

January 15, 2026 Church Council Meeting

Present: Brennan Cummings, Warren Livingston, Mary McCoy, Mary Ann Fenstermacher, Marianne D'Amato, Cindy Gentry, Susan Ozga, Julie Italiano, Christine Phillips, Doris Yantis, Eric de la Pena, Bob Behee, Vickie Hammons, Steve D'Amato, Susan Opper.

Cindy opened the meeting with a devotion.

Novmeber minutes have been approved by email.

Steve gave finance report. Numbers will be available next Tuesday, January 20. Finances are in good shape, with funding available for trustees projects. Several new pledges and increases in pledged amounts have been received.

Mike Webb not present for SPRC report. Committee members report staff meeting last Thursday went well.

Marianne gave Trustees report. Marianne was re-elected Board of Trustees chair. New roof installation was completed last year. Trustees are revisiting interior damage from wind damage claim separate from the roof hail claim; since these damaged were less than our \$50,000 deductible, no insurance funds were received, and repairs were not made. There are no active leaks, but there are numerous water-damaged areas. Recent discovery of apparent mold in a chancel area ceiling beam will be addressed immediately.

Eric reports United Methodist Men have donated \$300 to Shawnee Community Services.

Vickie reports that on February 8, UWF will be providing a soup lunch for free will donation, and will also have soup mixes available for purchase. Proceeds will be donated to UWIF for mission projects.

Susan Ozga encouraged people to check out books from the church library.

Mary reports that Living Nativity went well.

Warren gave missions report. The church will host a blood drive next Tuesday, January 20. Donations for Heifer Project are still being received. Marianne added that we might have to go back to paying for food for Cross-Lines food kitchen, as there are fewer donations from Shawnee Community Services and area grocery stores. Warren reminded us to save and turn in receipt when purchasing food for Cross-Lines, even if not accepting reimbursement, as documentation will benefit our mission budget. Doris suggests we tell people about stores that donate to hunger relief organizations and encourage us to consider patronizing them.

Mike's request for church council approval of \$1000 Foundation contribution to Heifer Project, passed by Foundation committee, was approved by church council.

Brennan gave pastor's report. Things are going well. Bishop and district superintendent will be at February 15 worship service. Subsplash, a digital church management system, has been implemented as official Shawnee UMC app. We are transitioning to all digital functions, which will save money and staff resources. We have applied for a district innovation grant, the initial six months of which has been approved. Brennan asks for patience and prayer as we transition to a new season of growth, which he

names “the church of 2050,” and will include the addition of a contemporary worship service, which has been discussed with music staff. Susan Opper states that she and Roy Konkey are interested in participating in contemporary music also. There will be an Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 pm on February 18. There will be a Maundy Thursday service in collaboration with Shawnee UMC, Lenexa St. Paul's UMC, and Lenexa UMC , held at Lenexa St. Paul's UMC, on April 2 at 7:00 pm. Sermon calendar for 2026 is almost finished. There is a Good Faith Network social justice workshop scheduled for Wednesday, January 21. Genesis Sunday school class is planning to attend. Brennan is optimistic about 2026 opportunities, and believes God is doing a new thing trough Shawnee UMC.

Brennan closed the meeting with prayer.

Next meeting will be on February 12, 2026.

Submitted by Mary Ann Fenstermacher

Late entry January 20, 2026 The Good Faith Network Rethinking Justice workshop has been rescheduled for Saturday, February 14, 2026 from 9 am to noon at Savior Pastoral Center, 12601 Parallel Parkway, Kansas City, KS, 66109

Minutes approved via email with slight corrections.