Ridge. Bottom Right - the day after the Bishop’s election.

REPORT OF THE RECTOR'S WARDEN

2025 was an exciting year for St. Paul's, and I was blessed to serve as Rector's Warden for our wonderful parish during this time. Our staff expanded to include Lynne Rooks as finance manager, a new position for St. Paul's as well as the addition of Jeanne Fitzpatrick as parish administrator. Both are welcome additions to the staff at St. Paul's. I have enjoyed seeing them and exchanging a friendly word when I arrived at the Ormond Center for my weekly meetings with Fr. Lee.

Part of the responsibilities of the Rector's Warden is to attend various committee meetings. As Warden, I was invited to participate in the meetings of the Long Range Planning (LRP) Committee. The LRP Committee completed their work in 2025 and was replaced by the Construction Committee. As we are on the threshold of seeing the changes to our church building come to fruition, I am grateful that I had the opportunity to participate in these meetings during this past year.

In the fall, our parish learned that Fr. Lee was one of three candidates on the slate to replace Bishop Rob Skirving as the ninth bishop of the Diocese of East Carolina. During this time, I supported Fr. Lee as we navigated the various emotions of the parish members – including those of Fr. Lee and myself! - during this time. One recurring theme was the pride the congregants felt that our Rector had answered the call to the episcopacy and had been chosen for the final slate of candidates. At the same time, we are very happy that Fr. Lee will continue to serve as Rector of St. Paul's.

As I complete my term as Rector's Warden, I look forward to seeing St. Paul's continue to grow and thrive under the leadership of Fr. Lee and the 2026 Vestry.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Field

Rector's Warden

REPORT OF THE PEOPLE'S WARDEN

Report of the People's Warden-2025

2025 was a different and unique year for St. Paul's in many aspects. We changed some long- standing practices and traditions, but still remained committed to continuing our mission of maintaining our buildings and grounds on the campus.

In the first three months of the year, we finalized our renovations of the Ormond Center and moved the Rector and Staff into their new offices on March 31. Bishop Skirving blessed the Ormond Center on Sunday April 6. This marked a culture change for St. Paul's, as the Rector and staff were now housed in a building separate from the Church. Interested parishioners were given an opportunity to tour the new space following the 10:30 AM Sunday services during April and May.

We hosted tours for different engineering groups through the year as work continued on the Design Development phase of the Capital Campaign. Each visit focused on a particular aspect of the structure of our Church and Parish Hall-electrical, mechanical, plumbing and the HVAC systems.

During the summer and winter months, our HVAC systems were repeatedly tested to maintain comfortable temperatures within our buildings. Working with our HVAC vendor, Southeastern, we were able to keep our units working, although we did experience a higher-than-expected replacement/repair cost in the process. Some of the work accomplished during the year is as follows:

- Repaired the corners of the Parish Hall roof after significant rains from late last year;
- A work day in the spring ("Straw and Sammies") that planted Azaleas and put down pine straw throughout the campus;
- The lower wood casings around the organ pipes in the Sacristy were cleaned;
- The paint on the east and west facing windows of the Parish Hall was touched up where needed;
- The parking lot spaces were re-striped;
- The Ormond Center exterior was power-washed;
- We hired a new landscaper in the Fall;
- We replaced the freezer in the kitchen;
- Work began to upgrade the audio/visual systems that record and transmit our 10:30 AM service;
- The light bulbs in the center aisle and over the choir pews in the NAVE were replaced;
- The exterior of the Church was power-washed;
- The floor of the Nave was cleaned.

Our Grant request to the Diocese for the money to replace the Market Street Doors was not approved, but alternative funding has been found and work will continue. The plan in 2026 is to erect a canopy over the doors to shield them from the elements.

As I complete my final year on Vestry, I know that the necessary work to preserve and maintain our buildings will continue.

Respectfully submitted,
Steven Haughey
People's Warden

REPORT FROM MUSIC

2025 Music Report

2025 was a rich year musically at St. Paul's. The choir has gained several new members, and continues to work on ambitious repertoire throughout the year.

We began 2025 with a service of Choral Evensong on February 2nd, which was a great success. We offered a service of Choral Compline in Lent, as part of a partnership with Dr. Aaron Peisner. We hosted a duo organist concert in May, which was a splendid way of showcasing our two organs simultaneously. The choir prepared and sang Louis Vierne's Messe Solennelle in liturgical context on All Saints' day, which was a very successful and rewarding project. On top of our ambitious schedule of Advent services, we had a fully sold-out Messiah performance to round out the year.

The St. Paul's Choristers continue to practice most Sundays, and sang several times throughout the year. You'll notice the choristers singing with the adult choir more often as we look ahead to the Spring.

Our space continues to be in demand as a concert venue. We hosted concerts by new groups to St. Paul's such as the Wilmington Youth Choir, and the professional choir Servire. We will look forward to hosting several exciting concerts in the Spring.

I look forward to another rewarding year of great liturgy and music at St. Paul's!

Dr. Brendan Conner
Director of Music and Organist



WORSHIP REPORT

2025 Worship Report

“Christians don’t live for the weekend; we live for loving Christ and building up His kingdom.”— Fr. John Bartunek

Under Fr. Lee’s guidance, we have experienced continued growth as a parish, with an average Sunday attendance of more than 200 parishioners. We have faithfully maintained our tradition of weekday Eucharist and joyful Evensong celebrations. Together, these expressions of worship exemplify the heart of our Christian community—reminding us of our call to love one another, serve God, and grow together in faith.

This past year brought significant leadership transitions that have invigorated and strengthened our community. While we bid a fond farewell to the Rev. Michael Singer, who accepted a temporary calling as Interim Rector of St. Andrew’s On-the-Sound, we joyfully welcomed the Rev. James H. Green as our new bi-vocational Associate Priest, supporting us during worship services. These changes reflect God’s providence and have deepened our unity as a parish family.

Worship remains a heartfelt expression of our love for God and for one another, flourishing through the collective gifts of clergy and parishioners alike. Every role—whether arranging flowers, reading Scripture, serving at the altar, or welcoming others—enriches our shared worship experience. We were especially blessed this year to welcome the Right Reverend Robert S. Skirving for Holy Eucharist, including Confirmation and Baptismal Reaffirmation.

With deep sorrow, we remember the cherished members of our community who have passed into eternal life. We hold them in our prayers and daily devotions, trusting that faith is our consolation and eternal life our hope. This year also brought several beautiful weddings celebrated at St. Paul’s, thoughtfully organized by our wedding director. We are excited to welcome three new youth acolytes, and it has been a profound joy to see young people actively assisting in worship. This is an ongoing journey, and we pray that witnessing their energy and devotion will inspire others to join them.

Ministry is...Listening when you would rather fix the problem. Searching for joy when it is easier to say, “It’s not fair.” Helping when you feel like you are the one who needs help. Telling God, “Use me,” when you would rather ask to be rescued. Encouraging even when you do not understand God’s reasoning. Hugging when it feels awkward. Saying, “Let’s pray right now,” instead of “I’ll pray for you.” Serving when you doubt you have anything left to give. Comforting by being a flicker of light in another’s dark cavern.

— Author unknown

Thanks be to God!
Leon Tillery, Senior Verger



*The Ordinations of the
Reverend James Green
and Cheryl Wagoner to
the Diaconate.*

ADMINISTRATION REPORT-Annual Report 2025

The Rector of St. Paul's is our spiritual leader, and he is also charged with managing the nonprofit organization that is the church. Working in close partnership with the staff, vestry, treasurer, and various committee leaders, the Rector oversees daily operations to ensure that St. Paul's remains focused on its mission and serves as a faithful steward of its resources.

HUMAN RESOURCES: The leadership team (Rector, Wardens, and Treasurer) and the Human Resources Committee entered 2025 focused on addressing the church's staffing needs.

In February 2025, we welcomed two new staff members: Lynne Rooks, Finance Manager, and Jeanne Fitzpatrick, Church Administrator. Lynne brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience, gained from executive leadership roles at PPD, General Electric, and Deloitte. Jeanne is equally well accomplished with over 30 years of experience as an executive assistant. We are fortunate to have both Lynne and Jeanne on the St. Paul's team. Over the past year, their commitment and professionalism have played a key role in strengthening our financial and administrative functions.

With a new Finance Manager in place, Diane Matz-Kane, our bookkeeper for 10 years, retired at the end of February 2025. We are grateful to Diane for her years of service and dedication to St. Paul's.

In April 2025 Brendan Conner, our Organist and Director of Music, successfully defended his doctoral dissertation, completing the final step to earning a Doctor of Music from The Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University. Congratulations, Dr. Conner!

The Human Resources Committee completed a project it began in 2024: the review and revision of Human Resources Policies and Procedures for Lay Employees. The revised policies were reviewed and approved by the Vestry in 2025. The employee performance review process also received an update to enhance the effectiveness of communication and feedback between supervisors and employees.

VESTRY LEADERSHIP: At the annual meeting in January 2025, we elected a new slate of vestry members (Tori Cannon, Karen Day, Cecelia Peers, and Frank Wolf). These four people joined the returning eight members. The new vestry approved the appointment of Carol Field as Rector's Warden and elected Steve Haughey as People's Warden. In May, Phillip Weiss shared his plans to move to Chicago and submitted his resignation. In August, the vestry elected Mait DuBois to fill the vacancy and serve out Phillip's term ending January 2027.

Throughout the year, the vestry acted with integrity and focus, addressing challenges and planning for the future with a strong commitment to the long-term health and viability of our beloved faith community.

VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT: We are grateful for the many volunteers who advance the mission of St. Paul's as the hands and feet of Christ. This church could not function without them; their dedication to their ministries-of-choice was on display daily in 2025. Highlights from the various ministries can be found in the reports included in this document. Thank you all.

Respectfully submitted,
Steven Haughey
People's Warden

Membership Committee – Annual Report 2025

Open doors. Open hearts. Open hands. This is the motto of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and we are known throughout Wilmington for making people feel welcome. This is the focus of the Membership Committee, which helps build and strengthen the St. Paul's family by warmly welcoming all who enter our doors, especially newcomers.

First Touches

Greeters/Ushers play a vital role by providing the first interaction with visitors, and so much more. Led by Tom Gerow at the 8:00am service and Midge Silberman (greeters) and Don Bobo (ushers) at the 10:30am service, this team of 46 dedicated servants greets, hands out bulletins, offers name tags and welcome bags, gathers newcomer information, provides security, is on hand with water and first aid, and helps facilitate worship during the offering and communion, including identifying and leading clergy to parishioners who need to take communion in their pews. Karen Day diligently sends personal welcome letters to visitors and maintains the parish database to update address/email/phone changes and record details as visitors and prospects become members (through transfer, confirmation, etc.).

Deepening Connections

The committee organizes regular Monthly Dinner Groups and one-off Dinner & Faith Groups so people can break bread, spend time, and grow together. This year, 40 people participated in four regular monthly dinner groups, ranging from 8-12 people, that meet all year, and 28 people dined and fellowshiped in homes or in restaurants at one-off Dinner & Faith Groups in April and August. These events have been effective in creating stronger bonds in the community. We plan to continue them in 2026 and would love to have more people on the committee to coordinate the dinners. The Membership Committee works with other ministries, especially Parish Life and Children, Youth & Family to help people of all ages get their spiritual needs met, connect with opportunities to serve, and become active members of our church.

Ministry Fair

Membership ran a ministry fair in October to facilitate connecting members' passions/skills with our numerous ministries, among them: Hospitality, Flower and Altar Guilds, Buildings and Grounds, Community Outreach, and Finance.

Overall, 2025 resulted in 32 new members and active non-members (up slightly from 31 in 2024). The committee is thankful for the blessing of a growing church and we look forward to serving members, prospects, and visitors in 2026.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elisabeth Sanders-Park & Karen Day
Membership Committee Co-Chairs

LONG-RANGE PLAN

Annual Meeting January 25, 2026 Long Range Plan Committee Update

Background: The Long-Range Plan Committee (LRPC) has been working to implement the Vestry's strategic plan by developing a long-range plan for structural improvements and was completed by the committee and architect Gray Hudson from WWKW Architects. This plan has several phases, and schematic drawings were completed and used by the Vestry and a fundraising committee who worked to raise funds. The Phase I project includes building an accessible ramp from the sanctuary to the Parish Hall, reconfiguring the library/bathroom/hallway area outside of the Parish Hall to expand the restrooms, having a larger open area, installing an elevator to connect the various levels of buildings, installing a restroom in the narthex and improving the vesting area.

Update for 2025: Gray Hudson, WWKW Architects, who is our architect, completed the design development drawings for the project in the spring that were reviewed by the Long-Range Plan Committee (LRPC). The LRPC has worked for several years to establish the vision of the project and hire and work with the architect to develop drawings. The most recent members included Father Lee, Carol Field, Steve Haughey, Terese Singer, Layne Dupree, Barbara Ellington-Banks, Dave Tousignant, Karen Smith and Bill Smith. In the early summer, Father Lee asked 3 parishioners with local contracting experience to join in the process. They are William Gwathmey, Darren Jones and Rob Nipper. The Vestry, on recommendation by the LRPC, decided to move to sunset the LRPC and create a Construction Committee (CC) with William, Darren, Rob and Mona Clites to work with the architect, hire a contractor, and implement the LRPC's vision in the construction phase. The CC became familiar with the project by reviewing the drawings and meeting with the architect. They then developed an RFP to hire a contractor to approve pre-construction services and construction services for Phase I interior renovations.

From the RFP, the work would include:

Preconstruction Services shall, at a minimum, include:

Early budgeting of preliminary plans within three weeks of award

Advise the design team of material selections and constructability

Identify potential risks, hazards, and delays

Publish and maintain a bar chart project schedule

Provide final GMAX pricing utilizing competitive bid subcontractors and vendors

Early procurement of long lead items

Value Engineering

Secure all necessary permits and regulatory approvals

The CC conducted interviews with 3 local contractors and selected and recommended to the Vestry to hire Chambliss and Rabil Construction Co. They developed a cost estimate based on the current drawings of \$2.1M - \$2.3M, which is in the range that was previously discussed by the Vestry. The architect has been directed to continue with construction drawings and has been working with the contractor.

The next steps include completing the construction drawings; obtaining a final cost estimate by the contractor to develop a Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) and finalizing a contract with them; starting the project by installing a small bathroom at the back of the church to be completed before construction begins and then going through permitting and starting construction sometime after Easter. As the design process continues and more information is available, the timeline for the construction will be communicated.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mona Clites, Construction Committee Chair

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship Report Tell Out My Soul

The Stewardship Committee, chaired by Karen Day, includes Father Lee, Mait DuBois, Carol Field (Rector's Warden), Steve Haughey (People's Warden), Jack McElroy, Anne O'Dell, Denise Sheehan, Scott Sheble (Treasurer), and Frank and Marcia Wolf.

While the duties of the Committee are year-round, the most visible work is St. Paul's Annual Stewardship Campaign. This year, our theme was "Tell Out My Soul." This familiar hymn expresses St. Paul's joyous commitment to proclaim God's grace and goodness, not only this season but for generations to come.

The campaign began with a letter from Father Lee to the parish, mailed on October 8, outlining his vision for St. Paul's in 2026. A letter from the Stewardship Committee followed a week later. Adding more detail and specifics, the Committee encouraged the congregation to generously support the vision and mission of St. Paul's. A pledge card and self-addressed reply envelope were included.

During five Sundays of October, parishioners spoke about St. Paul's and stewardship. Lynne Rooks, our finance manager, described the new systems being implemented to improve our financial reporting and communications.

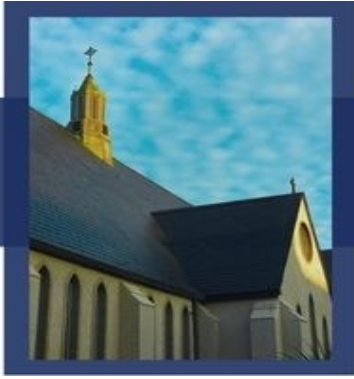
The next four speakers used the lyrics of the hymn in their presentations. Karen Day spoke on "unnumbered blessings" – the joys and blessings of community and connections made. "From age to age" was Steve Haughey's topic, expressing our commitment to preserving and improving the building and grounds. Cecilia Peers described the ways that St. Paul's serves the community – "the hungry fed, the humbled lifted high." And finally, using the lyrics, "to children's children and forever more," Alison Nipper spoke on the growing ministries to children and youth. Ingathering Sunday was held on Sunday, November 16. As of this writing, 138 households have pledged \$622,530. There are 20 new pledgers, and we are ahead of our 2025 amount. Pledges continue to arrive, so we anticipate these totals will increase.

The Stewardship Committee and the Vestry expressed their gratitude by sending personal notes to everyone who pledged.

The Committee is grateful to the parishioners of St. Paul's for stepping forward in faith and generosity.

Respectfully submitted,
Denise Sheehan





**Faith in Action: Building Our Future
A Capital Campaign to
Renew & Restore St. Paul's**

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

In February 2024, the Vestry of St. Paul's voted unanimously to move forward with a three-year, \$3.5 million capital campaign to renew and restore St. Paul's. This decision came after more than five years of work done in collaboration with the Long-Range Planning Committee and WKWW Architects of Charlotte, NC, to develop an inspired, yet realistic plan to renovate our sacred space. In its current configuration, St. Paul's, like many historic churches built in a previous era, presents considerable challenges to people with limited mobility. The purpose of this renovation is twofold: (1) provide access to and within our spiritual home for all people regardless of physical ability, and (2) update our facilities to better meet the needs of ministry in the 21st century.

The details of the proposed renovation plans were unveiled at a parish-wide meeting on Sunday, April 21, 2024, officially marking the start of the capital campaign. Now in its second year, the campaign has raised over \$2.3 million in gifts and pledges towards our \$3.5 million goal. We are sincerely grateful to everyone who has given financial support to the campaign, and we ask those who have not yet made a pledge to please consider doing so. We are working hard to raise the necessary funds, and we need full participation from the parish to help reach our goal. Please contact the finance office for assistance.

In October 2025, the Isabel James Lehto Foundation made a generous pledge of \$250,000 to our campaign. The pledge will be paid in five annual installments of \$50,000, with the first payment received in 2025. (This pledge is reflected in the figures noted above.) We are honored and very thankful to receive financial support from the Foundation. The Lehto Family and the Foundation have been, and continue to be, a vital part of St. Paul's history.

Faith in Action: Building Our Future is not simply our capital campaign theme; it is our call to action. Transforming our spiritual home so that it is safe and easily accessible, especially to those with limited mobility, is central to our faith and integral to our mission to minister to all people. The 21st century promises to present new and unforeseen opportunities to better serve the growing community within and beyond our church walls. With God's help, we will be ready with open doors, open hearts, and open hands.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne O'Dell for The Capital Campaign Committee

2025 provided many opportunities for Sunday breakfast, Wednesday lunch, special events, and lots of welcoming to fellow Parishioners and guests during Parish Life events. Last year's highlights include the following:

The Annual Meeting in January was supported in part by people working in unison to hurriedly change out the area in front of the lectern into a coffee station to provide sustenance for attendees to the Annual Meeting. Likewise, after the meeting, the floor below the lectern was back to normal in the blink of an eye!

In February, the first members of the 1858 Circle were welcomed at a special Evensong service which was followed by an elegant afternoon tea & sherry reception. A highly anticipated ordination of our own Cheryl Wagoner and James Green of St. Christopher's in Elizabethtown, NC created two new Deacons in our Diocese in May! A reception was held after the service in the Parish Hall.

The Annual Shrove Tuesday pancake supper was held with the help of pancake and sausage cooks from the GNP. The donations went to the youth event, the mission trip to Glory Ridge in Western NC. Another blood drive in cooperation with the American Red Cross was held on Valentine's Day. We held our breath for the rain to stop to hold the Spring Parish Picnic & Plant Swap at Long Leaf Park. Lots of good food, a great variety of plants to take home, and a peaceful end to the afternoon with Compline provided a nice fellowship event. Even the Park Attendant was impressed with the variety of plants, and he gathered some new specimens for his yard.

The Blessing of the Animals, including Father Lee's chickens, was very well attended, and our furry friends and their humans enjoyed ice cream in the Rectory Garden. The Fall Parish Picnic ended the year with a Great Thanksgiving feast and was held in the Parish Hall.

Of course, Parish Life is also responsible for the Wednesday lunch following the 12:10 service, Sunday morning community breakfast, and Sunday reception. With the beginning of the 25/26 program year some changes to the Sunday breakfast were made. The breakfast is now known as the Coffee Klatch, and it begins with light snacks and coffee which provides the 8:00 AM folks and others to sit and visit for awhile. Coffee Klatch continues through Coffee with the Rector.

A big shout out is given to Jeanne Jones for all her work consolidating space in both kitchens and organization extraordinaire of the cabinets and drawers. Many thanks also to the former Sunday morning breakfast chefs, the mid-week lunch teams, and Sunday rainbow teams who provide delicious spreads for all to enjoy after services. More importantly, these hospitality opportunities provide Parishioners and guests the warm welcome for which St. Paul's is known.

We offer several opportunities to serve as a Parish Life member. Christian Bridges and William Pollock make the best coffee and help with whatever is needed to set up for our hospitality events. If you feel called to join the Parish Life steering committee, which plans the activities, or if you want to don an apron, oven mitts, and jump right into the kitchen with 60+ folks who provide Coffee Klatch or Wednesday lunch, please contact Margaret Haughey at haugheymarg@gmail.com, or Lois Moore at lois.moore5@outlook.com for Sunday receptions.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Haughey
Chair, Parish Life

COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications Team supports clergy, staff, and ministry leaders in the creation and distribution of information relevant to the life of the church. We have a variety of tools in our communications toolbox: the Bulletin, announcements during worship, the weekly E-Newsletter, our spechurch.com website, livestreaming services on YouTube, social media (Facebook and Instagram), Eventbrite for ticketed events, Email, snail mail, banners on Market & 16th Streets, flyers, posters, and free/paid advertising in local media. Depending on the situation and the nature of the information being shared, we select the most appropriate tools to efficiently and effectively reach, inform, and engage our target audience within and beyond our church walls.

Most parishioners report that they receive information about St. Paul's through a combination of traditional and digital channels. Personal conversations and announcements made during services are frequently cited, alongside the weekly Bulletin and E-News. Social media platforms also play a significant role in parish communication, with Facebook engaging more users than Instagram. Notably, in 2025, the three most viewed posts on our Facebook page were: the announcement of James Green's Ordination (4,353 views), Fr. Lee's Yard Sale video (3,964 views), and Confirmation with Bishop Skirving in April (3,685 views).

Our website plays a crucial role as St. Paul's "digital front door," offering visitors and potential members their first introduction to our church. Alongside our livestreamed services, the website shapes initial impressions and can influence a person's decision to visit our church in person. To ensure that we present St. Paul's in the best light, the Communication Team is planning to redesign the website in 2026. After four years of steady growth, it's time for our online presence to better reflect who we are as a church, especially as we transition into our newly renovated facilities. Stay tuned.

Please also be reminded that text and email scams targeting churches are prevalent. Many of us have received fake messages from scammers pretending to be the rector. Our Technology Team is doing what it can to reduce the incidence of these phishing scams, but be vigilant and know that the clergy will never send a text or email with an urgent request for gift cards or money. If you have doubts about the authenticity of a text or email, call the church office and report the scammers to your wireless or email provider.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne O'Dell for the Communications Team

Annual Report (2025) from the St. Paul's Archives

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Archives Mission Statement

St. Paul's Episcopal Church celebrates and supports a historical legacy, founded upon a rich heritage with deep roots in the Wilmington community, the state of North Carolina, and the Episcopal Church. We seek to preserve our institutional memories in order to realize the creative future of the parish and to provide knowledge and resources that strengthen both the missions and ministries of a faithful and diverse church community looking ahead in the 21st century.

The Archives is a treasure box of stories: stories of friendship and relationship, people in mission and ministry, generations of families in celebration of baptisms, confirmations, marriages, ordinations, and for lives remembered at funerals. They are stories of people who worshipped in St. Paul's Church long before us and people now with dreams for the future.

The shelves in the Lucy Ann Glover Archives Room hold decades of Vestry minutes, historic documents, Building and Grounds visions and decisions, records of stewardship, committee plans, programs and activities, and evidence of progress building up St. Paul's church and congregation spiritually and physically in community - with God and each other. They document our place in the neighborhood, the city of Wilmington, and in the Diocese of East Carolina.

This has been an active year! My Archives Summer History Series for Adult Formation over 5 weeks focused on "The Arts of Faith: Architecture, Landscape, Music and Light, Memorials and Memories, and Symbols and Images." Another major presentation was to visiting members of the Church of the Holy Family, Chapel Hill making a pilgrimage visit to Wilmington to learn the story of 1898. My talk focused on the history of St. Paul's from 1856, before the Civil War, through the period of St. Paul's as a Freedman's Commission School and Black Mission church.

Weekly tasks in the Archives have been primarily preparation for the upcoming construction period. The assistance of volunteers and supporters (Melody, Michele, Marietta, Marcia, Anne, and Lois and David) has been invaluable. They have patiently taken on transcriptions; re-structuring old formats into a newer one; tackling a huge collection of loose/undated/un-named/disorganized photographs; skimming through old church publications for references to the active life of St. Paul's; and a research project. First Sunday-of-the-Month tours continue with attendance of current parishioners, visitors, and newcomers – always a joy and a challenge when questions pop up! Major points of interest have been seeing the buildings through the lens of the needs for accessibility, the pending construction, and discovering the 3rd and 4th rose windows. An extra joy is the expressed interest of a docent-in-training! Many hands not only help, but enjoy lots of laughter and good mornings together.

Preservation of the records and documents has meant reviewing storage needs, ensuring proper preservation of the Rev. Alexander Miller papers and photographs. Additional archival supplies have been ordered, paid for through a previous generous gift for a research request by a descendant of a St. Paul's earlier member.

Goals continue to include the return of the original building blueprints borrowed several years ago; continued preparation for the construction period, ongoing research and writing, and sharing the stories.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen C Weig, Archivist

Children's Ministry Annual Report 2025

Throughout the past year, our children's ministry continued its faithful work of guiding St. Paul's children in Christian learning, worship, and fellowship.

Sunday School was offered Sunday mornings for preschool - grade 5 upstairs in the Children's Wing during the traditional school year. Anne O'Dell, Allen Lee and Meaghan Thomas served as the lead Sunday School teachers for our 2nd - 5th grade class using the Weaving God's Promises program for its first full year. We continued to offer our Touch & See class for preschool - 1st grade children. Tina Cameron remained our Nursery Coordinator and continued to be an excellent leader for our youngest children at St. Paul's. A monthly newsletter was emailed to families which contained upcoming events and the lesson focus for each week. Worship Kits (activity bags and boxes) continued during 2025.

2025 continued to provide opportunities for children to become involved in worship. Brendan Conner led a Children's Choir and children also served as lectors and as volunteers to bring the little red wagon up during the 10:30am Choral Eucharist. Our 5th graders began learning the various acolyte roles and took pride in their new responsibilities.

St. Paul's children stayed involved in the life of the Parish this year attending various Parish-Wide events such as Pancake Supper, Easter Egg Hunt, Blessing of the Animals, and more. We enjoyed a variety of family events as well: Ice Skating, end of the year Pool Party, Wilmington Sharks Baseball Game, and our Fall Family Cookout. Summer Arts Camp expanded to partner with St. Andrew's On-the-Sound and hosted over 30 children ages 4-rising 5th grade. Blessing of the Backpacks and a Children + Youth Ministry Fair was a great way to kick off our 2025-2026 Program Year. In December we once again went Caroling with EYC at Cypress Pointe and kids enjoyed our second annual Parent's Morning Out full of Christmas activities. The Presentation of the Nativity on Christmas Eve rounded out our year. We give thanks for the volunteers, families, and children whose faithfulness and participation sustain this ministry.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meaghan Thomas, Children's Ministry Coordinator

2025 Youth Ministry Report

Throughout the year of 2025, St. Paul's youth community consisting of students in 6th-12th grade has continued to evolve in a positive direction as we provide our students with fun, creative, and spiritually engaging opportunities. This past year, St. Paul's EYC offered both overnight events as well as shorter afternoon meetings held on Sunday afternoons. EYC also meets weekly from 9:30-10:15 on Sunday mornings to discuss scripture and enjoy breakfast snacks and coffee. Examples of overnight events through St. Paul's EYC include the ski trip, spring retreat, Glory Ridge, Wilmington Area Youth fall retreat, and various Diocesan events. Overnight trips allow students to be in community together for extended periods of time and expose them to more spiritually intensive experiences that nurture their faith. Sunday afternoon EYC gatherings at St. Paul's consist of sharing a meal, fun games, and discussing scripture from the lectionary for that Sunday. An exciting new development for St. Paul's youth community has been the inception of Wilmington Area Youth (WAY). Wilmington Area Youth Events combine St. Paul's, St. James, St. Andrews on the Sound, and Church of the Servant youth for engaging experiences that build community and cultivate new relationships. As St. Paul's EYC looks to the future, we will continue to equip our students with the spiritual foundation they need to live successful and spiritual lives that reflect the love and grace of Jesus Christ.

Respectfully submitted,

Isaac McDowell, Associate for Youth and Parish Life

Bellamy Memorial Garden Report for 2025

The Bellamy Memorial Garden continues to be a holy place for the interment and memorialization of St. Paul's Episcopal Church's Parish Family. It was created in honor and memory of those who have entered God's glorious heavenly kingdom.

During 2025, five members of our parish family were memorialized in the Garden where they will always be remembered as faithful servants of a loving God and the church.

Several memorial donations were made in 2025 for the Garden in honor of those that have passed. These contributions will help insure that the Garden's maintenance remains self-sustaining and does not impact St. Paul's Operating, Capital, or Endowment Funds.

Seasonal flowers were planted during the year to keep the Garden as an attractive final resting place for our loved ones as well as the community as they pass the church on 16th Street.

Father Lee has continued to welcome those of our parish family who have decided to pre-plan their final arrangements. Pre-planning facilitates the decisions that will need to be made in the future by our loved ones. During these meetings, he will share the options that have been made available to the members of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Bobo

THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Mary Veronica Chapter, Daughters of the King (DOK)

The Order of the Daughters of the King is an order for women who are communicants of the Episcopal Church, churches in communion with it, or churches in the historic episcopate but not in communion with it. The Order's purpose is to bring others into a living, loving relationship with Jesus, our Lord and Savior, and to help strengthen the spiritual life of our parishes and missions. In solidarity with one another, all Daughters everywhere make the same promises upon their admission to the order: to obey the two rules of the order, which are the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service; faithfully wear the cross of the order; work for the purposes of The Order as God may give us the opportunity; and, to offer at all times loyal aid to our clergy and parish to spread Christ's Kingdom. (Taken from the DOK chapter manual).

The Mary Veronica chapter currently has 15 active members. Our service to St. Paul's includes the following areas where daughters are active:

- Eucharistic ministers
- Lay readers
- Verger
- Vestry
- Alter Guild
- Flower Guild
- Ushers
- Rainbow teams for Sunday hospitality
- Wednesday lunches
- Parish life activities
- SPEC office volunteers
- Maundy Thursday vigil participation
- Mother Hubbard's Cupboard
- Helping Hands funeral committee
- Assistance with SPE summer arts camp
- EFM

As a group, we assisted with

- Taize services
- Lenten soup, salad, and speaker series
- Blue Christmas of Healing and Hope

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Gallaher President

Ashley Eason Vice president

Kathryn Hedgepeth, Acting Secretary

Margaret Haughey Treasurer

St. Fiacre Garden Guild 2025 Annual Report

The ministry of the St. Fiacre Garden Guild was established in honor of St. Fiacre, a 6th century Irishman who is the patron saint of gardeners.

In 2025 our dedicated volunteers continued assisting in maintaining our sacred grounds by:

- Necessary chemicals were inventoried, purchased and applied.
- Removed dead, damaged, and diseased plants
- Purchased annuals, accepted donated perennials ,and planted them
- Trimmed hedged shrubs, ivy, crepe myrtle, and roses and liope
- Maintained several large planters
- Excessive plantings
- Continuer refurbishments on the Rector's Garden lawn.

I am thankful for the parishioners that give their time to our much needed ministry. I encourage anyone who has an interest in gardening to join us.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia DuPuis Scherer, M.D.

January 2026

GENTLEFOLK OF NOBLE POVERTY (GNP)

Gentlefolk of Noble Poverty (GNP) 2025

St Paul's GNP is a fellowship of Christian men and women, who meet weekly and throughout the week as needed, to provide the repair and maintenance needs of the parish property, as defined by the skill sets of the volunteers. These needs are commonly made known to the People's Warden, and the Parish Administrator. The Rector is of course informed of the requests made, and has final approval. Some tasks are periodic, and repetitive, such as air filter replacement on our HVAC equipment. Others are more complex and involve analysis and input for the annual budgeting process. These are often referred to as capital projects. The group is also capable of troubleshooting, and repair/replacement of issues relating to carpentry, plumbing, and electrical. Other defined tasks involve the preparation of the facilities for celebrations, concerts, fundraisers, and special events such as Azalea Days. This often involves banner hanging, chair and table placement, decorating, and retrieval of items from storage.

On an as-needed basis, and as time and skill sets exist, the GNP has been involved in off-site projects such as handicap access, and more major projects such as work for Habitat for Humanity. All of these projects involve the Rector's approval.

It should also be noted that although we are contracted for some lawn and garden maintenance, seasonal plantings and fertilizer and weeding of the church and similar recurring projects, also is managed by the St. Fiacre Team of the GNP. If you have lawn and garden skills, or would like to participate and learn, please consider joining the Team!

I hope this has served as an informational review of what we do. Our limitations are skills and equipment, as well as the scope of the request. In these we have over time developed working relationships with qualified contractors and service providers. Come and join us in the Parish House on Thursday's at 0900 to learn how you can be a part of the Team!

David Tousignant - GNP Lead

THE SOURCE GIFT SHOP

The Source has had another great year! We continue to be your “go to” place for guilt free shopping where the proceeds go to ministries important to the mission of St. Paul’s. Thanks to your support, we were able to donate \$500 to our St. Paul’s youth to help with the cost of their mission trip to Glory Ridge.

This year we have partnered with Matt Anlyan at Kids Making It to have magnetic wooden nametags made. This campaign has been very popular and a win-win for us and the local kids making the nametags. We are continuing to sell them and will be doing so periodically. Please check in at The Source if you would like to order one.

Thank you for shopping with us!

Trish Arnold

Rhonda Stroud

FLOWER GUILD

Volunteers (Susan Butler, Tori & Al Cannon, Marietta Dolman, Date Hoff, David Frederiksen, Lynda Miller, Joann Edwards-Norman, Brian Sanders-Park and Jessica Shiplett plus addition of very special part-time volunteers Patsy Perhala and Doug Donald and Bill Richards)

The Guild has retained the thirteen volunteers we started with last January. This larger team has benefitted from increased diversity of talent. In addition to individuals and small teams researching, purchasing, prepping and arranging the Sunday altar flowers, the full guild participated in the annual larger scaled projects of Advent, Christmas, and Easter floral decorations of the church. This was done in conjunction with the GNP and other church volunteers. We celebrate our work with pizza!

The Flower Guild also benefitted again this year from the time, talent and skill of Joan Miller, (President of our Loblolly Garden Club and friend of Beth Richards). Joan volunteers specifically to teach and assist Guild members in the production of Advent, Christmas and Easter window boxes and other installations as well as the making of boutonnieres and corsages for wedding ceremonies hosted at St. Paul's. We are so grateful for her continued assistance.

In addition to their time and talents, various Flower Guild members also donate significant purchases of supplies and flowers.

Coordination and joint activities with other ministries including the following:

Parish Life GNP

Hospitality Wedding Coordinators

Funeral Coordinators

Providing flowers for the sick and homebound with Daughters of the King delivery and visitation

Youth Groups-

Helping with tools and work to the families who make Advent candle wreath on Advent 1

Use of our dried flowers in making of potpourri sachets for sale in the Source to aid projects and trips for the youth

Assorted special events included in 2025

- 5 Weddings (one of which was from within our congregation and included a reception in the Parish Hall with 16 table arrangements)

- 8 Funerals (altar and reception flowers),

- 3 Baptisms (font)

- 1 High Tea for Evensong (table arrangements)

- Reception for visiting retired bishop The Right Rev. Henry Parsley

- Ordination service and reception for James Green and Cheryl Wagoner

- Blue Christmas church decoration

- Table arrangements for other luncheons, dinners and reception (eg., Choir dinner on Christmas Eve, Caregivers' Event)

Special Feast Days for Altar with emphasis on liturgical season colors

Epiphany, Lent, Palm Sunday, Easter, Memorial Day, Pentecost, Independence Day

Sources of Greenery and Flowers: Mayesh, Trader Joe's, Lidl, Costco, Fresh Market, Castle Hayne Farm, Harris Teeter, Mother of Wild, Sweet Nectar's Florist, The Plant Place, Barr Nursery

Donations of greenery and flowers from members and congregants.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Ryan and Beth Richards (The amazing step up of angelic help of every member at Christmas was so appreciated.)

ALTAR GUILD REPORT

Annual report for St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Wilmington, NC 2025

The Altar Guild of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Wilmington, NC has had a busy year.

We have prepared the table for 52 services at 8am and 52 services at 10:30am, **51** services on Wednesdays at noon, many feast days, 2 Christmas Eve services, Christmas Day Service, Lenten and Easter week services, Christmas and Advent Lessons and Carols services and funerals and baptisms.

The teams stay busy keeping the cabinets filled with wafers, wine and oil for candles, not to mention making sure the linens are cleaned and replaced, candles filled, silver polished and remembering where the towels and pitchers are in time for Maundy Thursday. All teams work to make sure the jobs are done and the church is ready for service. There have been some changes and we are always looking for new members. We have four teams that rotate for the weekly services and a team for the Wednesday services. The teams set up for the 8am Sunday service, come early to change over for the 10:30am service, clear up afterward, and set out in the sacristy for the Wednesday service.

Serving on the Altar Guild is not a duty but an honor.

Annual report for St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Wilmington, NC 2025

TECHNOLOGY

2025 Technology & Production Ministries Activities & Accomplishments

The mission of the technology ministry here at St. Paul's is to provide technology to meet the needs of the St. Paul's staff, ministries, congregation, on an ongoing basis in a reliable and cost-effective fashion, and to demonstrate that St. Paul's is an effective and creative user of technology.

The technology we have here at St. Paul's includes computers, printers, telephones, and local/wireless internet access. In addition, we have a sound system in the nave and parish hall, and live streaming equipment. We also have a fire alarm system with horn/strobe combinations as well as a burglar alarm system. We also have security cameras around the church building and Ormond Center.

The technology ministry supports all computing equipment like our phone system, internet, computers (desktops/laptops), and live stream equipment. We also assist with zoom meetings, give technology recommendations when an upgrade or replacement of a piece of equipment is needed, and assist with new employee orientation on technology equipment.

This past year, we lost a valued member of the technology ministry, Bob Crafts. Bryce O'Dell has volunteered to take over for him and has continued to lead the technology ministry forward taking on numerous tasks like working with Bob Belaustegui on rewiring the tech area in the basement to make sure it meets current NEC standards, clean up cabling, and moving equipment around for easier access for troubleshooting. Bob also installed a speaker in the narthex. Bryce has also been working with Jonathan Graves on redoing the sound system in the nave. The following work has been completed: Added two new amplifiers, replaced, rerouted, and labeled cables (xlr), and relabeled equipment. Work on the sound system and other devices will be continued in the new year 2026 that includes additional rerouting of speaker cables, running cables for future PTZ cameras, adding the PTZ camera(s) & controller, adding a sound mixer to the balcony for live stream audio to help with the clarity, and adding two new VOIP phones for Brendan and Old Admin Office.

We also have a production ministry staffed with 6 volunteers that produce live streams for Sunday services, holiday services, free concerts, weddings & funerals. They also manage the audio for the nave and live stream.

Respectfully submitted,
Bryce O'Dell

COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

In 2025 St. Paul's remained at the forefront of reaching out to and assisting those in need in Wilmington and New Hanover County. In these uncertain times we have continued to support nearly 20 organizations and projects that provide food, shelter, goods and services, educational support, guidance, and some amount of happiness and joy. We assist all of them in providing these things to children and adults who are hungry, disadvantaged, or in some sort of need.

We continue to support our 5 “Core” partners: Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard, Nourish NC, Good Shepherd, Snipes Academy, and Help Hub. All of these agencies are critical to providing assistance to those who need help in our area. We also support: Rise against Hunger, 2Share, V.O.Y.A.G.E., Episcopal Farm Workers, Coach Thomas, Glory Ridge, The Diaper Bank, Foster Pantry, Kid’s Making It, Northside Food Co-Op, and our Angel Tree and Blessing Box.

Help Hub, Good Shepherd, and 2Share we basically provide financial support, we share operational funds for 2Share with 2 other Episcopal churches. While we provide support to Mother Hubbard’s Cupboard, we also have a team of about 20 people who pack about 200 boxes and 100 bags with food twice a month. We also supported The Diaper Bank financially again this year but we also ran a Diaper Drive with their help. Parishioners donated diapers and brought them to church or bought them online and had them shipped directly to their facility. Thanks to your generosity, we collected 4,122 infant diapers, 847 adult incontinence diapers, and 764 period pieces! We also assist V.O.Y.A.G.E and Kid’s Making It, both of which educate, enrich, and provide guidance to children in the area, and The Northside Food Co-Op which is providing 2 community meals a month in our neighborhood. In addition, this year we re-connected with Episcopal Farm Workers and provided them with funds for their mattress program.

Continuing a program started in 2019, we participate, along with another church, in providing a book to every student at Snipes Academy. Actually, this year we were able to ensure that every child received multiple books for different grade level children, many of whom have no books at home. Once again, this year we were able to support 18 Snipes students in Nourish NC’s Backpack Buddies program, which provides food for nights, weekends, and vacations to those kids in need. The third event was held in our Parish Hall on November 2nd. Approximately 75 – 80 parishioners gathered to support our annual food packing event for Rise Against Hunger. We had a wonderful working and community sharing experience and packed 12,500 meals in under an hour and a half!

Our traditional Angel Tree for Snipes and Freeman students and the seniors along with our 2nd Easter Basket collection for Foster Pantry were once again organized and executed by Cecelia Peers with a great deal of support from Michael Jonik, Kathryn Hedgepeth and of course fantastic support from the congregation. We gifted 30 kids and 18 seniors along with 60 baskets for Easter!

Our blessing box and “red wagon” continue to supply food to our neighbors, we continue to provide free gym space and uniform support to Coach Thomas, and we supported scholarship funds for the Glory Ridge trip and we provided 100 Comfort Kits for homeless during the point in time count.

Kudos and a thousand thanks are owed to our terrific Staff members, Jeanne Fitzpatrick and Lynne Rooks both of whom have greatly assisted the Community Ministries efforts! Jeanne has been fantastic. Jeanne has been key in creating and populating sign-up-sheets and programs along with countless e-news and bulletin entries. Lynne has been wonderful to work with, setting up and helping to execute the Budget, creating reports and ensuring checks are done in a timely fashion! Thanks also go to Fr .Caleb for his continued and constant support!

Outreach is a very difficult but rewarding endeavor and it’s all made possible by YOU, the congregation! Your financial support, participation, and enthusiasm supporting our mission, fuel these efforts to be a “Light of Hope” in the Community! WE are the Church that Cares!

Faithfully,

The Community Ministries Committee- Steve Bucci and Cecelia Peers - Co-Vestry Liaisons

ENDOWMENT REPORT

The Endowment Fund for St. Paul's Episcopal Church was created by an enabling resolution of the Vestry in 2008. The Fund exists "to enable St. Paul's to fulfill its mission more completely by developing its ministries beyond what is possible through its annual operating budget." An Endowment Board was also established by Vestry in 2008 and is comprised of five voting members (appointed by Vestry for three-year terms, renewable once) and three non-voting ex-officio members: the Rector, Senior Warden, and Treasurer. The voting members select their chair annually. Your Board Members in 2025 were Virginia Chiarello, Greg Kutrow, Anne O'Dell (secretary), Bill Richards, and Spencer Weig (Chair). Anne's term expired on 12.31.2025. The Vestry has appointed Carol Field to begin a three-year term as of 1.1.2026. The Board acts as caretakers of the Fund and operates under a Policies and Procedures document, which was last updated in January 2025. The Fund is currently deposited in Wells Fargo Bank and managed by the Murchison Group. It has two distinct components:

1. Designated Funds. There are a total of eight funds where distributions are governed by donor's stipulations: the Isabel Lehto Organ Maintenance Fund; Kauno Lehto Scholarship Fund; Hazel Savage Music Fund; Bessie Fay Hunt Nave Window Fund; Bellamy Garden Fund; Thompson Flower Fund; Lena Berry Altar Fund; Smithwick Nursery Fund.

2. The "Unrestricted Fund". As of 1.1.2026, its value was \$722,763. Despite the title, distributions are restricted to three categories of spending: assisting with capital needs projects; establishing or expanding an outreach/mission project; providing initial time-limited support for new ministries and special one-time projects.

The Board meets quarterly to receive an update from its financial advisor and to hear reports from the Rector, Senior Warden, and Treasurer. At these meetings, the Board also receives requests from the Vestry for distributions from the designated and/or unrestricted funds and votes to authorize them. The Board met five times in 2025. In 2023, the Board and Vestry established "The 1858 Circle" as a way of recognizing those who have let the church know that St. Paul's is remembered in their estate plans. The first 23 members of the Circle, both individuals and couples, were recognized at a Choral Evensong celebrated on Feb. 2, 2025. Their names are listed on a scroll outside the library. Since then, an additional 7 parishioners have shared information about their planned gift. Their names have been added to the scroll and they will be recognized at this year's Candlemas Evensong on February 1, 2026.

Performance of the FUND

The equity portion of the Fund is reviewed by the Board and our financial advisors annually and for 2025 was set at 60%. The remainder of the Fund is invested in fixed income instruments and cash. Over the course of the year, the Vestry requested and the Board approved distributions of

\$64,600 from the following subfunds:

- \$12,000 from the Isabel Lehto Organ Maintenance Fund for organ maintenance;
- \$6,000 from the Hazel Savage Music Fund to support the Music Program;
- \$6,000 from the Kauno Lehto Scholarship Fund to fund ten \$1,000 scholarships;
- \$25,000 from the Unrestricted Fund in year 2 of time-limited support of the new ministry of Issac McDowell, our Associate for Youth and Parish Life;
- \$15,000 from the Unrestricted Fund as the second installment of a three-year pledge of \$50,000 to the Capital Campaign.
- \$600 from the Unrestricted Fund for the Fund's portion of the annual parish audit.

The Fund did well financially in 2025. The opening balance on 1.1.25 was \$987,704 with a closing balance of \$1,051,073 on 12.31.25. If you are considering including St. Paul's and its Endowment Fund in your current or future planned giving goals, we would be pleased to provide further information and to answer any questions. Please contact the Finance Office for details or speak directly with Father Lee or a member of the Endowment Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Spencer Weig, Chair

The 1858 Circle

A Legacy of Faith-Filled Generosity

In 2023, St. Paul's established the 1858 Circle to commemorate members and friends of St. Paul's who have included St. Paul's in their estate plans.

2023:

*David Heath & Naomi Kleid
Richard Rhoads
Merry Ann & Larry Wright*

2024:

<i>Bill & Elaine Anlyan</i>	<i>Mark Tedesco</i>
<i>Karen Day</i>	<i>David Tousignant</i>
<i>Herbert M. Gant</i>	<i>Mack Umphlett</i>
<i>Steven Haughey</i>	<i>Cheryl Wagoner</i>
<i>Royster & Kathryn Hedgepeth</i>	<i>Spencer & Ellen Weig</i>
<i>Jack & Kathleen McElroy</i>	<i>Jerry L. West</i>
<i>Patricia DuPuis Scherer, M.D.</i>	<i>Judith Pluta Wilson</i>

2025:

*Wade Toth
Barbara and Richard+ Banks
Lucy and Norman LaSalle
Frank and Marcia Wolf*

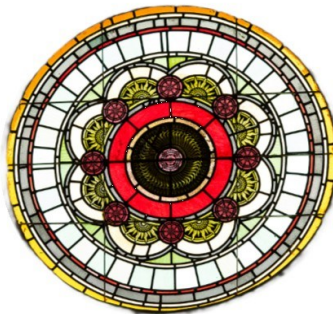
We give thanks for all who have made gifts
and bequests to St. Paul's.

For information about joining The 1858 Circle, please contact:

Father Lee: rector@spechurch.com

or

Spencer Weig: spencer.weig@gmail.com



*The Gause Family Rose Window was given in memory of founding members
Samuel and Caroline Gause (1858) by their children in 1888.*

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

It is an exciting time to be a member of St. Paul's! This was also true regarding the finance department. We started the year off with the addition of 2 new full-time staff positions and the continuance of a position added last year. Lynne Rooks assumed the role of full-time Finance Manager, Jeanne Fitzpatrick as the Church Administrator. These positions had previously been held by part-time employees and supported by dedicated volunteers. Due to the growing congregation and increased administrative needs, it became apparent that these full-time positions were essential to maintain daily operations and support the future growth of the church. The finance team presented a budget late in 2024 which included these needs and the congregation, along with the special gifts, legacy giving, and God's good grace, provided St. Paul's the means to create these essential positions. Also worth mentioning was the continued work of Issac McDowell (Associate for Youth and Family Life), who has helped to grow our youth program into one of, if not the most talked about and attended programs in the area.

Another component to our growth was the full integration of the REALM software, allowing a more in-depth detail reporting, donation accounting, and membership management. You may have experienced this recently with the added ability to view your donations online. Again, this upgrade was essential and made possible by your generosity and the goodness of God.

As the summer months arrived, and we were realizing all the potential that REALM was capable of, as we were able to generate more in-depth reports. This, coupled with our finance manager's in-depth accounting experience, allowed us to track financial cycles for an entire year and project, with a pretty high degree of accuracy, what highs and lows could arise in the future and plan how we might navigate the remainder of the year, ie: funding sources, historical costs, etc.

As we began Stewardship Season, I couldn't help but reflect about how WE as a congregation, had committed in 2024 to keeping the "Lamps Lit and our Hearts on Fire" by pledging the highest goal in St. Paul's history, and now a year later seeing all the amazing ministries St. Paul's has been able to support! It is truly a testament to the work we can do as the body of Christ.

This year as we "Tell Out Our Soul," and proclaim the greatness and faithfulness of God, we were once again called to take a leap of faith and commit to even bigger goals.

As we began work on developing the new budget for 2026, Caleb decided to go and get himself on the shortlist for Bishop of the Eastern Diocese of North Carolina. While this did pose questions about the exact positions needed in the future, one thing did not change and that was that St. Paul's would continue to march forward. Once the staffing picture was clear, the finance team went to work finalizing the budget which included ministries, staffing, and facility funding that reflected the support of our growth to the status of "Program Church." As you will notice, this year's budget is more aggressive than in year's past and we have been able to fund it in several ways. Which brings me to several notables:

- First, we had an income of approximately \$950,000 in income from various sources. The largest being pledge support. Also worth noting that in addition to supporting day-to-day operations of the church, we were able to grow Ministry activities by 13%! Including the music, pastoral care, and youth programs.
- Second, our expenses came in under budget for various reasons. The departure of Father Singer, lower than projected buildings and grounds costs, and the reevaluation of contracts and services with vendors.
- Finally, we had projected to use the majority of the funds from the Special Gifts accounts, however we were able to preserve some of those funds to use for 2026 budget funding.

Continued on next page

All of these items together resulted in \$40,000 in surplus to be used for operations in 2026! The 2026 Budget is projected to break the \$1 Million mark. This is largely due to the support of you, the congregation, and I would like to take a moment to recognize you all! Thank you for sharing your gifts with St. Paul's and the community so that we can all be the hands, feet and body of Christ. This budget will support a program-sized church. It is largely due to cost increases of roughly 13%. These costs include:

- Full-Time Assistant Priest
- Full Staff with Benefits
- A rebranding to reflect who and what St. Paul's is currently
- Increased technology support
- And most importantly, continued investment in the growth of our ministries, music and youth programs, and hospitality.

Lastly, it is a very exciting time here as we begin to embark on the long-awaited Capital Campaign project. Having been witness to many discussions regarding this much-needed upgrade to the facilities, I can assure you that we have been blessed to have such talented and committed individuals working together to make this not only possible, but incredible. While plans have been finalized, your generous pledges were working behind the scenes in low-risk investments to help bridge the gap to the final goal of being able to complete all 3 Phases of the project. As blessed as St. Paul's has been with support, our goal has been just out of grasp. I have confidence that with your continued support, we will be enjoying unencumbered access, vertical movement to all floors, and fellowship in the newly renovated Parish Hall in the not-too-distant future.

I want to thank you for your time and, most importantly, your trust in our finance department to be faithful stewards of the gifts God has bestowed on you and you to St. Paul's.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Sheble

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2025 Operating Fund Budget and Actual 12/31/2025

2025 Summary of Funds
Capital Fund and Restricted Fund
Reserve, Capital Campaign & Construction Fund and Special Gifts

2026 Proposed Operating Fund Budget

ST. PAUL'S 2025 OPERATING FUND BUDGET AND ACTUAL 12/31/2025

		COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2	
		2025 BUDGET	ACTUAL TO DATE	
		APPROVED		
	INCOME	08/11/2025	12/31/2025	% Budget
	Pledge Payments	630,000	619,020	
	Non-Pledge Gifts	75,000	83,687	
	Christmas Offering	5,900	5,210	
	Easter Offering	4,643	4,643	
	Plate Offering	11,149	11,495	
	Previous Year Pledge Payments	9,008	7,671	
	TOTAL OFFERING	735,700	731,726	
	General	69,637	75,182	
	Gifts/Grants	121,000	79,250	
	Ministries	28,332	37,329	
1	TOTAL INCOME BEFORE TRANSFERS	954,669	923,487	
	Transfers from:			
	2024 Surplus for 2025	24,331	24,331	
2	TOTAL TRANSFERS	24,331	24,331	
3	TOTAL ALL INCOME	979,000	947,818	97%
	EXPENSE			
	Salary & Benefits	565,700	555,873	
	Business Operations	103,200	100,556	
	Facilities	146,000	125,981	
	Programs	143,700	126,258	
	Transfer to Capital Fund	20,400	-	
	Transfer Surplus for 2026	-	39,150	
4	TOTAL EXPENSE	979,000	947,818	97%
5	NET: Income less Expense	-	-	

ST. PAUL'S 2025 RESTRICTED FUND (Not for General Operations)			
Fund Income Sources - Restricted Gifts and Grants - Not for General Operations			
Fund Usage - Funds are collected for and distributed to individuals and organizations			
INCOME 2025		EXPENSES 2025	
Kauno Lehto Scholarships	\$ 6,000	Kauno Lehto Scholarships	\$ 6,000
Isabel James Lehto Foundation Scholarship Grant	58,000	Isabel James Lehto Foundation Scholarship Grant	58,000
Donation for Nourish NC	500	Nourish NC	2,150
TOTAL RESTRICTED INCOME	\$ 64,500	TOTAL RESTRICTED EXPENSES	\$ 66,150
		2025 BALANCE (INCOME LESS EXPENSES)	\$ (1,650)
		2024 RESTRICTED FUND CARRYOVER	8,715
		FUND BALANCE 12/31/2025 (Nourish NC)	\$ 7,065

ST. PAUL'S 2025 RESERVE FUND			
Fund Income Sources - Surplus funds accumulated over the past four years			
Fund Usage - To cover income shortfalls and/or unanticipated expenses			
BEGINNING BALANCE 1/1/2025	\$ 97,043		
Interest (January - December)	3,649		
ENDING BALANCE 12/31/2025	\$ 100,692		

ST. PAUL'S 2025 CAPITAL CAMPAIGN & CONSTRUCTION FUND			
Fund Income Sources - Gifts and Pledges			
Fund Usage - To cover Capital Campaign & New Construction expenses			
BEGINNING BALANCE 1/1/2025	\$ 1,093,219		
INCOME 2025		EXPENSES 2025	
Gifts	\$ 80,772	Ormond Center Renovations	\$ 32,088
Pledge Payments	385,861	WKWW - Architectural fees	40,766
Interest	44,446	Church & Parish Hall Roof, Blueprints	28,138
TOTAL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN INCOME	\$ 511,079	TOTAL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN EXPENSE	\$ 100,992
		FUND BALANCE 12/31/25	\$ 1,503,307

ST. PAUL'S 2025 SPECIAL GIFTS ACCOUNT			
Fund Income Sources - Special Gifts		Fund Usage - for projects supported by the donors	
BEGINNING BALANCE 1/1/2025	\$ 91,146		
INCOME 2025		TRANSFERS 2025 - Operating	
Special Gifts	\$ 32,370		\$ (42,581)
Interest	\$ 2,759		
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 35,129	ENDING BALANCE 12/31/25	\$ 83,694

ST. PAUL'S 2025 PROPOSED OPERATING FUND BUDGET			
			2025 BUDGET
			PROPOSED
			1/21/2025
	INCOME		
	Pledge Payments		630,000
	Non-Pledge Gifts		75,000
	Christmas Offering		5,900
	Easter Offering		5,000
	Plate Offering		16,000
	Previous Year Pledge Payments		14,000
	TOTAL OFFERING		745,900
	General		59,837
	Gifts/Grants		120,100
	Ministries		28,832
1	TOTAL INCOME BEFORE TRANSFERS		954,669
	Transfers from:		
	2024 Surplus for 2025		24,331
2	TOTAL TRANSFERS		24,331
3	TOTAL ALL INCOME		979,000
	EXPENSE		
	Salary & Benefits		582,500
	Business Operations		103,200
	Facilities		135,900
	Programs		137,000
	Transfer to Capital Fund		20,400
4	TOTAL EXPENSE		979,000
5	NET: Income less Expense		0.00

ST. PAUL'S 2026 OPERATING FUND BUDGET			
			2026 BUDGET
			APPROVED
			01/12/2026
	INCOME		
	Pledge Payments	\$	650,000
	Non-Pledge Gifts		80,000
	Christmas Offering		7,000
	Easter Offering		5,600
	Plate Offering		12,060
	Previous Year Pledge Payments		14,000
	TOTAL OFFERING	\$	768,660
	General	\$	12,090
	Gifts/Grants		200,375
	Ministries		28,000
1	TOTAL INCOME BEFORE TRANSFERS	\$	1,009,125
	Transfers from:		
	Capital Campaign - Project Manager	\$	10,000
	Reserves/New Special Gifts - Rector Sabbatical		10,000
	2025 Surplus for 2026		39,150
2	TOTAL TRANSFERS	\$	59,150
3	TOTAL ALL INCOME	\$	1,068,275
	EXPENSE		
	Salary & Benefits	\$	689,749
	Business Operations		111,662
	Facilities		141,030
	Programs		125,834
4	TOTAL EXPENSE	\$	1,068,275
5	NET: Income less Expense	\$	-



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

16 N. 16th Street, Wilmington, NC 28401 | (910) 762-4578 | www.spechurch.com
New Office Address - 1624 Princess Street
Office Hours: Mon-Thur 9 am-4 pm, Fri 9 am-1 pm
Bulletin & E-news submissions: admin@spechurch.com (Deadline Mondays, 5:00 pm)

Clergy and Staff

The Right Reverend Robert Skirving, Bishop
The Reverend Caleb J. Lee, Rector
The Reverend James H. Green, Associate Priest
Dr. Brendan Conner, Organist and Director of Music
Lynne Rooks, Finance Manager
Jeanne Fitzpatrick, Church Administrator
Meaghan Thomas, Children's Ministry Coordinator
Isaac McDowell, Associate for Youth and Parish Life
Christian Bridges, Sunday Sexton

St. Paul's 2025 Vestry

Carol Field, Rector's Warden
Steve Haughey, People's Warden
Anne O'Dell, Clerk
Scott Sheble, Treasurer
Barbara Ellington Banks | Steve Bucci | Tori Cannon | Karen Day | Mait DuBois
Cecelia Peers | Denise Sheehan | David Tousignant | Frank Wolf

Cover art: San Damiano, Assisi Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi San Damiano cross Crucifix Tau Cross