

January 12, 2026 Council Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Maureen Even.

Present: Pastor Mohr-Kelly, Cindy Gosse, Amber Reuter, Mike Waring, and Sara Borland. Absent: Christy Phillips, Shirley Bergman, and Mary Adams.

Pastor led devotions.

Maureen has an email from Chris about ecumenical services and Praise service from Sara.

Motion to approve agenda with changes by Sara. Second by Cindy. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

December was good incoming. Cindy suggests we move the \$8,691.80 to savings. Mike emailed Christy that he has \$414 in Benevolence for Good Gifts.

Sara motions to move the \$8691.80. Second by Mike. Motion carried.

Cindy will have everything ready for the audit committee this week and W-2's tomorrow.

Sara motioned to approve treasurer's report. Second by Mike. Motion carried.

Secretary Report:

Sara did the Budget Workshop and December notes. On the Budget Hearing notes, there is an update to add the word continual, "If it's a *continual* contract and within the approved budget..."

Pastor motioned to approve Budget Workshop, December Minutes, and the Budget Hearing notes with the update. Second by Cindy. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Hospitality Reports: Goodie sacks were given to the kids at Christmas.

Parish Ed/Youth: Angie, Beth Stanek, and Cindy have everything scheduled through the end of May for Parish Ed. Sara has donated bracelet kits and "Capture the Flag". The Youth are making cards to invite other Youth to events. They'll be covering The Lord's Prayer. Once a month the youth will play bells or sing during Sunday service.

Confirmation is going through the Bible. On the 25th, there won't be confirmation, but they are invited to join the Youth Group for game night.

Property/Technology: Schindler replaced all boards. The elevator runs except for 1st floor call button. Engineer believes the software is corrupted, we have a quote for \$9561.65 including tax to replace the call buttons and the software. Mike is sending this quote to Mary, the insurance agent. We will present this quote to the congregation on Sunday as we will need vote to approve using funds from Improvement to cover any cost that insurance will not.

Cindy received a bill from the company that did our snow removal and salt. She reached out that our contracted had ended last season, and she has not received any response. We haven't received any further bills from them.

Mike shared that Rich said he splattered some paint on the wall. Cindy and Maureen believe we still have paint from when we painted prior to Pastor moving in.

Scholarship:

Envelope is out for the next round of applications. The proposed 2026 budget included scholarship plus the EWALU scholarship. Two \$600 scholarships for a total of \$1,200 for Epic, \$1,000 for EWALU.

Worship and Music:

Sara phoned Shirley on speaker phone for this portion of the meeting. Shirley is taking a break for a short time during her treatment. She has shared a list of musicians we can contact. We don't have a musician for 1/18. Pastor and Mike found a solution. We have a CD with the Liturgy. Sue Hoey will assist. Karen Weltzin will play for Ash Wednesday. In addition to the list of musicians from Shirley, we can also reach out to the colleges. Pastor is working on list of hymns for Lent and Easter. Phone call ended with Shirley.

Sara asked if the 9 a.m. time is an issue for finding musicians. We could look at a different time in the future.

Sara and Pastor chatted about the 4 p.m. service attendance being down. Sara is going to send a survey to get their input for the future of the service. Cindy asked if there could be one contemporary service a month. Amber mentioned we do have a collection of songs we can stream if we were to do that.

We are seeing several members returning at both the 9 a.m. and the 4 p.m.

Cindy asked if we could go back to cups for communion. Council agreed.

Chris sent an email to council about the Ecumenical services if we would like to be part of the Maundy Thursday with a Seder Meal. Council would like more details of time before a decision is made for the service and ALC's services. July 5th is a dedication of the Veterans Park, and Alan Wright is asking if the churches would like to part of it. Maureen will ask Chris to ask for more details.

Call Committee:

Meeting on Thursday with Council, Call Committee, and Pastor Beckett to know what our next steps are.

Pastor's Report:

We have started the Bible Recap. We have a small group gathering after worship on Sunday.

For Ash Wednesday, February 18th, we will have a 2 p.m. and a 7 p.m. We will not have mid-week Lenten services.

Pastor asked for clarification on who will is responsible for lining up musicians. By phone, Shirley confirmed for Council that she is not contacting musicians during her temporary leave of absence. Pastor mentioned that Chris would be willing to line this up while Shirley is absent. Cindy suggested that we pay

Chris her hourly-rate for the additional hours she puts in to fill this role for the time being. Council agreed.

First Communion classes will have 3 students. Who will lead this class? Cindy suggested Sue Hoey.

Pat Wiede has completed the information for membership transfer. Sara made a motion to become a member. Second by Mike. Motion carried.

We have sent letters to a couple of other regular attendees about membership.

Pastor will remain in the Parsonage until June. She has offered to sell her washer and dryer. Mike made a motion to buy the washer and dryer from Pastor for \$800. Sara clarified that it comes from Improvement fund. It does. Sara seconded the motion to approve the purchase. Motion carried.

72.5 cents is the mileage rate for 2026.

New Business:

Cindy consolidated the proposed budget to present to the congregation on Sunday. Pat Winblade asked for a more detailed report via email. Cindy will send the itemized sheet that she used, and she will have copies for the congregation available if they would like to review.

Maureen pointed out we have \$1,500 for a supply Pastor is under the Pastor Expense line item.

Cindy motioned to present the budget at the congregational meeting. Second by Sara. Motion carried

Cindy, Mike, and Chris have been trained on the AED. Cindy is putting together information for the bulletin for a sign up for other members to learn. Cindy has researched the cabinets for holding the supplies. Amber offered to purchase the AED cabinet for the church.

Pastor's contract ended in December. Her new contract will be through June 30, 2026. Base pay \$30,000, plus mileage. Maureen will type up the new contract to be signed on Sunday.

Mike will be gone January 25th and February 8th. Amber will help with the CD music on January 25th.

February 1st will be installation of the new council members. Sara will contact people for February fellowship.

Old Business:

Correspondence:

The Lord's Prayer was said.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. by Sara. Second by Cindy. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amber Reuter

Secretary