

March 13, 2026 Council Minutes

Present: Moderator Kay Rowntree, Moderator-Elect Ryan Venema, Pastor Mark Hensley, Brad Charles, Jamie Pennington, Karla Pennington, Rae-Ellen Preuss, Sue Roberts, Jennifer Schmitz

Absent: Secretary Joanne Himebauch, Jean Bocker

Opening Prayer: Jamie Pennington. Jennifer Schmitz will give the opening prayer in April.

Devotional time (Pastor Mark):

Approval of the February 11, 2026 minutes: Ryan moved and Brad seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report (Jean Bocker): Jean was absent.

Finance Director's report (Jamie Pennington): Jamie talked about the recommendation to use Jim Filicetti as our financial advisor. We need to work on a contract with him. He will be invited to the May meeting to discuss what he'd like to do. Maxwell St Days – we need to do a better job recruiting church members to staff the shifts. Bell Tower Carillon - The Memorial Committee is meeting after church on March 15 to discuss the Carillon. They will wait until June to purchase the Carillon when the CD expires. The insurance money can be used as a down-payment, if needed. Then, there was a discussion about how Memorial \$\$ should get spent.

SOP review update: Ryan said that they have been reviewing SOPs along with Janine Coley's help. The process will continue. Their next meeting is March 19th. They will give the financial-related SOPs to Jean Bocker for review.

Parsonage Sale Discussion:

Brad Charles moved and Ryan Venema seconded to direct the parsonage committee to bring no offer less than \$425,000 to the Council for consideration. Motion carried.

Jamie Pennington moved and Rae-Ellen Preuss seconded to direct the parsonage committee to list the selling price at \$450,000. Motion carried. Shorewest realtor Renee Koepsel had requested that we list the parsonage for \$475,000, but we think that price is a bit high.

After further discussion, the Council decided that the real estate contract should be signed by Moderator Kay Rowntree. Jennifer Schmitz volunteered to go over the contract with Kay to help her understand the details. The Council will review all offers over \$425,000 and set a special meeting for the congregation's approval.

Other business: The WCA is Saturday, May 2nd in Rochester.

Next Council meeting: Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at 6:30 PM.

Closing Prayer by Pastor Mark

Respectfully submitted (with the assistance of Council members in filling in details, since I was absent),

Joanne Himebauch

Council Secretary

