St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Haymarket, Virginia

Mutual Ministry Reflection
Fall 2025 - Fall 2026

November 12, 2026

Present: The Rev. Sean K. Rousseau; Kathy Vergano, Sr. Warden; Vince Ammann, Jr. Warden; Susan Douffas, Co-Treasurer; Millie Wesson, Register

Materials reviewed: MMR Reflection Guide & Questions and the MMR Reflection results of 2025. Discussion followed and the questions below were addressed.

1. **How did we live out/put into action our Mission Statement (the Gospel) this year?**

- For 2025 Parochial Report, we reached 275 registered members.
- We saw an increase in Parishioners, Registered Members, and Visitors.
- We saw many new faces at both our Sunday services, especially at the 8:30 AM service.
- Inclusion has been a subtle message in our services.
- Our Sunday service is live streamed on YouTube which provides not only an opportunity for our congregation to worship but also extends our outreach to the community, both locally and throughout the United States.
- Continued our normal Sunday schedule including Holy Eucharist at 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM, Church School for All Ages, Fellowship, and Liturgical Ministers: Acolytes, Altar Guild, Choir, Children's Choir, CLOW (Children's Liturgy of the Word), Collection Counters, Eucharistic Ministers & Visitors, Lectors, Ushers.
- Fellowship is now held after the 8:30 and the 10:30 services.
- Five Baptisms and one First Eucharist were celebrated.
- We celebrated four weddings/marriages including the following St. Paul's members: Antionette Roland & Luis Cruze, Isamar Mendoza & Marc Mascarenhas, Aislinn Garcia & Anthony Roland.
- Eleven funerals and burials were conducted that included services for Thomas Lightner*, Carol Lightner*, Guillermo Gil-Montero*, Brian Mischel, Frances Herron, Joe Young#, David Coleman, Jim Ballinger, Robert Mays#, Marguerite Kocher#, and Rene' Kocher#. Cemetery =* Columbarium=#
- Several Cemetery plots, Columbarium niches, and Columbarium Garden plots were sold which increased our cemetery fund.
- Cemetery Committee continues its initiative to assess headstones and clean and repair them. The Committee also placed flags on Veterans' graves for Memorial Day, July 4th, and Veterans' Day.
- The Audit Committee completed the work for the 2025 audit.
- Our Ministry Partnership continues with Carried to Full Term (aka Virginia Women and Family Support Center). The Wishing Well provided funds for a major bathroom renovation. Terry Davis is a board member and Vestry representative.
- Our Ministry Partnership continues with the Haymarket Regional Food Pantry (HRFP). Our HRFP produce delivery from Fauquier Education Farm from May to November is carried out by teams that were coordinated by Vince Ammann. Team members included Vince Ammann, Karl & Terri Davis, Chris Fornecker, Lee & Ross Kerr, Gerald Thacker, Kathy & Peter Vergano, and Eowyn & Sean Rousseau. We conducted a ham drive for HRFP that brought in $2790 which purchased 200 hams. Amy Lowry and Sean Rousseau are the Board Members representing St. Paul's.
- Our Ministry Partnership continues with St. Michael's Academy with St. Paul's sponsoring SMA through a Memorandum of Understanding. Bonnie Weatherhead serves on the School Board. Sean holds chapel services monthly at both campuses and guides them to continue holding chapel services on the other Wednesdays.

- Outreach Events include Homecoming Sunday, St. Francis Pizza Party, All Saints Day Wings Party, Lessons & Carols Punch & Cookies Social, Annual Meeting Parish Meal, Pancake Supper, Soup and Stations, Easter Egg Hunt, and End of Year Cookout.
- Generous amount given to Wishing Well for replacement of Rectory siding and many other projects.
- We continue our BL&SS (Bag Lunch & Scripture Study).
- We restarted the Fellowship Clean Up Ministry that was organized by Kathy Vergano and began with 6 teams: Vince & Pam Ammann, Ross & Lee Kerr, Sandy & Edwin Ridout, MJ & Craig Stanton, Steve & Kathy Tucker, and Kathy & Pete Vergano.
- George Fulda, Director of Music Ministry, continued incorporating youth voices and instruments in Sunday services.
- The Children's Choir, directed by Kerry Rousseau, has grown.
- Decorating the church is performed by the Altar Guild which is coordinated by Susan Thacker.
- Decorating the church office is coordinated by Megan Zeoli.
- The Compassionate Care Ministry continued.
- Holy Quilters of St. Paul's made a quilt that was raffled with the proceeds donated to the Wishing Well. The winners of the raffle were Kathy and Steve Tucker. This group meets regularly in the Rectory to quilt.
- We continued our Office Angels.
- The Saintly Shoppers Ministry continued.
- We continued our shawl ministry for baptisms, funerals, and those recovering from illness.
- We continued our Youth Ministry Group; meetings are held monthly. The group contributed many coats to Weyanoke Elementary School through its yearly service project. We started a high school Coffee House to be held quarterly.
- Six youth attended summer camp at Shrine Mont.
- We provided Pace West Students with 50 Christmas gifts through the Angel Tree project.
- Prayer Wall was used again during Lent.
- We were able to hold our annual retreat in May at Shrine Mont with 50 total participants; 38 attended the full weekend, 12 attended for a half weekend.
- We held a Blessing of Animals that was attended by our congregation and members of the community.
- Participated in Haymarket Day in October 2026.
- Our church Directory helped our members stay in touch with each other.
- We provided space for weekly AA meetings.
- Our website provides information for our congregations and the general public. www.stpaulsepiscopalhaymarket.org

2. **What was a highlight of our ministry this past year – with one another? In the world? Or, what was the most positive activity in our parish during the past year. Who was responsible for making it happen?**

- For 2025 Parochial Report reached 275 registered members.
- Continuing Shrine Mont attendance.
- Continued Compassionate Care ministry includes calls, letters, and funeral receptions in their mission.
- Even more Wishing Well projects completed.
- Audits for 2025 were completed as required by the Diocese of Virginia.
- Children's Choir has grown.
- Vestry members completed safe church training.
- American Legion placed 39 markers on Veteran's graves.
- Rt. Rev. Mark Stevenson held Bishop Visitation with Confirmation and Reception on March 8.
- Carried to Full Term (aka Virginia Women and Family Support Center) has a member on its board from St. Paul's for the first time.
- Best Place of Worship recognition in Haymarket Lifestyle Magazine.
- Children and youth ministries provide opportunities to be involved.
- Various family and youth activities attract newcomers from our community.

3. **Whom do you want to thank?**
- George Fulda for providing music for services.
- Kerry Rousseau for her outreach and welcoming presence that serves as a beacon of embrace to all and for her work with the Children's Choir and the Handbell Choir.
- Church School leaders: Elspeth McCormick, Paul Reeder, and Priscilla Myerson. Church School leader substitutes: Megan Zeoli, Jane Nicklas, Peter Demaree.
- HRFP produce delivery teams coordinated by Vince Ammann.
- Dottie McQueeney, Peter Demaree, and Kathy Vergano for their close attention to detail through their work as the Audit Committee.
- The Cemetery Committee and its coordinator Andy Mays.
- Andy Mays and Bob Coggan for putting flags on the Veterans' graves on patriotic holidays and for installing veterans' markets on our 39 veterans' graves.
- Sally Peterson for all the work on the Rectory Garden.
- Connie Gallant for coordinating the Office Angels and Holy Quilters.
- Paula Lelansky for coordinating the Saintly Shoppers.
- Susan Thacker coordinates the Altar Guild as well as the purchase of Christmas and Easter flowers.
- Elspeth McCormick for continuing to coordinate the Youth Group.
- George Fulda, Tim McCormick, and Dave Zeoli who lead music for the Youth Group.
- Mary Roland for serving as a scribe for the youth group and pianist for youth choir rehearsals.
- Jean Selig for coordinating Compassionate Care.
- Tim McCormick and Dave Zeoli for managing the live streaming.
- Susan Douffas and Vince Ammann for developing the 5-year Strategic Plan.
- Clay Comer and Dave Zeoli for moving the new safe and installing it in the Rector's office.
- Everyone who has contributed to the Wishing Well List.

4. **What now needs the attention of the rector/vestry? What are our current priorities?**
- Ongoing Wishing Well needs, especially renovations for church office.
- Revise the Rector's Letter of Agreement.
- Increase outreach and membership.
- Increase Vestry visibility.
- Consider hiring a Staff Member.

5. **What attracts newcomers to our parish?**
- Our community is welcoming in worship and fellowship.
- Good church location.
- Reputation as a family centric church.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Sean K. Rousseau
Rector