

EUMC Leadership Meeting Minutes

Date: 3/3/2026: 5:30 PM @church

Attending

- Pastor Brooke
- Julie Newell (chair)
- Kaitlin Holm (communications)
- Sarah Nelson (outgoing communications)
- Kurt Jewell (Finance)
- Gabe Wiebenga (Finance)
- Jennifer Brady-Johnson (Ministries)
- Beth Firkins (Ministries)
- Phil Pulitzer (SPRC)
- Bill Lester (SPRC)
- Jesse Nelson (Trustees)
- Jim Stromberg (outgoing Trustees)

Not Attending: Lynn Hughes (Trustees)

Pastor Update:

- **Outreach (Jan/Feb):** Strong response to emerging community needs. There is a new housing relief fund has been established through His House and ICA to support those facing housing instability that we can direct people to.
- **Youth Ministry Growth:** Currently 20 youth and 5 adults, with approximately 6 more youth expected this fall. Youth have outgrown current space; exploring use of the stage as a dedicated youth area. Splitting into small groups will require additional volunteers and leaders.
 - **Parent Advisory Group:** Plan to form a parent volunteer advisory team over the summer to help shape next steps (Beth will participate).
- **Confirmation Planning:** Next Confirmation group anticipated for Fall 2027–Spring 2028.
- **After-School Grant:** Submission is being made.
- **Staffing & Leadership:** Brooke preparing for renewal leave in coordination with staff and key leaders. Pastor Terry will serve as the consistent announcement leader in worship, with a schedule of preachers and lay leaders in place.
 - **Leadership Meeting March 22:** meeting after worship will focus on coverage.
 - **Storytelling Events:** John and others will be leading storytelling activities (planning in progress)
- **Database Update:** Progress continues steadily.
- **Shorelines:** With the publisher ending the mail format, plans are underway to transition away from print.

Communications:

- **Job Descriptions:** Updated job descriptions will be posted to the website; revised ministry role descriptions are still in progress.
- **Leadership Team Listing:** Kaitlin will update and post the current Leadership Team to the church website.
- **Document Storage:** Discussed creating a dedicated Leadership section in OneDrive for shared document storage. Kaitlin will work with Elizabeth to set this up.
- **Contact Information & Privacy:** Due to privacy and safety considerations, we are not currently able to share contact information upon request (Elizabeth is getting requests in the office). The new database will allow individuals to opt in to sharing their information. In the meantime, the office may share Leadership Team email addresses as needed. We encourage small groups to share their contact information directly with each other.

Social Justice - inquiry around signing a petition/resolution

- **Statements/Petitions** Committees or teams may sign statements or resolutions as a group (e.g., “The EUMC Social Justice Team”).
 - Notification: The Pastor, Leadership Chair, and Communications Chair should be informed of any statements or resolution signed
 - If there is thought that the statement or resolution is controversial please discuss with Pastor, Leadership Chair or Communications
- **Affiliations & Commitments:** Committees or teams must receive Leadership Team approval before joining any external group or organization—particularly when a financial commitment is involved. Any proposed partnership, affiliation, or formal action should be brought to the Leadership Team for review and approval.

Playground

- **Sport Court Project (Annex Lot):** Grant funding has been secured for the sport surface. So-Hi park team in partnership with EUMC trustees are currently reviewing bids and refining the layout, which will include a concrete slab to support a future shade structure.
 - Project Phasing: The shade structure and landscaping are anticipated as a second phase of the project.
 - Partnership & Funding: So-Hi park team is in the process of securing the final \$50,000 needed to complete funding; this effort is currently on track.

SPRC - updates provided and discussed

Ministries

- **Ministries Team Liaison Roles:** Job descriptions are being updated to reflect a shift to *Ministries: Community Engagement* and *Ministries: Spiritual Development*, aligning these roles more closely with current needs and priorities.

- **Strengthening Democracy & Justice Day:** The Social Justice Team is hosting a “Strengthening Democracy and Justice Day” at the church on April 25. Planning is underway, with estimated costs of approximately \$700 to cover food, childcare, and related expenses.
- **Easter Offering:** This year’s Easter Offering will be designated to His House.

Finance

- **Loan Paid Off:** The second loan was fully paid off on February 10 — creating a positive impact on the operating budget moving forward.
- **Strong January Financials:** January was a very strong month financially. Giving exceeded expectations, expenses were well managed, and the church generated a meaningful surplus.
- **Legacy Fund Review:** A meeting will be scheduled to review the Legacy Fund investment allocation.
- **Community Fund Transfer:** Open item — move funds to the Community Fund as previously discussed.
- **Conference Reporting:** Required conference reports are being completed and submitted. A few procedural questions remain and are currently being worked through.
- **Trustee Reporting:** Kurt has set up automated financial reports for the Trustees to support ongoing oversight and transparency.

Trustees

- **Parking Lot Resurfacing:** Planning for parking lot resurfacing is currently underway.
 - Lot Utilization: Parking usage during worship services is being monitored to assess capacity and needs.
 - Winter Impact: Snow plowing has reduced available parking spaces during the winter months.
 - We will plan to share more updates with the congregation in the April timeframe
- **Trustees Report:** The full Trustees report is available upon request.

Wrap up:

- **Youth Group and Children's Ministries growth** - Kaitlin will work to communicate an update on this topic with the congregation
- **Next Meeting:** March 22 following Worship

Submitted for review on 3/4/2026 by Kaitlin Holm. Motion to approve Bill Lester, second Jennifer Brady-Johnson. Minutes approved via email vote.