

Lone Oak United Methodist Church

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 20 APR 2026, 6:00 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
A	Diane Dodson	P	Lou Ann Newman		
A	Jack Feiler	P	David Pope- Chair		

Guests: None

Agenda Items:

Topic: Opening Prayer and Spiritual Formation

Discussion: David Pope opened the meeting with prayer

Connor Williams provided a discussion of our journey of faith through the gifts of life.

Topic: Review of New People

Discussion: Connor Williams was contacted by a woman on Sunday, who wants to join the church

Todd Faulkner has volunteered to be a communion steward

Topic: Goal Review and Accountability Conversation

1. What spiritual development is needed for the church? Connor Williams: Invitation - We need to become more comfortable in inviting people to attend our church. We should get past the awkwardness of that conversation and make it easier for invitees to attend.
2. What leadership development is needed for the future? Connor Williams: We need people who are willing, and want to serve. We may need better communications on what leadership looks like. David Pope: We still need a treasurer and haven't been able to find anyone who will agree to do it. Lou Ann Newman: We can expand our number of ushers, liturgists and communion stewards, in order to get more people involved.

3. How can we continue pour into our existing leaders? Connor Williams: We need to support one another within this group, and respect each other's time. David Pope: We try to keep the meetings to 90 minutes, so that we can assure new council members that we value their time.
4. How are we as a church seeking new ways to live into our mission and vision? Connor Williams was contacted by a Spanish speaking congregation is looking for a place to hold services, and have contacted us about renting our facilities. We are exploring that as a possibility. (See below)

Topic: Packet and Consent Calendar

1. March Meeting Minutes - provided via e-mail. Allen Burnett mentioned that in the March meeting minutes, it did not specifically mention that we approved both the council minutes and the SPRC minutes. He made a motion that we reword the previous minutes to include that we approved the February 2026 minutes to also include the SPRC minutes. Second - Ginny Mann. Approved.
2. Pastors' Report - none for this month
3. Financial Reports - Don Taylor: Where is the line item for Keenagers? David Pope It lumped into a special mission offering fund category by our accountant. She has that all separated out within that category, but does not send that to us every month. We will have a full breakout of the categories in the June meeting.
4. Financial Review - David Pope: We will discuss this later when we talk about finances

Motion to approve the Packet and Consent Calendar: Allen Burnett. Second: Rancee Gough.
Motion passed

Topic: Generative and Strategic Work

1. United Methodist (UM) Foundation: David Pope: Good information was provided by the representatives of the UM Foundation at our recent Town Hall Meeting, about church investments. A working committee was formed to investigate investing with UM Foundation, which will provide more interest on our investments, than we are currently getting through Paducah Bank. Allen Burnett and David Cunningham volunteered to join David Pope in this committee, along with Connor Williams. Allen Burnett: Are we going to look at using the UM Foundation for our insurance? David Pope: Our insurance premium is due at the first of October so we will discuss insurance in August.

2. June Review of Policies and Procedures: David Pope provide a handout for a review on our guiding principals, church building & grounds usage policy and wedding policies and guidelines. David Pope: We are to read the 18 items in the handout. Note if something needs to be added, changed, or eliminated. For example, our guiding principles state that significant purchases require three estimates, but it needs to also state that those three estimates need to come from three different venders. We are to bring our suggestions to the June meeting.
3. Stewardship/Generosity Campaign: Connor Williams: The sermon series for June and July, will be based on the book, "Reading the Bible Again for the First Time". The August and September sermon series will be on stewardship using curriculum from The Center for Faith and Giving. The October and November sermon series is still in the planning stage.
4. Community Project for the Church Council: Connor Williams: Another church in our area wants to work with the Paducah City Schools system to distribute wants to provide lunches for kids all summer. They asked us to join in this program. We would split the work with four other churches so that each church could provide the meals one day per week. Washington Street Baptist Church has said that we can use their kitchen to make the meals, and then we would take them to drop centers. This initiative is in the beginning stages

Topic: New Business

1. Request for use of the church- Connor Williams: Non-denominational congregation is trying to figure out what it would look like, Sunday mornings, Saturday night service, two prayer meetings during the week. They have outgrown their space. It would help us earn some additional money. Besides helping another congregation, it would allow us to get more use out of our facilities. Allen Burnett: What are their tenants? What is their message? Connor Williams doesn't have any major concerns about their theology. They have a basic gospel message. The discussions have just begun. Rane Gough: I think that it is a good idea. Allen Burnett: The Church of Christ has a Spanish speaking service. He will check with contacts there to see the arrangement between their church and their Spanish speaking congregation.

Special Finance – David Pope: Comparing last year to this year, in general checking, We are up \$12,000 from this time last year. Liquid CD is up \$1000, getting .05% interest on our \$139,000 holdings. We have \$214,988, up \$13,000 from last year. The building fund was in the hole \$4000 this time last year. We transferred \$4000 to balance the building fund out from the rental property fund, and added another \$2500, as well, to be on the positive end in that account. It now has \$3050, due to some donations specifically to that fund. The rental property fund had \$41,000 in it, and having taken fund out to help with the building fund, that amount is about \$5000 less this year. The memorial garden fund now \$9,028, up from \$8500 at this time last year. The special mission fund now has \$24,976 in it, down from \$32,000 last year. Memorial fund (donations in memory of someone) is about \$6600, which is up about \$1,000 This money can be used for anything, unless it is designated for a specific purpose. Tithes and offering so far this year stands at \$75,129, as opposed to \$66,551 at this point last year. Our total expenses are down \$6000 from last year, although we have not given anything to PCM yet this year, although \$5,000 is budgeted for it. David Pope will check with the accountant on this. Trustee expenses (utilities) have gone up \$500 in the past year. A motion was made by Allen Burnett to remove Timm Fair from the list of people who can sign checks and withdraw money from the liquid CD. Second: Rane Gough. Motion passed. Lynne Taylor, Jack Feiler, and David Pope can sign checks.

Topic: Old Business

1. Update on dishwasher: Lou Ann Newman: United Women of Faith paid for the new dishwasher (about \$800). Some modifications will have to be made from the previous dishwasher installation. David Cunningham and Don Taylor will install the unit this week, and Don will build a cabinet for it.
2. Update on carpet cleaning: David Cunningham: Nick is going to get with his scheduler and they will call David Cunningham with proposed dates for the sanctuary carpet cleaning. David wants the cleaning done early in the scheduled week, so that it will be dry in time for the sanctuary to be set up for the Sunday service. David told Nick that we would do a single-time cleaning, and if that goes well, we made contract with them for a quarterly cleaning.
3. Rental Property heating: David Cunningham: Heidi contacted him about heating issues at the rental house. Warren Heating & Air was called. They recycled the furnace, and it started

working. The problem occurred again, and Warren Heating and Air replaced the furnace regulator. The cost of the regulator was about \$500 and since the cost was under \$1500, the money to pay for this came out of the rental property fund.

4. Additional item: David Cunningham. An excavator is here from KITMO (Kirk Edwards). David Cunningham has begun pulling up roots system from crepe myrtles that were recently cut down. Ranee Gough: We could use memorial garden funds to contract with a nursery to do some new landscaping. David Pope: Ranee Gough, Ginny Mann, and Lou Ann Newman are now a committee to make a plan and get three estimates to beautify the memorial gardens. Lou Ann Newman: Diane Dodson wants to know if there are any stones available for the memorial garden. The memorial garden committee will check on the stones and engraving.
5. Lou Ann Newman: Reminder to get the gift check to Rachael for Administrative Assistant's Day. David Pope will contact the accountant to ensure the check is prepared.

Topic: Communication: David Pope: Diane Dodson can't make the council meeting presentation on Sunday due to health issues, so Don Taylor will make the presentation.

Decisions made tonight:

Additional information: David Pope contacted the DS and we were informed that Connor Williams is projected to remain at Lone Oak UMC for the coming year.

Motion to adjourn: Allen Burnett, second - David Cunningham. Motion passed

Closing Prayer - Allen Burnett

Adjourned at 1932

Next meeting June 15, 2026, 6:00pm