

Lone Oak United Methodist Church
 Council Meeting Minutes
 Lone Oak United Methodist Church
 Church Council Minutes

Date: 16 FEB 2026, 6:00 pm to 7:42 pm

Members: P-Present, A-Absent

P	Allen Burnett	P	Ranee Gough	P	Don Taylor
P	David Cunningham- Lay Leader	P	Ginny Mann	P	Connor Williams
P	Diane Dodson	P	Lou Ann Newman		
P	Jack Feiler	P	David Pope- Chair		

Guests: None

Agenda Items:

Topic: Opening Prayer & Spiritual Formation

Discussion: David Pope opened the meeting with a prayer. Allen Burnett made a Spiritual Formation presentation on the background of Lent.

Topic: Leadership Equipping

Discussion: David Pope: What is the responsibility of the LOUMC Council? Hold ourselves accountable. Have the responsibility to lead. We are accountable to God to Fulfill Christ's mission and use its authority to hold the rest of the church accountable to this mission, as well.

The Council is also accountable to Christ for the Great Commission.

It's time for us to move from managing to governing.

"Leaders do not need answers. Leaders must have the right questions." Lovett Weems of the Lewis Center for Church leadership.

Role of Council: Governance

Pastor: leading the people.

Staff: managing day to day ministry as equippers and coordinators.

Members: ministering to the church, the neighborhood, and the world at large.

Discussed the Accountable Leadership Cycle, and David Pope provided a handout explaining the cycle.

Topic: Review of New People- (visitors)

Discussion: We have had some new people attending. Some have returned and others were just visiting. Three youth are going through confirmation and will be baptized on Easter Sunday.

Allen Burnett: Do we know who will make contacts with new people and second time visitors?

Conner Williams: There is no actual system in place, but we have people who are doing follow-ups. We give visitors contact cards, but not everyone fills them out. We don't do follow-up home visits because in today's culture, many people don't want to be visited. Statistically, about ten percent, or less, of visitors will actually return. Our culture of hospitality is well and growing at LOUMC.

Topic: Goal Review and Accountability Conversation

Discussion:

1. Questions for Connor: How can the Council be encouraging? Connor Williams: We do a good job of encouraging each other, and the church at large.
2. Are there gaps in the training or resources for you or the staff? Connor Williams: There are no specific gaps.
3. If the goal process is not on track, what progress is expected by the next meeting?
Connor Williams: We are establishing a bi-monthly meeting with Washington Street Baptist Church. The first meeting is on 7 March. And we are continuing our support of the STAY program. We have a partnership with West KY United Methodist Family Services.

Topic: Packet and Consent Calendar Items

1. January minutes: Motion to approve: Allen Burnett Second: Dianne Dodson

Discussion: Jack Feiler: minutes should be more detailed. David Pope amended minutes to provide specifics on last month's discussion of our goal review. Allen Burnett made a motion to accept the changes to the January minutes. Dianne Dodson: second. Approved by the Council. Jack Feiler: Suggested extra spaces be removed from some of the sentences.

2. Pastor's Report: Was provided to Council members by email
3. Financials: Jack Feiler: We need to remove Timm Fair's name as the church treasurer. This was discussed and will be done by David Pope.
4. West Kentucky Family Services Quarterly Newsletter was provided to the Council by email.

5. Bids for the dishwasher:

Discussion: Allen Burnett: We don't comply with our purchasing procedure because there are not quotes from three different vendors. Jack Feiler: We need to modify the guiding principles to specifically require bids for three different vendors. Don Taylor: Do we actually need a "commercial" model? Lou Ann Newman: Do we really need a dishwasher? We have been without five years. Raneé Gough: Having a commercial model dishwasher is not required for our church. David Pope: We should table dishwasher purchase decision. Jack Feiler: motion to table the purchase of a dishwasher. Lou Ann Newman: Second the motion. Approved by the Council

6. Information about handicap doors provided by Kirk Edwards

Discussion: Kirk Edwards contacted Midwest Construction about automatic openers for the front doors. Stanley from St. Louis is the recommended vendor. The cost estimate using existing metal doors is \$8,000 to \$10,000. Drilling requires to mount the openers that could lead to deterioration of the doors. Replacing the doors would be considerably more expensive

Jack Feiler: Do we really need automatic doors? Allen Burnett: Some people need automatic doors. David Pope: This data was gathered by Kirk Edwards for information purposes. With all of the work that would need to be done, the cost of installing automatic doors would be in the neighborhood of \$30,000.

No further action was taken regarding automatic doors.

7. SPRC Records

Discussion: Allen Burnett: The written minutes of SPRC proceedings should be kept confidential and secured in a locked location. SPRC information should be removed from the Council notebooks in the church office and stored properly. David Cunningham will ensure that all SPRC documentation is stored in a locked container.

8. A letter from Bishop Graves was provided by email which provides a link to training material for Trustees. In April or June we will be discussing the Trustee roles in the church.

Packet was approved by the Council.

Topic: Generative and Strategic Work

1. Trustee review and update We have 9 Trustee member and 1/3 are women. The church deed is located in the safe in the office.
2. Easter plans: Connor Williams: Baptism, communion, and Easter Egg hunt. Some advertising will be done for the service.

3. Buildings and grounds review and update: David and Don were not able to do the inspection and grounds review due to weather and health issues. Allen Burnett: The Bishop's letter has a link to a site which has a checklist for conducting this.

Discussion: Dianne Dodson: Can we clean the carpet in the sanctuary? David Pope: David Cunningham will get 3 bids for sanctuary carpet cleaning.

Dianne Dodson: There are un-engraved stones in the garage for the memorial garden. Can they be used? Rane Gough received information from Buddy Church on the memorial garden and will check on the stones. Dianne Dodson: Is there a master list of who is buried in the memorial garden? Connor Williams: Rachel has a list of who is buried there. Lou Ann Newman: Can we use money from the memorial garden fund to do landscaping? David Pope: Yes. That is what it's for.

The Council Meeting was suspended to enter a closed SPRC meeting.

Topic: Communications

Allen Burnett is responsible this month to communicate to the congregation at this Sunday's service:

Next Meeting: 16 March 2026. David Cunningham is responsible for Communications and Spiritual Formation in March

Motion to Adjourn: Allen Burnett made a motion to adjourn. Ginny Mann: Second. Motion was passed by the Council

Closing Prayer: David Pope