

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Haymarket, Virginia**

**Mutual Ministry Reflection
Fall 2024 - Fall 2025**

November 20, 2025

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

Materials reviewed: Mutual Ministry Review ("MMR") Reflection Booklet, MMR Reflection Guide & Questions and the MMR Reflection results of 2024. Discussion followed and the questions below were addressed.

1. How did we live out/put into action the Gospel this year?

- For 2024 Parochial Report, we reached 257 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 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 now offered following the 8:30 am service.
- Five Baptisms and two First Eucharists were celebrated.
- We celebrated 5 weddings/marriages.
- A number of funerals and burials were conducted that included services for Bruce Prouty, Simon Carson, Kathleen Aust, Robert Fulda, Alice Fulda, Kenneth Rousseau, and Thomas Tobey. These included one inurnment in the Columbarium, two burials in the Columbarium Garden, and one in the Cemetery.
- 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 Audit Committee completed the work for the 2024 audit.
- Our Ministry Partnership continues with Carried to Full Term (aka Virginia Women and Family Support Center). For CTFT, the Yellow House is the first stop for residential living. Residents can graduate to a second house at the Church of the Brethren in Manassas. The kitchen was refurbished using a grant from Home Depot. Labor expenses were provided by Micron Technology, Inc.
- Our Ministry Partnership continues with the Haymarket Regional Food Pantry. Our HRFPP Produce Delivery from Fauquier Education Farm from May to December is carried out by teams that were coordinated by Vince Ammann. Team members included Pam & Vince Ammann, Chris Fornecker, Gail Jacobs, Lee & Ross Kerr, Marilyn & Joe McVeigh, Jane Nicklas, Jerry Thacker, Kathy & Peter Vergano, Wendy Gray, and Eowyn & Sean Rousseau. We conducted a ham drive for HRFPP that brought in \$2,777 which purchased 200 hams. Amy Lowry and Sean Rousseau are 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. Sean Rousseau continues to serve on the School Board and served as interim Board President from September to December. Bonnie Weatherhead also 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.
- Generous amount given to Wishing Well for replacement of Rectory windows and doors, and many other projects.
- We continued our BL&SS (Bag Lunch & Scripture Study).
- We continued our Adult Choir.
- George Fulda, Director of Music Ministry, began incorporating youth voices and instruments in Sunday services.
- The Children's Choir has grown which is coordinated by Kerry Rousseau.
- 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 presented to Buddy Wagner in appreciation for his patriotic contributions on Veterans' Day Sunday. This group meets monthly 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 provided Pace West Students with 94 Christmas gifts through the Angel Tree project.
- We held Lessons & Carols in December.
- The Prayer Wall was used again during Lent.
- Soup & Stations were held on Fridays during Lent.
- We were able to hold our annual retreat in June at Shrine Mont with 53 total participants; 38 attended the full-weekend, 9 attended for a half-weekend, and 6 attended for a daytrip.
- We held a Blessing of Animals that was attended by our congregation and members of the community.
- The National Acolyte Festival at the Washington National Cathedral was attended by 8 of our acolytes and 9 adults.
- We participated in Haymarket Day in October 2025.
- Our Church Directory helped our members stay in touch with each other.
- Our new website was launched at www.stpaulsepiscopalhaymarket.org.

2. What was a highlight of our ministry this past year – with one another?

- For 2024 Parochial Report reached 257 registered members.
- Growing Shrine Mont attendance.
- Children's Choir has grown.
- Continued Compassionate Care ministry who added calls and letters to their mission.
- Even more Wishing Well projects completed.
- Procedures and paperwork were developed for the Cemetery.
- Audits for 2024 were completed as required by the Diocese of Virginia.
- The new website improves communication to church members and outreach to those looking for a church home.

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 beacon of embrace to all and for her work with the children's choir and the handbell choir.
- Church School leaders: Elspeth McCormick, Nelson Kersey, and Priscilla Myerson. Church School leader substitutes: Megan Zeoli and Jane Nicklas.
- 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.
- Vince Ammann and Kathy Vergano for developing the procedures and paperwork for the Cemetery.
- Andy Mays and Bob Coggan for putting flags on the Veterans' graves on patriotic holidays and for installing veterans' markers on our 37 veterans' graves.
- Sally Peterson for all the work on the Rectory Garden.
- Connie Gallant for coordinating the Office Angels.
- Paula Lelansky for coordinating the Sainly Shoppers.
- Susan Thacker who 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.
- 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.
- Plan for Rector Sabbatical by developing a Procedural Manual for supply clergy.
- Increase outreach and membership.
- Increase Vestry visibility.

5. What attracts newcomers to our parish?

- Our community is welcoming in worship and fellowship.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Sean K. Rousseau
Rector