

Council Minutes

February 9, 2026

Present: Pr. Joel Bacon, Eric Neff, Andy Vergeront, Janet Rivard, Dan Bergschnieder, Madeleine Bernard, Jeff Reiche, Paula Gaida
Not present: Randy Neumann, Ted Urban, Bob Ubbelohde, Deb Meier

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm by Council President, Eric

Pastor Bacon made the opening devotions

A motion was made by Jeff and seconded by Janet to approve tonight's agenda. Motion approved.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from last meeting by Dan, seconded by Jeff. Motion approved.

Treasurer's report was made by Andy and the receipts, balances and accounts sheets were distributed to council for reviewing. A motion to accept the Treasury report was made by Jeff, seconded by Madeleine and the motion carried.

Julie Jolivette presented the timeline and the call team for hiring the Children, Youth and Family Coordinator. This timeline was distributed to council for reviewing. Eric made a motion and Jeff seconded to accept this proposal and the motion was accepted.

It was brought up that Amanda is concerned about transportation of the children and youth to camp in June. A motion was made by Jeff, seconded by Madeleine that we not require staff to transport but will check with families for this. Also, Amanda will be asked to go to camp as a continuation of her Terrific Tuesdays capacity and be present through the end of camp in June.

Pastor's report: Pastor will participate in the "Book across the Bay" this Saturday. Requested council approve that he will tape the sermon and service for Saturday evening so he can attend. Council approved . Reminded council that he will be taking the last full week of June off for his daughter's wedding.

The stove in the parsonage has gone out and was more expensive to fix than to replace so a new stove has been ordered.

The theme for this Lenten season will be "Family Plus".

Evangelism- beatification/ coffee kiosk committee will meet on Feb. 11 to discuss this.

Welcome/membership, Shari Beckman has been asked to put together a brochure for visitors and new members. A mock up will be presented to the council at the next meeting.

Outreach name will be changed to Good Works. Report by Jeff that the winter clothing drive was a resounding success and that warm clothes and outerwear were delivered to Intermediate and Primary schools in Hayward and to Winter schools.

A motion was made by Jeff, seconded by Dan to support the wells for Malawi. Motion passed.

Property - church furnaces are leaking. Ray and Pastor are seeking repair people to look at this and come up with a plan.

New Business: Andy distributed his recommendations for enhancing the Council's continuity, effectiveness and financial accountability.

This will be discussed at the April meeting.

Correspondence: a letter from Luther Seminary thanking First for its gift of \$1,500.00 for the sustaining fund.

A thank you letter from the Hayward Community Foodshelf for our contributions this past year, and a donor contribution summary of \$844.00.

Old business: Lights and Fans Task Force. As an item in the long term range plan under the property committee. Discussion that there is a need to recruit members with background and knowledge to strengthen this committee. A few names were suggested.

Next meeting will be on Monday, March 9th at 5pm.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Andy and seconded by Jeff at 6:15 pm

Pastor then led the council in the Lord's Prayer.