

Truro Anglican Church—Regular Vestry Meeting Summary

July 2025

On July 15, 2025, at 7:04 pm, Jamie Brown opened the meeting with prayer thanking God for our time together, Bible studies taking place this day at Truro, and other activities occurring this week. He closed by asking for wisdom to guide our Vestry proceedings.

The devotion focused on Acts 14:21-23 on leadership in the early church. Jamie keyed off writings of John Stott on the founding of churches in three Galatian cities: Lystra, Iconium, and Derbe. As the apostles Paul and Barnabas traveled to each city and made “many disciples,” they were inspired by the Holy Spirit to adopt a three-part pattern in establishing churches. First, the apostles “encourage[ed] them to continue in the faith.” This involved creedal and moral instruction, plus exhortation to stand together and expect suffering as followers of Jesus. Second, “they . . . appointed elders for them in every church.” Leadership was locally chosen (not appointed from outside) and plural (not reliant on a single pastor). Finally, “with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.” Trusting in divine faithfulness to guide and protect the new Christians, Paul and Barnabas departed, having left congregations founded on Jesus Christ, and taught to adhere to the Old Testament, the ancient church’s witness of the Gospel, and the apostles’ letters. In concluding, Jamie thanked God for the structures we have at Truro, in continuity with the tradition we see in the acts of Paul and Barnabas.

Summary

1. The Vestry moved, seconded, and approved acceptance of the following items:
 - Vestry Meeting Minutes – June 17, 2025
 - Financial Summary Reports – June Finance Committee, TPK, and Trinity Burke
2. Jamie paused to pray (along with other Vestry members), offering thanksgivings and petitions for continued financial provision.
3. A Decision Brief was presented by the Register, Garth Wilson, to Amend the Vestry Handbook on Selection of Delegates to Diocesan Synod. The Vestry moved, seconded, and approved the brief as amended.
4. A Decision Brief was presented by Garth to Begin Selection of Delegates and Alternates to Diocesan Synod 2025. The Vestry moved, seconded, and approved the brief.

5. A Decision Brief was presented by the Director of Operations, Daria Brown, for Authorization to certify housing for Rev. Matthew Desmarais of Trinity Burke for 2025. The Vestry moved, seconded, and approved the brief.
6. Building & Grounds Committee: Summary of significant renovation and repair projects, current and future, with estimated costs.
7. TPK: TPK's focus for fall is increasing enrollment.
8. Outreach Committee: Updates on local, international, and domestic opportunities. Two recent funding adjustments noted. Prayer for one of our foreign mission partners at a difficult moment in a sensitive region.
9. Personnel Committee: The committee had its initial meeting on July 15, 2025. No decisions were reached but several policy questions were identified for consideration.
10. Director of Operations: New DOMA policy for Protection of Children and Adults. Truro's in-house training is being revised in part and will be offered on Tuesday, August 19, 2025; Vestry is invited.
11. Senior Warden: Reminded Vestry members of importance of oath of confidentiality. Invited Vestry to seek refreshment during August recess but also to ponder and reflect on seven types of rest: physical, mental, emotional, social, sensory, creative, and spiritual.
12. Rector: Interviews in progress for Director of Worship and Associate Rector positions. The Vestry entered executive session at 8:15 pm and ended at 8:40 pm.
13. Daria noted the need for extra childcare volunteers at The Nest on Sunday this summer.
14. Jim Osterhaus concluded with prayer and adjourned the meeting at 8:44 pm.

Contact Molly Andreson at mandreson@truroanglican.com for a copy of the complete minutes.