St. Paul’s Episcopal Church

145 Main Street

Southington, CT 06489

**VESTRY MEETING**

Minutes from November 12, 2024

**Voting Members Present:**

Mary Palinkos, Geoff Herman, Chris Marquis, Bill Shea, Judy Ryan, Neil Walker, Carol Langston, Joseph Franco, Hayden Olsen

**Voting Members Absent:** Angelo Trioano,

**Non-Voting Members:** Martin Morrissey

**Spiritual Gathering:** Mary Palinkos

From Wonder Voyages’ Pilgrimage Worship Bulletin, St. Paul’s Pilgrimage, July 2024:

Leader: Oh God, be not far from us.

Vestry: Come quickly to help us, O God.

Praise to the Holy and undivided Trinity, one God; as it was in the Beginning, is now and will be forever.

Amen

Leader: With my whole heart I seek you, O God. Psalm 119:10-11

I treasure your word in my heart

Leader: Let us pray together

Vestry: Christ our teacher,

You reach into our lives

Not through instruction, but story.

Open our hearts to be attentive,

That seeing, we may perceive,

And hearing, we may understand,

And understanding, we may act upon your word,

In your name.

Amen

**Visitors Forum: Quinton Johansen and Mary Mueller**

* **Held October 25-**26, Bristol Event Center Bristol CT (<https://www.episcopalct.org/annual-convention/>)
* Summary of the resolutions: (<https://www.episcopalct.org/final-resolutions/>)
  + ECCT balanced budget of $7.1M. (https://www.episcopalct.org/wp-content/uploads/formidable/56/2025-240th-AC-Budget-Detail-10.02.24.pdf)
  + Clergy Compensation (<https://www.episcopalct.org/wp-content/uploads/formidable/56/2025-Clergy-Compensation-Resolution.pdf>)
  + Composition of Racial Reparations Board – at least 60% of African descent and selected from historically black churches
  + Adopted May 5 as red dress day to commemorate missing and murdered indigenous women and girls
  + Church mergers:
    - Good Shephard Shelton with Emanuel St. James Derby
    - St. Paul’s Fairfield with St. Timothy’s Fairfield
    - St. Mark’s New Britain and St. James Farmington. St. Mark’s Ministries food bank (<https://www.facebook.com/saintmarksnb/>) will remain in New Britian

**Old Business**: Mary Palinkos and Geoff Herman

* AED Training will be rescheduled for 2025
* Hayden Olsen and Bill Shea to get Safe Church trained

**October 2024 minutes:**

Chris Marquis made a motion to accept the amended September minutes. Geoff Herman seconded. The **motion passed** unanimously.

**Treasurer Report**: Angelo Trioano

* Completed the transfer of $120K from the checking account to a 4.5% CD at TDBank.

**Wardens Report:** Mary Palinkos and Geoff Herman

* Transition Process update:
* St. Paul’s profile has been uploaded to The Office of Transition Ministry (OTM), which is a national job board for all Episcopal clergy. The profile has been posted to ECCT clergy as well.
* The search process is expected to take 12 months
* Any prospective candidate will contact the diocese, a background check will be done and then the vestry will interview the candidate
* St. Paul’s is the only Episcopal Church in Connecticut looking for a rector. The rest are looking for a Priest in Charge
* The vestry needs to review the St. Paul’s website
* Canon Tim Hodapp, Canon for Congregations and Transitions, is retiring at the end of December. In the interim, Canon Hodapp’s administrator, **Jaylynn Foreman, and The Rev. Kanjit Mathews will be handling his duties. Canon Hodapp will be celebrating the 4pm Christmas Eve service at St. Paul’s**
* Roof
* Contract with Artisan Building and Remodeling to replace the St. Paul’s roof has been signed and a $35,000 check sent to them. Another check will be sent when work is started
* Estimated job time line: materials delivered 11/25. Roof work will start on 11/26 and be complete by 11/30. Will be working through the Thanksgiving holiday. Repair to damage on the inside of the building is TBD.
* Total estimated cost of the job is $142,973.15, including a $5,000 deductible paid by St. Paul’s. The Church Insurance Company (<https://www.cpg.org/redirects/property-casualty-insurance/overview/>) has reimbursed St. Paul’s $137,973.15. Any additional cost will be negotiated between Artisan Building and The Church Insurance Company
* Steeple cross will be removed during the roofing job and be reinstalled at a later date.
* Apple Harvest Parking Lot Fund Raiser
* $2689 raised.
* Hayden Olsen made a motion to use the money as follows: 30 chairs for the Parish Hall at $30/chair, $800 for a new laptop for Adult Ed, 5 card tables at $30/table and the rest donated to Rise Against Hunger. Neil Walker seconded. **motion passed** unanimously.
* Annual Meeting is January 19, 2025
* Nominating Committee. Nominations needed for the Annual Meeting by first week in January:
* 2 vestry members
* Assistant Treasurer
* Treasurer
* Clerk
* 2 delegates for the Diocesan Convention plus 2 alternates
* Youth vestry member

**Committee Reports:**

* Stewardship – Geoff Herman
* 29 pledges for a total of $69K so far
* Had 60 pledges last year
* The vestry will be writing thank you notes during next vestry meeting
* Will be putting the names of those who pledged in the bulletin
* Building and Grounds - Received one quote for $5000 to potentially fix the heating system, which routinely is shut off at the start of the Sunday 8AM service, resulting in temperature church temperatures in the 50’s or below on cold days. Soliciting other quotes
* Youth Formation – Mary Palinkos
* 11 kids registered
* 5 kids showed up for the Halloween event in October
* Meetings are once per month
* Still need a program for the 3 middle school kids
* Outreach – Chris Marquis
* 40 Christmas adoptees from Southington Social Services
* Little Food Pantry is being used and is meeting a need
* Parish Care – Carol Langston
* Cookie swap December 15
* Delivering cards and food to home bound parishioners
* Welcoming – Hayden Olsen
* Wear your name tag
* There are a couple of new families in church
* Worship
* Supply clergy 2 times per month, scheduled through April. Don’t have anyone yet for Palm Sunday or Holy Thursday
* Christmas Services – Christmas Eve – 5:30pm with Canon Tim Hodapp, Christmas Day – 9am with Salin Low
* Need to recruit more acolytes

**Other Business:**

* The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, resigned. He is accused of not taking sufficient action to stop sexual abuse (https://apnews.com/article/justin-welby-resigns-archbishop-of-canterbury-abuse-2ab9cab63572f5062b5a5588698fe492)

Celebrations:

* Chris Marquis’ web based excel sheet for Pratt and Whitney has gone live and is in use
* Neil Walker’s step-sister Bernadette is maintaining a positive attitude and making good progress after enduring a 10 hour spinal operation in August

**Closing Prayer:** Judy Ryan

Almighty God thank you for enabling us to be productive during this meeting.

Let what we discussed here bear fruit in our lives. The life of the Church depends on you Lord and on us as your followers. Help us to serve with love.

**December Closing Prayer:** Carol Langston

Minutes Submitted by:

Neil Walker