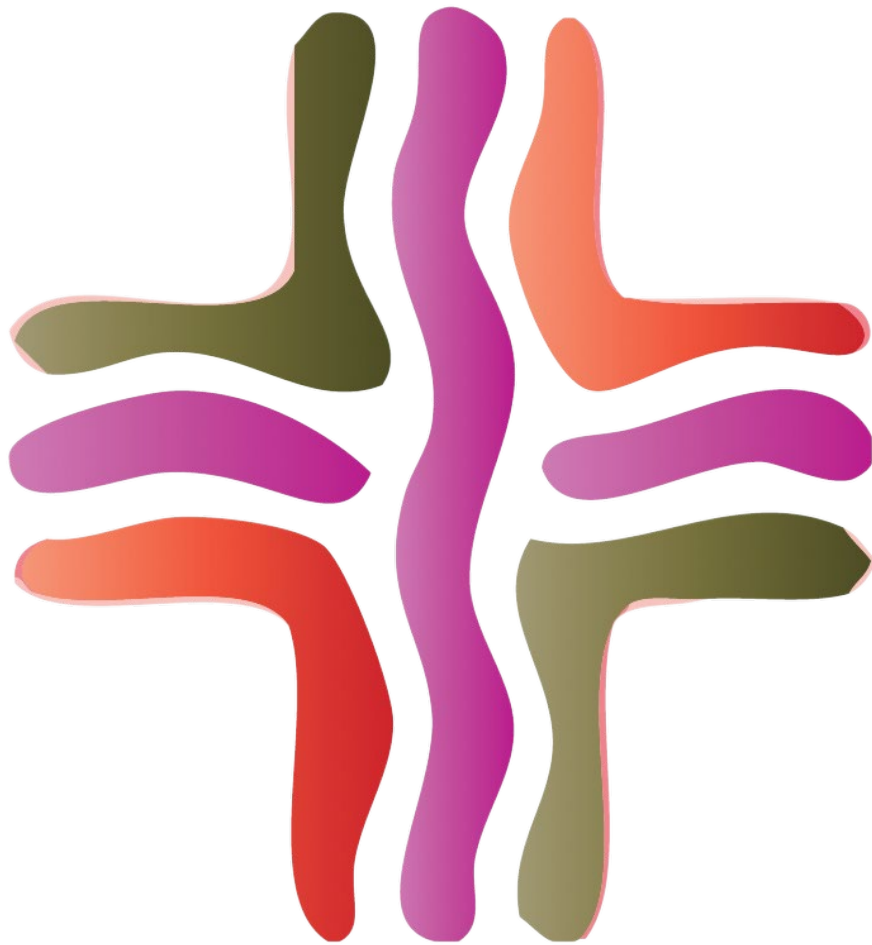


PARISH OF ST. PAUL



ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

January 25, 2026

1135 Walnut Street, Newton Highlands, MA 02461

www.parishofstpaul.org

AGENDA

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Adjourn	

Hear ye! Hear ye!

**The Annual Meeting
of the Parish of St. Paul**

**will take place on
Sunday, January 25, 2026
immediately following
the 10am Holy Eucharist.**

Business to be undertaken:

- Offering of Reports
- Presentation of 2026 Budget
- Elections of:
 - Officers
 - Vestry Members
 - Deanery Delegates
 - Convention Delegates

Posted January 8, 2026

SUPPLEMENT TO WARRANT OF ANNUAL MEETING

TO BE HELD *IN-PERSON AND REMOTE/VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING* ON

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2026

(IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING OUR 10:00AM WORSHIP SERVICE)

FURTHER TO THE WARRANT NOTICE posted publicly on or before January 11, 2026 (on the doors and on the website, and in the electronic newsletter) of the Episcopal Parish of St. Paul, Newton Highlands (the “Parish”), **NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the 2026 Annual Meeting will be held in accordance with Section 7.1 of the Parish By-Laws on the date and time and at the locations set forth in this Supplement to Warrant for the purposes of:

- (a) Acting upon the report of the Nominating Committee which is attached hereto;
- (b) Reviewing and discussing the reports of the Priest in charge, Co-Wardens, Treasurer, Parish Committees and Ministries to be distributed at or before the Annual Meeting; and
- (c) Any other matters that may properly come before the Annual Meeting.

The Vestry encourages all Members of the Parish to participate in our Annual Meeting. Article 3 of our By-Laws provides that all baptized persons, sixteen years of age or older, who acknowledge the authority of the By-laws of the Parish and who declare an intention to support the Parish by regular attendance at public worship and by financial support, shall be considered Members of the Parish entitled to vote in its affairs. Without limitation of the foregoing, submission of a signed annual pledge card is deemed presumptive evidence of any such person’s necessary declaration of intent.

To attend the Annual Meeting in person, please join us in the church sanctuary at 1135 Walnut Street, Newton Highlands.

To join us from your computer, please visit our website: www.parishofstpaul.org for appropriate link information. Alternatively, you may call in to our meeting from any telephone. If you do not already have a Zoom passcode, or need phone dial-in information, please contact our Parish Administrator Lise (at office@parishofstpaul.org or by phone to (617) 527-6642) no later than 1:00pm on Wednesday, January 21, 2026 to request the necessary link or access codes.

THE VESTRY

Rev. Dr. Meghan T. Sweeney, Priest-in-Charge
David Montgomery, Co-Warden
Bernice Cramer, Clerk
Christopher Gruener

Kim Koger, Co-Warden
Richard Pearce, Treasurer
Kathryn Anderson
Lee Hatfield
Dustin Ledgard

Posted on January 15, 2026 by:



David P. Montgomery, Co-Warden

Parish of St Paul

Annual Meeting Minutes

January 26, 2025

The Annual Meeting was opened by Rev. Meghan at 11:45am, in the Sanctuary with a prayer.

There were 19 people in attendance in person, and 3 people online. In person were Rev. Meghan, Eliza Blay, Brenda Carter and Carter Lustig, Tricia Tyler, Kathryn and Ken Anderson, Margaret Hummel, Lee Hatfield, Ellie Pandorf, Sarah Conger, Chris Gruener, Richard, Elizabeth, and Ian Pearce, David Montgomery, Kim Koger, Galen Boyer, Dustin Ledgard. Online were Bernice Cramer, Susan Boyer, and Amy Trueblood.

Minutes

Sarah moved that we approve last year's minutes, Margaret seconded. Unanimously approved.

Nominations

David explained the details of this year's nomination process. We made an error at last year's Annual Meeting, when we neglected to nominate Kathryn for another vestry term. She has continued to serve all year without this ratification. Therefore, we ask the congregation to retroactively approve Kathryn's nomination starting last year and continuing for another year.

Tricia moved to approve; Galen seconded. Passed unanimously.

We propose Chris for another two-year term.

Tricia moved to approve; Galen seconded. Passed unanimously.

We have a second open spot on our vestry that is open and are waiting for parishioners to raise their hands to serve. It is also possible for the vestry to approve someone for one year, instead of the regular two-year term.

We move to ratify all vestry decisions in the 2024 year when Kathryn was an unelected member.

Moved by Tricia and seconded by Elizabeth. Passed unanimously.

Moved to elect Bernice as clerk

Tricia moved; Elizabeth seconded. Passed unanimously.

Moved to elect Richard as treasurer

Tricia moved; Elizabeth seconded. Passed unanimously.

Moved to elect David and Kim as co-wardens.

Tricia moved; Elizabeth seconded. Passed unanimously.

Moved to elect Mary Lou and David as deanery delegates.

Motion by Elizabeth, seconded by Tricia. Passed unanimously.

Moved to elect Jack Blay and Tricia Tyler as Convention delegates

Moved by Lee and seconded by Elizabeth. Passed unanimously.

Wardens' Report highlights from the past year:

- Last year was dominated by the hope and uncertainty of needing a new priest.
Today, we celebrate the presence of Rev. Meghan among us as Priest in Charge.
- Kathryn offered thanks on behalf of the parish to our co-wardens.

PIC Report:

It has been great to start to get to know the parish, and Rev. Meghan looks forward to deepening our relationship. We have a scarcity of people, but luckily our finances are stable.

We might want to start thinking about what we as a parish need, and how to share that with a world that is deeply in need of connection yet fears joining a group. How can we share our faith without the expectation of a commitment in return.

Canon Greg Perez will join us in March for a Mutual Ministry Review, followed by a celebration of our new pastoral relationship with Rev. Meghan.

Altar guild:

Ellie reported thanks to all who participate in altar guild, with a special word of thanks to Eliza Blay for baking the communion bread every week.

Pastoral care:

Chris reported that the pastoral care group is transitioning to the leadership of Rev. Meghan. Special acknowledgement to Mary Lou, Bernice, David, John McDargh, Margaret, and Phil.

Global Village Children's Project:

The GVCP project started 20 years ago, and we have managed to fund their tuition every year since then except one year. This past year, we were able to send them to school the entire year. Special thanks to Anne Muyanga, the director of GVCP, who thinks of herself as a member of St Paul's. Special thanks also to Galen Boyer (social media), Mary Lou Pierron (endless grants), Margaret Hummel, Kathryn Anderson, Brenda Carter, and others for helping arrange our fund-raising concert.

Project Plenty:

Thank you for all your bottles and cans as well as cash donations—we met our commitment to send \$600 per year. These funds have a big impact to the children in southern Belize.

Centre Street Food Pantry:

Margaret reported that the Centre St Food Pantry is doing well at Trinity Church. Our contribution is very important—we should maintain and increase it.

Hospitality:

Kim stepped up to handle hospitality following in Betty Murray's shoes. We should note that our parish hall and kitchen are available for rent for non-church occasions—we like to have groups sharing our space. Thanks to everyone who has helped with some of our special events during the year, including Mandi Rice's ordination, the Ugly Sweater sing along, and the Jubilate singers.

Treasurer's report:

We are in a strong position financially, partly thanks to the strong stock market performance the last two years.

In 2024, our cash balances and portfolio holdings rose 25% to \$780K. We had a surplus for the year without taking a draw from the investments. Our heating bills were lower than usual, and we did not do some of the repairs that had been budgeted. We also had no priest for 8 months of the year.

2025 pledges are doing well. We expect 23 pledging units this year, but our total pledge dollars increased to \$90K. We expect our rental income to be higher than our pledge income.

For 2025, budgeted income (pledges and rental income) is about the same as 2024. Our expenses are similar to our budget for last year. Our expectation is that 2025 will break even if we keep on with similar spending as last year, without any draw from investments.

Our properties' assessed values are presented from a conservative point of view. This is the second year that we reflect ownership of two rental properties as well as the church.

Margaret suggested that we should no longer put off property improvements to the church that are mandated by the City of Newton, since we are in a financial position to take care of these needs. Richard notes that these improvements are not yet reflected in the 2025 budget.

Kim reported that many people are involved in property management, including our administrator Lise as well as Margaret, Richard and others. Our thanks to them for this heroic work.

PIC's thanks:

We want to thank Lise, our administrator, for her hard work and care.

We thank Wilson, for snow removal and property work.

We thank our musicians for their talent and dedication to our worship.

We thank our LEMS and Lectors for being part of our service.

We thank the Altar guild for their care of our sanctuary

We thank the Pastoral Care team for caring for our community

We thank the Outreach group for bringing our ministry out of the building

We thank the Vestry and officers for maintaining the work of the church

We thank our Deanery and Diocesan Convention reps for keeping us connected to the Diocese

We thank our co-Wardens for their dedication and leadership.

And a very special thanks to Margaret for her enormous contribution of time and talent over decades through card ministry, vestry membership, co-warden, altar guild, creation care, property, green heat, baked goods, pastoral care, personal kindness, fabric arts, and many other ministries. We give thanks to God for the ministry of Margaret Hummel and her deep commitment to the people of God.

Kathryn moved that we adjourn, and Lee seconded.

A parish lunch followed in the parish hall.

EPISCOPAL PARISH OF ST. PAUL
JANUARY 2026
REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The following slate of nominees is presented to the Parish at its Annual Meeting for approval. The term for each position shall commence on January 25, 2026 immediately following the Annual Meeting of the Parish. Under our Parish By-laws, officers serve one-year terms and non-officer Vestrypersons serve two-year terms (unless specifically elected for a shorter term). All officers and Vestrypersons are limited to a maximum of six years continuous service in such position.

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>
Co-Wardens ¹ :	Kathryn Anderson David Montgomery
Treasurer ² :	Richard Pearce
Clerk ³ :	Bernice Cramer
Vestrypersons ⁴ :	Natalie Brelsford (two years) Lee Hatfield (two years) Kim Koger (one year)
Diocesan Convention Delegates:	Jack Blay Tricia Tyler Kim Koger (alternate)
Deanery Delegates:	Eliza Blay Kim Koger David Montgomery Mary Lou Pierron

Abundant thanks to all who have served and to those who continue to serve in Parish leadership.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dr. Meghan T. Sweeney, Priest-in-Charge
Kim Koger, Co-Warden
David Montgomery, Co-Warden
Lee Hatfield
Phil Whitbeck

¹ David Montgomery has served as our Co-Warden for the past three years and is nominated for an additional one-year term. Kim Koger has just completed a one-year term as Co-Warden (having served continuously in such position for four years). Kathryn Anderson is nominated as Co-Warden for a one-year term.

² Richard Pearce has served for four years as our Treasurer and is nominated for an additional one-year term. Under our Parish By-laws, our Assistant Treasurer (if any) is appointed by the Vestry rather than elected by the Parish.

³ Bernice Cramer has served for three years as our Clerk and is nominated for an additional one-year term.

⁴ Kathryn Anderson and Dustin Ledgard have each just completed a two-year term as a Vestryperson (having served continuously in such position for four years and two years, respectively). Lee Hatfield has just completed a slightly less than one-year term as appointed by Vestry and is currently nominated for an additional two-year term. Natalie Brelsford is nominated for a two-year term and Kim Koger is nominated for a one-year term. Chris Gruener continues to serve as a Vestryperson pursuant to his election at the 2025 Annual Meeting (with his term expiring at the 2027 Annual Meeting).

Episcopal Parish of St. Paul Co-Wardens' Report 2025

Dear Beloved Community,

As continuing co-wardens in 2025, we experienced an extraordinary change in fortune and “right sizing” of this high-profile lay leadership role over the past year. Our highly blessed and skilled, half-time priest-in-charge, Rev. Dr. Meghan Sweeney has wisely and ably taken on the leadership of our parish life in a realistic, methodical, detail-oriented and conscientious way. She is able to consider and honor the institutional memory and culture that pre-dates her time with us and to push us to see ourselves with fresh eyes and the understanding that there are a myriad of valid ways to approach parish life together.

We are just starting to build our ability to collaboratively problem solve, and - as always in our parish life - problems remain to be solved. And yet, the sense of trust and low-key possibility is strong and life-giving. We are growing in understanding that it is possible to make good choices for baby steps forward if we communicate, collaborate and share points of view at the Vestry and parish-wide levels. A meaningful example of this dynamic was the Vestry Retreat and Mutual Ministry Review opportunity in December, led by the Rev. Dr. Bill Rich— which helped us identify some specific small steps forward that the Vestry is embracing toward website communication, front lawn signage, and increased attention and action towards good works in the world via parish outreach engagement, organization, and commitment.

In the strength and talent of Rev. Meghan’s leadership, It is more true than ever that just about every parishioner has the potential to do a fine job in the role of co-warden, which is both a spiritual, personal growth and learning opportunity, and a chance to share your spirit and life skills and experience with your worship community. Anyone reading this, whether or not you have had the pleasure of co-wardening already, should put the possibility on your bucket list!

There are also, of course, other ways to serve meaningfully in the collaborative life of our community. Please speak to any member of Vestry or to Rev. Meghan about identifying personally fulfilling opportunities to serve.

I slept and dreamt that life was joy.

I awoke and saw that life was service.

I acted and behold, service was

joy.

-Rabindranath Tagore

Submitted with love,
Kim Koger and David Montgomery



Episcopal Parish of St. Paul Report from the Priest-in-Charge 2025

Dear Friends in Christ,

We have had a very good 12 months together since our last annual meeting. In addition to our regular Sunday coming together for thoughtful and prayerful liturgy, some highlights have included:

- A joyful Celebration of New Ministry with the Rev. Canon Greg Perez in February
- A shared Ash Wednesday noon liturgy at POSP with Grace Church and St. Mary's Church
- POSP clergy, choir, and lector participation in various Newton parish liturgies (e.g. the Easter Vigil at Trinity; Maundy Thursday, and Lessons and Carols at St. John's, etc.)
- Continuing our powerful liturgies: Voices at the Foot of the Cross on Good Friday, and the Liturgy of Solace and Strength in December
- An Evensong with the Jubilate Chamber Choir in May
- Newton Highlands Village Day shared worship with the Newton Highlands Congregational Church – plus a POSP table presence at the Village Day fair in June
- Robust POSP participation in the diocesan contingent at the Boston Pride for the People Parade in June
- Bishop Julia's visitation to POSP in September
- An outdoor Blessing of the Animals for our observation of St. Francis Day in October
- Pizza and Compline in February and October (a fan favorite!)
- A vestry visioning retreat in December – dreaming together!
- Outreach efforts supporting the Centre Street Food Pantry and the Global Village Children's Project
- A new logo reflecting the capacious, fluid spirit of POSP as we engage Christian beliefs and practices in the Episcopal tradition

For a small place, we truly do a lot!

As I live into my role as priest-in-charge, and as I come to better understand the parish, I am becoming more aware of and attuned to the churning desire for mission and deepened self-understanding at the heart of who and what POSP is. POSP strikes me as a parish that wants to *do something!* And I am very grateful for the desire, the faith, the energy, the intelligence, and the dreaming present here. The vestry retreat with the Rev. Dr. Bill Rich in December was very helpful in moving parish leadership to begin to channel so many ideas and desires, and to think about and decide on smaller, measurable goals that can be achieved. To that end, working groups are being convened on communications (website, outdoor signage) and community engagement (outreach efforts). I look forward to doing what we can, as we can, with the gifts and talents we share among us.

Liturgically, a few changes were made this past year. In April we were able to move to an earlier 10am time for Holy Eucharist, effectively switching worship times with our tenant, NewCity Church, thus allowing the building to be empty during our liturgy and allowing the choir to rehearse in the sanctuary. Additionally, in late February or early March the format of the leaflet changed to the booklet format we currently use. In September we retired the teacups during communion and moved to a single chalice. In September we also began using an inclusive version of the Creed, and preserved aspects of the Iona statement of faith in the Postcommunion prayer. And, finally, efforts are made every week to live into POSP's commitment to inclusive language by making appropriate changes to biblical, liturgical, and hymn texts.

Our buildings continue to be both blessing and challenge. We are blessed with a beautiful sanctuary in a prime location on a beautiful campus, and our buildings continue to serve as a source of rental income for the parish through our various tenants. But/and, we have had to do a fair amount of electrical work this year to get up to code, and continue to be attentive to ongoing maintenance needs and potential capital improvements. Additionally, we continue to negotiate with the city for the special permit for NewCity Church. Our physical plant is a gift for mission that we are called to steward. As we move into the future, we are invited to pray about how we can best care for and use this particular resource we've been gifted.

As I reflect on the past year and the coming year, I think in many ways we are already doing so much. Every week we begin our liturgy with the words, *From wherever you have come, with whatever you bring, you are welcome here*. This is not only an invitation to those in the congregation – both new and returning. It is also a reminder to all of us of who we are and who we are called to be: a community of faith that gathers to grow in the knowledge and love of God and neighbor through the intentional practices of presence, prayer, and inclusion so that we are equipped for mission in the world. Given the turbulent political situations in the United States and around the world, and the great humanitarian needs we see, it makes perfect sense that people want to do something meaningful and impactful – indeed, part of our baptismal covenant calls on us to respect the dignity of every human being, to strive for justice and peace, to seek and serve Christ in all persons, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

What we do as a community of the Parish of St. Paul is rather radical in the very fact that we do gather as an embodied community of faith in a digital age of distraction to share human experience, in a cultural context that is apprehensive about religion, *and* to witness to an understanding of Jesus, God, and Christianity that seeks to embrace and welcome, *not* demean, terrorize, or exclude. Community and love can change ourselves, can change the world – as a community of faith, we matter. Bishop Julia reminded us of this during her visitation in September:

When you [the Parish of St. Paul] offer sanctuary to another, the whole Body of Christ is made more whole. When you partner with friends and neighbors and strangers nearby or across the globe, the whole Church is drawn closer to God's dream. When you called a woman priest or an LGBTQ leader - a priest, or deacon - or advocate for folks who needed advocacy, when you tend the earth, when you care for one another in times of need, you do it as part of the Communion of Saints. The wider Church needs you and is blessed by you, St. Paul's. You're not some small corner of the body, you're its heart. Your courage, your justice, your vision for the world, they strengthen the whole church.

Finally, I offer my deep thanks to all of you for your continued support of me as your priest, and your support of my family, Margaret and Elliot. This year I thank in particular our musicians whose musical gifts deepen our liturgy so meaningfully, members of our altar guild who care so thoughtfully for our worship space, and all of our liturgical participants who engage their ministry with care and dignity. I am grateful for our vestry for thoughtful, honest, and engaged conversation and steadfast commitment. And I am especially grateful for our co-wardens, Kim Koger and David Montgomery, faithful companions as we navigate these waters. In particular I thank Kim for her four years of engaged and spirit-filled service as co-warden, and I'm delighted she will continue on vestry.

I look forward to growing in faith, in community, and in mission with you in this coming year. May we live and share bravely and boldly the love of God made known in Jesus Christ, and not hide our light under a bushel! Please continue to pray for me as I pray for you.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, followed by a plus sign (+).

The Rev. Dr. Meghan T. Sweeney, Priest-in-Charge
January 2026



Episcopal Parish of St. Paul Altar Guild 2025

The Altar Guild continues to prepare for Sunday Services by setting the communion table and caring for the linens and vessels used for communion. Altar Guild members are Margaret Hummel, Amy Jensen-Trueblood, Marylou Pierron, Ellie Pandorf, and Jack Blay.

We are especially fortunate to have the artistic talents of Amy Jensen-Trueblood, who so beautifully decorated the church and altar for Advent and Christmas.

New members are always welcome to join us.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellie Pandorf



Episcopal Parish of St. Paul Pastoral Care Report 2025



The Pastoral Care Committee consists of **Parish members who** strive to tune into, and **respond effectively to, the spiritual and emotional needs of our St Paul's family.** Our committee was also blessed this past year with Jason Von Herenkrok, joining our team as part of his professional training in Pastoral Care.

Throughout 2025, members of the committee – while also **offering uplifting care** to each other - have endeavored to be in regular supportive contact with **those** in our congregation **who have been ill, or homebound, or navigating particularly difficult stretches** in their life's journey.

Members of the Pastoral Care Committee – each of whom **would welcome your call** - are as follows

Our Rector, Meghan Sweeney (617) 527-6642

Mary Lou Pierron (781) 752-9830

Phil Whitbeck (617) 969-8892

Margaret Hummel (617) 969-2685

David Montgomery (617) 610-4324

Bernice Crammer (617) 331-1738

John McDargh (617) 680-4533

Jason Von Herenkrok (774) 274-6919

Chris Gruener (617) 965-6552



Respectfully Submitted - Chris Gruener



Episcopal Parish of St. Paul Hospitality Report 2025

The spirit of hospitality remained strong in 2025, with many weeks of ordinary time coffee hour inspired by the rubric of cheese and crackers, sweet treat, and fruit or veg— as well as several opportunities to offer parish-adjacent hospitality— via Evensongs of the Jubilate Choir, gatherings for and with Anne Muyanga of the Global Village Children's Project, and even an afternoon tea open to all comers, just because.

Whether cozy in the parish hall or in the fresh air of the front churchyard open to the world, many stories and plans were shared and connections were made on parish business and far beyond.

Pizza and Compline Friday evenings reappeared in the parish schedule twice in 2025 with plans for more in 2026.

Big parish celebrations included our official welcome of Meghan in March with Canon Greg Perez, and welcoming Bishop Julia for a visit in September.

The Indigenous Peoples' Dinner during Thanksgiving Week has outgrown our parish hall and was held at Newton City Hall this year.

All are invited to be on the lookout and offer suggestions and help for parish events that can be kicked up a notch with hospitality—whether an Annual Meeting, a liturgical celebration, or a blessed event.

With appreciation to all who have organized a Sunday or contributed to a bountiful potluck spread!

Hospitably submitted,
Kim Koger



Episcopal Parish of St. Paul Global Village Children's Project Report 2025

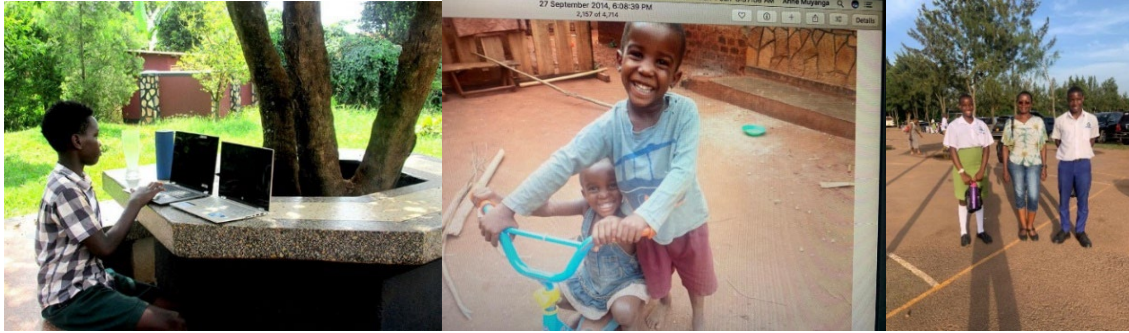
For nearly 20 years now the Parish of St Paul has been helping the Global Village Children's Project care for orphaned and disadvantaged children in Wanyange Uganda.

This past year, long time St Paul's parishioner Mary Lou Pierron continued her grant writing magic, resulting in GVCP director, Anne Muyanga, and the young people she cares for, raising chickens now and also leading to a well being dug to assure irrigation for the GVCPs cropland. Likewise, Lee Hatfield, also a member of our St Paul's family for many years, spearheaded a unique fundraising plan of acknowledging donors' generosity with a "Thank You!" gift - one of the beautiful fans Anne brought with her from Uganda when she arrived this past fall for her annual

medical check up.

And once again, **many of St Paul's parishioners gave generously throughout 2025 - making possible continued education for all of the GVCP's young people.**

Two Decades of Your gifts to the GVCP in action!



Eli and his sister Ella when they first came to the GVCP
On a donated computer **Josh studies during the Pandemic years**
More recently, **Ella and Eli heading off now to another school term**

The GVCP's call for volunteer skills remains unchanged. Grant writers, social media savvy folks, article writers, web wizards, and people just eager to spread word of this worthy project, all have their unique place waiting for them on our St Paul's GVCP support committee. **Call Chris Gruener at (617) 965-6552 to find the spot in the game that is just right for you!**



Episcopal Parish of St. Paul Project Plenty 2025

For 25+ years, the Parish of Saint Paul has been collecting and **recycling return for deposit bottles and cans to support Plenty's sustainable development work** in Southern Belize: <https://plenty.org>. Throughout 2025 **Saint Paul's commitment of sending Plenty \$50 per month (1000 recycled containers or cash donations) was met once again.** Parish members consistently brought bottles and cans to the **plastic tubs located in our Parish backyard.** And at least one of our Newton neighbors found out about our project and started donating their recyclables as well!

After a bit of a pause in the school gardens project, Plenty is pursuing reinvigorating that part of its program. Meanwhile **Plenty continues to train women in southern Belize to become solar technicians** who will help their neighbors erect solar panels on isolated rural rooftops.

Mindful of the abundance with which we have been blessed, and in tune with the motto of our friends at Plenty, we celebrate this Truth:

“As we are willing to share, there is PLENTY”



For questions about Project Plenty, or to volunteer to join our Plenty Support Committee, please **contact Chris Gruener** at (617) 965-6552.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Gruener for the St Paul's Plenty Support Team



Episcopal Parish of St. Paul Centre Street Food Pantry Report 2025

Our parish has been a strong supporter of the Pantry since its founding in 2011. Here's a quotation from their annual report:

"Today we are serving more people than ever—we consistently provide food and a sense of stability to 1,100 households a month. In November we served a record breaking number of clients without turning anyone away, AND we gave out Thanksgiving turkeys, roasting chickens and pies to brighten the holiday." (They also gave grocery gift cards to everyone.)

We have collections for the Food Pantry twice a year, and in November we contributed about 150 pounds of food, as well as funds. We'll have another collection in the spring. If you want to contribute before then, bring a check made out to Centre Street Food Pantry or put some food in the box at the back of the church. There's a list on the table with preferred items.

I think it has been an honor for us at POSP to participate in the operation of this needed service. And Trinity Church in Newton Centre has been a gracious host for all these years!

Sincerely,
Margaret Hummel



Episcopal Parish of Saint Paul Treasurer's Report for year ended December 31, 2025, with Proposed Budget for 2026

Summary

In calendar (fiscal) year 2025, our combined cash holdings (bank balances and money market) fell slightly by \$6,668 (2%). The value of our stock investments rose strongly again, for the third year in a row, this time by \$83,681 (17%).

Overall, this means that our total net resources (not including the value of our properties) have risen by 11% in 2025, from \$787,025 to the current \$870,848.

Looking forward to 2026, and under the base assumption that we carry on as we are presently doing for the full coming year, we project a small negative cashflow of \$9,400 for the year, without the usual draw from our long-term investments.

Stewardship and Pledges

The number of pledgers fell by 2 to 25 in 2025, but the average pledge value rose, so that money received rose quite nicely to \$93,626. We expect pledge payments to be similar in 2026.

	2023 actual	2024 actual	2025 actual	2026 est.
Pledge Amount	96,072	87,761	93,626	94,000
# of pledges	28	27	25	25
Average	3,431	3,250	3,745	3,760

2025 Operating Results & 2026 Budget

2026 Budgeted Revenue

The total budgeted revenues for 2026 are \$185,600, closely in line with our actual revenues in 2025, with exception that the Rectory apartment is now vacant. We assume that with a manageably small cashflow deficit expected overall, the customary annual draw from our long-term investments will again not be necessary.

2026 Budgeted Expenses

Our total budgeted expenses for 2026 are \$195,000, very close to our total operating expenses in 2025.

We assume utility costs will remain about the same but have allowed for some increase in insurance costs and property taxes on our Wildwood rental property.

2026 Budget: Small Operating Deficit

Our budget assumptions (excluding unusual costs on the buildings, any consulting and other costs associated with ongoing zoning and permitting discussions with the city, and any draw from our long-term investments) result in a projected small cashflow deficit for 2026 of \$9,400.

2025 Operating Results

We ended the 2025 calendar (and fiscal) year with a small operating deficit of \$1,245, without taking our usual 4% draw from our long-term investments, since it was not needed. (Our most recent annual draws from investments have been around \$20,000). This small deficit is close to the budget projection at the beginning of the year for a small surplus.

Individual savings versus budget during the year included not providing childcare, administrator hours being less than expected, and fewer weeks with a supply priest than budgeted. Additional costs, which had been expected but not specifically provided for, given that the extent of the work was unknown at the beginning of the year, included a clearing out of the rectory attic, electrical work in the church, and paying consultants to assist in planning and permitting discussions with the city.

The table below presents actual and budgeted revenues & expenses, by category. Anyone interested in reviewing the fully detailed line items in our accounts is welcome to request a copy of the latest Treasurer's Report to the Vestry which covers the complete calendar year.

Table: Operating Results and Budget

	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 Actual	2025 Budget	2025 Actual	2026 Budget
<u>OPERATING RECEIPTS</u>						
Pledges & Donations	94,413	96,072	87,761	90,000	93,626	94,000
Rental Income	49,765	55,733	101,603	98,000	100,448	89,000
Sunday Plate, Outreach	3,805	3,762	2,583	2,500	1,969	2,500
Fundraisers	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grants	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bank Interest	38	73	78	100	49	100
Reserve Draw	22,081	19,350	0	0	0	0
Other	2,945	515	0	0	0	0
Total Operating Receipts	173,047	175,505	192,025	190,600	196,092	185,600
<u>OPERATING DISBURSEMENTS</u>						
Payroll	130,745	93,795	48,376	102,000	87,364	105,000
Facilities	83,051	37,409	36,250	36,000	61,848	36,500
Diocesan Assessment	18,571	10,509	12,671	13,000	12,882	15,000
Program	4,979	4,260	4,040	4,000	4,963	4,000
Outreach and Engagement	2,805	3,670	1,400	3,000	4,240	3,000

Operations	20,910	25,287	23,538	26,000	26,040	31,500
Total Operating Disbursements	261,061	174,930	126,275	184,000	197,337	195,000
OPERATING SURPLUS/(SHORTFALL)	(88,014)	575	65,750	6,600	(1,245)	(9,400)

Table: Year End Cash and Investments

	12/31/20	12/31/21	12/31/22	12/31/23	12/31/24	12/31/25
Cash:						
Brookline Bank - Checking	101,541	89,668	70,387	75,481	118,610	94,164
Brookline Bank - Discretionary	420	920	1,420	1,420	1,421	1,421
Brookline Bank - Security Dep.	5,909	3,500	3,500	3,854	3,858	8,092
Brookline Bank - Reserves	90,301	82,655	31,043	23,546	16,030	8,492
Total Cash at Bank	198,171	176,743	106,350	104,301	139,919	112,169
Investments:						
Fidelity	156,588	124,779	83,553	71,102	79,295	95,298
Vanguard Money Market	107,141	107,160	108,322	114,362	120,344	125,423
Total Cash Investments	263,728	231,939	191,875	185,464	199,639	220,721
Stocks:						
Diocesan Fossil Free Fund	129,487	158,264	125,846	158,048	198,376	231,099
KLD Funds held at Vanguard	16,099	23,173	18,188	22,608	27,378	31,431
Vanguard Social Index	150,726	216,223	166,444	215,945	272,020	318,925
Total Stock Investments	296,312	397,660	310,478	396,601	497,774	581,455
Total Cash and Investments	758,212	806,342	608,703	686,366	837,332	914,345
Loan	76,419	70,144	64,178	57,017	50,307	43,497
Total Cash & Invests less Loan	681,793	736,198	544,525	629,349	787,025	870,848

In 2025, the value of our stock investments rose by 17% to \$581,455, broadly in line with the general market. Our combined cash holdings (bank balances and money market) at year-end fell slightly to \$332,890 (down 2%).

Overall, this means that our total net liquid and semi-liquid resources (everything excluding our properties) rose by 11% in 2025, from \$787,025 to the current \$870,848.

Below is a tabulation of our full financial position that includes our properties and our various small, restricted funds:

Statement of Financial Position as of 12/31/2025

	<u>12/31/25</u>
ASSETS	
Cash:	
Brookline Bank - Checking	94,164
Brookline Bank - Clergy Discretionary	1,421
Brookline Bank - Security Deposit	8,092
Brookline Bank - Reserves	<u>8,492</u>
Total Cash at Bank	112,169
Investments:	
Fidelity	95,298
Vanguard Money Market	<u>125,423</u>
Total Cash Investments	220,721
Diocesan Fossil Free Fund	231,099
KLD Funds held at Vanguard	31,431
Vanguard Social Index	<u>318,925</u>
Total Stock Investments	581,455
Total Cash and Investments	914,345
Fixed Assets: (assessed values 2024*)	
Sanctuary and Parish Hall	1,455,000
Rectory	1,258,800
Rental Property	532,600
Furnishings and Equipment	<u>50,000</u>
Total Fixed Assets*	3,296,400
Less Security Deposits	8,092
Less Loan for 2017 heating system	<u>43,497</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u><u>4,159,156</u></u>

ASSETS BY CATEGORY

Buildings and Equipment net of Loan	3,252,903
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Misc. Donor Restricted Cash Funds:

Altar Guild	422
Clergy Sabbatical	3,464
Meditation Garden	850
Garden Fund	641
Knitting Ministry	370
Music Fund	200
Swain Memorial	150

Vestry Designated Funds:

Parishioner Hardship Fund	6,000
Long-Term Investments	698,710

Operating Reserve and Cash at Bank:

Cash at Bank	112,169
Operating Reserve	83,277

TOTAL NET ASSETS	4,159,156
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This concludes the treasurer's report for calendar (fiscal) year 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Pearce
Treasurer