

St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Amityville
Consistory Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2025

Present – Stacey Ambrose, Curt Clifford, Peter Dadey, Wendy Elser, William Falstich, Brenda Haas, Billy Harrison, Autumn Herbst, Jackie Hertzog, Kay Nyman, Linda Okuniewski, Heidi Pennypacker, Marsha Pingitore, Doug Reinert, Marianne Reinert, Judy Reitz, Michele Ross, Martha Sitler, Kathy Weller, Rev. Don Epps.

Following a delicious picnic meal at the home of Doug and Marianne Reinert, President Curt Clifford called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. In the interest of time, he asked that committee reports be submitted in written form except for items that require immediate action. The Secretary confirmed a quorum.

Ratification of Minutes

In the absence of a quorum at the July meeting, three actions that were approved at that meeting needed to be ratified to confirm their approval.

MOTION: Confirm approval of three actions taken at the meeting of July 9.

MOTION BY: Marianne Reinert **SECOND:** Autumn Herbst **VOTE:** All in favor

The July minutes were amended to show these ratifications.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Approve meeting minutes of July 9, 2025, as amended.

MOTION BY: Jackie Hertzog **SECOND:** Stacey Ambrose **VOTE:** All in favor

Minister's Report

Rev. Donald Epps

- Report emailed.

Secretary's Report/ Correspondence

Martha Sitler. Secretary

- No report. No correspondence.

Treasurer's Report

Peter Dadey, Treasurer

	<u>July 2025</u>	<u>Full Year 2025</u>
Income	\$40,340	316,833
Expenses	55,154	321,258
Surplus/(Deficit)	(14,814)	(4,425)

President's Report

Curt Clifford, President

President Curt Clifford appointed three members to serve on the Nominating Committee to be chaired by Vice President Jackie Hertzog as per the Church By-laws: Deacon Martha Sitler, Committee Chair Kathy Weller, and Elder-Doug Reinert.

High Priority Business

Committee Reports

Budget, Finance & Stewardship

Bill Falstich, Committee Chair

Bill reminded all committee chairs that their budgets are due by the end of September.

Capital Campaign

Richard Zuber, Committee Chair

No report

Christian Education

Wendy Elser, Committee Chair

- Report emailed.
- Wendy reported that we have lost two Sunday School teachers, but have gained five new ones, allowing each volunteer to teach less often – if we would allow the older class to be supervised by one, rather than two, certified adult teachers. She pointed out that many of our teachers are professional teachers who routinely supervise more students by themselves. All our teachers have their state clearances to be able to work with children. The younger class would continue to be supervised by two certified adults.

MOTION: To allow our older youth Sunday School classes to be conducted with only one certified adult teacher, with or without a teen helper.

MOTION BY: Wendy Elser

SECOND: Kathy Weller

VOTE: All in favor

Church and Ministry

Richard Zuber, Committee Chair

- In the absence of chairman Rich Zuber, Marlin Spotts presented the report making two recommended changes to our current staffing. Our call agreement with Rev. Epps provides for a ½ time position of 20 to 24 hours a week. The Committee recognizes that Rev. Epps has been working far more than 20 hours, so recommends that his position be increased to ¾ time or 30-35 hours per week, effective August 4. This would increase his salary, pension payments, Social Security, housing allowance, and insurance coverage by a commensurate amount, but the total cost will still be less than the amount budgeted for a full-time pastor.

MOTION: To adjust Rev. Epps's call agreement to ¾ time effective August 4.

MOTION BY: Marianne Reinert

SECOND: Bill Falstich

VOTE: All in favor

- In addition, Rev. Epps has requested the employment of an Assistant to help him get to know the congregation and their needs. Recognizing that Reverend Epps started at ground zero in terms of knowing the relationships of our unique committee structure, the roles of the committee members in conducting the church's business, and the names that go with the faces of some 400⁺ church members, the committee recommends the creation of an Interim Assistant job to give him the help he needs to get up to speed in this regard.

MOTION: To create a position of Interim Assistant to work at \$15 per hour for up to 10 hours per week to help Rev. Epps as he acclimates to his ministry at St. Paul's. The Church and Ministry Committee will revisit the need for this position before the end of this year.

MOTION BY: Marianne Reinert

SECOND: Linda Okuniewski

VOTE: All in favor

Evangelism

Kathy Weller, Heidi Pennypacker Committee Co-Chairs

- Report emailed.
- Our new church brochures are now available and will be distributed at the Peach Festival.
- Ten new members will be joining the church at the Sunday Service on August 17.

Facilities

- No report

Fellowship

Judy Leister, Committee Chair

- No Report

HVAC

Judy Leister and Kay Nyman, Committee Co-Chairs

- No report

Missions**Michele Ross, Committee Chair**

- No Report

Search**Billy Harrison, Committee Chair**

- Billy reported that the Committee has completed and submitted the Long Survey for Conference review, which they have done, and it is now posted on the Conference website. The Committee will meet soon with Rev. McLemore to discuss how to proceed with screening and interviewing potential candidates for the settled pastor position.

SPLASH**Marianne Reinert, Committee Chair**

- No report

Technology Committee**Kay Nyman, Committee Chair**

- Report emailed.
- Kay has prepared a detailed “How To” document for renters and others who use the new sound system in the FLMC.

Turkey/ Ham Supper**Marianne Reinert****Worship Committee****Judy Reitz, Committee Chair**

- Judy reported that we will need help moving the hymnals and altar accessories back to the Sanctuary before our communion service there on Sunday, September 7. We plan to move things on Tuesday, September 2 at 10:00 a.m.

Youth Committee**Stacey Ambrose, Committee Chair**

- No report

Deacons

- No report

Elders/ Spiritual Council

- No Report

Other Committee Reports**Old Business**

None

New Business

- **The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 10 at 7:00 p.m.**
- **Devotions** – for that meeting will be given by Michele Ross

Expenditure Motions – (Unbudgeted or >\$500)

- None

Adjournment:

- At 8:15 pm.

MOTION BY: Marianne Reinert **SECOND:** Jackie Hertzog **VOTE:** All in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Sitler
Secretary