



May 2026 Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 05-11-2026	Time: 6:30 PM	Location: Fellowship Hall and Zoom
Those present are indicated in bold: Pastor Dan Nelson, Pastor Steve Olson, Deacon Savannah Olaphson, Kelly Meyers (Church Administrator), Tom Getchius (President), Jim Andreen (Vice-President), Kirsten Stenoien (Treasurer), Rick Ites (Financial Secretary), Kim Whalen (Secretary), Jennifer Johnson (Adult Faith Formation), Emily Sienkowski / Karina Nelson (Children's Education), Amanda Ropchak (Evangelism), Bev Osekowsky / Ruth Lunde (Parish Fellowship), Jennifer Naslund / Nicole Seieroe (Youth), Lou Hernandez (Property), Cate Everett (Social Ministry), Paul Stork (Stewardship), Eric Lovestrand (Worship, Music & Arts)		
Call To Order: 6:35 PM Devotion: Ruth Lunde Adjourned: 8:04 PM		
Approval of Minutes: We voted to approve the April minutes. Jim moved, Nicole seconded, all voted to approve		

Action Item	Who	Status	Expected Completion date
Update the proposed motion not to allow non-member use of space (that is not non-profit or for-profit)	Kelly M. and Staff	In Progress	2026
Proposed updated constitution and bylaws, including a change to the Service & Justice committee name.	Tom G. and Pastor Dan	In Progress	2026
Plan end of Q1 financial communication	Kirsten S. and Paul S.	Complete	May 2026
Craft job description and post open music position	Pastor Dan and Kyung K.	Complete	May 2026
Begin the process of getting some ideas for populating the building fund in a variety of creative ways	Pastor Dan	Complete	May 2026

BUILDING RESERVE FUND

- Paul Stork will present a Temple Talk on Sunday asking people for initial donations to this fund.
- The \$200,000 initial target was chosen with the thought it would help handle some upcoming large expenses and also maintain a balance of \$100,000, which is roughly 1% of the value of the building.
- Some members have already offered a generous donation, which might be framed matching funds for other people giving donations. Pastor Dan will try to get the details nailed down in the next few days.
- Going forward, keeping this account funded will be one of the responsibilities of the Stewardship team.
- It is possible we will take advantage of having the tent for welcome weekend to host an additional fundraising event to help fund this account.
- Send any campaign ideas for future slides, etc. to Paul Stork and Kelly Meyers.

WORSHIP SURVEY RESULTS (PASTOR DAN)

- Gene Leutzinger has helped with interpretation of the survey results.
- Females and 66-80 year-old age ranges were over-represented in the survey responses compared to the makeup of the congregation.
- 44% of respondents attend worship weekly, 36% 2-3 times per month, 8% once a month, 12% occasionally.
- Music style was the dominant reason people choose the service they do.
- Takeaways: lean into what we are already good at. Investigate the sampling gaps – such as 14-35 year olds – and potentially resurvey those populations.

TRANSITION TEAM (Ruth Lunde)

- Jim A. and Ruth L. met with Pastor Dan and Pastor Steve.
- There were a lot of responses from people interested in serving. Of these, five were added to the transition team, and the others received an email thanking them for their willingness.
- The team held their first meeting on May 12.
 - They set some dates for listening sessions in May and early June, both in person and via Zoom.
 - They plan to update the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) by the end of June.
 - The next step after that would be for the council to approve the MSP and form a call committee for the Associate Pastor role.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE AND INCOME REPORT

Attendance

- April had the highest in-person attendance so far in 2026 at 2,979.
- Year-to-date 63% in person, lower than the same period last year.
- 12-month period ending in April was 1,443, down from the previous 12-month period.

Giving

- Giving was under budget for the month, mostly because there is a corporate match that was budgeted in April but we now expect in May.

FINANCIAL REPORT (Kirsten S.)

Expenses and Budget

- Year-to-date income is better than budget.
- Year-to-date we have spent less than budgeted, mostly due to a staff member not taking health insurance that we budgeted.
- Because income was above budget and benevolence is a percent of income, benevolence is above budget.

ROSTERED LEADER AND STAFF UPDATES

Pastor Dan

- 4 funerals, 2 baptisms.
- Barb Saveriede is going to step down from Cornerstone choir directing at the end of this season, but does not want a big send off.

Kelly M.

- Sarah is back in the office after some family responsibilities.
- The Contemporary Worship Band Leader position has been posted. Pastor Dan and Kyung Ko will be the initial interviewers, and Servant Song will also have a chance for input. A new item added to the position description is the need to collaborate with the clergy on worship planning. The ideal start date would be August. The coverage plan for the summer will include keeping summer services simple.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Yard cleanup / Youth garage sale / shredding event was on one busy day, and worked well. When youth workers had down time during the garage sale, they were very helpful with yard work.