

ST. PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COUNCIL MINUTES FROM MEETING OF
Tuesday, March 10, 2026

Council Members Present: Jane Dykowski, Michael Isaacs, Wendy Warner, Dan Case, Tim Ruffner, Toni Hill, and Rev. Linda Anderson.

Excused: Conrad Heidt, Pam Lange, and Mark Ennis

Guests Service Organizations & Groups Utilizing the Church Building and Grounds: Girl Scout Troop Leader, Michele Matney.

Meeting was called to order by President, Tim Ruffner, at 7:00 p.m., followed by opening prayer led by Dan Case.

Michele Matney for the Girl Scouts was unable to attend. She suggested two dates for a Scout Sunday—April 12 or 26. Neither of these dates will work with other activities at the church. A suggested Sunday would be May 3. Dan Case will contact her about this

Approval of the Minutes: Motion by Dan Case, seconded by Michael Isaacs, to approve the February 10, 2026 Council minutes. Motion carried.

Agenda Additions/Deletions: Add to New Business: 6. Electric Cart

REPORTS AND UPDATES

Treasurer's Report: Written report. Dan Case expanded on his report saying that February was not a good financial month. Our income was approximately \$10,000 and expenses were about \$22,000. The expenses were because of additional supply pastors and snow removal. The income was about the same as last year. He noted that after Easter and the arrival of our new Senior Pastor, we should have a better idea of our finances. Motion by Toni Hill, seconded by Wendy Warner, to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion Carried.

Ministry Department: No written report. Rev. Anderson reported that the Wednesday Lenten events have been successful. The choir and two or three congregants have been in attendance. Rev. Matthews presented a devotion and missionaries from the Church of Latter Day Saints were the current guests. The coming week's guest will be a rabbi. (In error we prepared coffee for the Mormon representatives who do not consume caffeine—Oops.)

Trustees/Building and Grounds: Toni Hill reported there were no large projects in the works at this time. The East door is working better and with the warm up, the sign is working well. The mowers have been taken for service. Harold Fick will need help cleaning up the damage to grounds caused with the snow removal. Michael Isaacs will talk with Harold on Sunday to establish a time to do this.

Deacons: Having no deacon, Dan Case reported that attendance for February was 195. The Ash Wednesday service with Rev. Mathews was well attended. The confirmands were able to participate in the service.

Elders: Wendy Warner reported that 47 participated in pew communion on the first Sunday in Lent.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Stewardship Campaign: Dan Case is looking for anyone interested in working on a stewardship campaign plan.
2. Council Dinner: The dinner is tabled until Rev. Branham arrives in mid April.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Council Protocol for Easter Sunday: Dan Case reminded all council members of their responsibility for the Easter service. There will be pew communion using four/eight trays. The order of service should allow council members in the choir to help serve too if necessary.
2. Rev. Branham Welcome and Start Date: Her start date will be April 19. That would ordinarily be her Sunday off. Therefore to accommodate another commitment, her first Sunday in the pulpit will be April 26. Sunday, April 12, will be Rev. Anderson's last day. An enhanced coffee hour is planned for the West Room on that date. The room will not be set up for rummage sale to accommodate this event.
3. Parsonage Cleanup/Repairs, if required: Michael Isaacs reported that once we have Rev. Branham's move in plans, we will designate, probably a Saturday, to do a cleanup. There is not much to do.
4. Sunday Bulletins: Dan Case drew our attention to the Sunday Bulletins where many times it is difficult to follow. Cindy Romas will need some direction as to how to prepare it. It can be set up with pages numbered.
5. Rev. Branham Welcome Gift: A church member has suggested that a membership to The Henry Ford be given to Rev. Branham as a welcome gift. Rev. Anderson related that at her various churches she had never received a welcome gift. What such gift would be and when given is put on hold. A gift at Installation would be more appropriate.
6. Electric Cart: Sally Sigman has an electric cart she no longer uses. It would be donated to the church for anyone to use. Having it at the church may create a storage issue as well as a charging issue. The suggestion was to check with Dave Lange for his use.

ROUNDTABLE

Jane Dykowski related a discussion with Doug Staffeld regarding ex-officio voting rights. This is one of the changes suggested be made in the by-laws at the Semi-annual meeting. She also inquired about reinstating one's membership. The consensus seemed to be a letter requesting so is acceptable

Motion by Wendy Warner, seconded by Michael Isaacs, to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m. followed by the Lord's Prayer recited in unison.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane L. Dykowski
Recording Secretary.