

Zion UCC Consistory Meeting Minutes - 1/13/2026

Call to Order at: 7:00PM

Present: Dave, Brooke, Robin, John, Jeff*, Angie, Dawn, Kelly, Cheryl, Pastor, George, Elena*, Ted**

Absent: None

Community Building

Devotion and The Lord's Prayer

Welcome Angie, Brooke & Dawn!

Dave did mention that Men's attendance is way down and looking for fresh ideas of how to get more people involved. Lots of ideas discussed. Possibly a lunch after church to discuss and reimagine the men's group and how to move them forward with a mission in mind.

Kelly mentioned that Consistory needs to have more communication with each other throughout the month, not just the few days leading up to the meeting.

Discussion and Nominations to Appoint 2026 Consistory Officers (President, Vice President, Secretary)

New bylaws state that Consistory will now be self-organized and will vote for their officers. Going forward, the officers will be excluded from the annual report since we will not know who they are at the time of the annual meeting.

Secretary - Brooke nominated by Cheryl. 2nd by Dawn. All in favor. Approved.

VP - Kelly nominated by John. 2nd by George. Angie nominated by Dave. 2nd by Robin. Private ballot vote was done, Kelly was approved.

President - Angie nominated Dave. 2nd by George. All in favor. Approved.

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Review of Current Committees - *Discuss the necessity of each committee and if any committees need to be removed and/or merged.* (Altar Guild, Chancel Choir, Community Assistance Ministry (CAM), Christian Education, Cemetery, Coffee Hour, Community Dinners, Environmental, Finance, Food Pantry, Fundraising, Head Ushers, Health Ministry, Memorials, Men's Fellowship, Missions, New Member, Outside Rentals, Pastoral Parish Relations, Personnel, Prayer Chain, Sunday School, Women's Fellowship, Youth Group)

Committees were discussed, combined into sub-committees, deleted or moved. Below are the new approved seven committees and its sub-committees.

CHURCH LIFE (JOHN) - Young Adults, Women's Fellowship, Men's Fellowship, Youth Group, Coffee Hour, New Members, Prayer Chain

MISSIONS (JEFF) - Food Pantry, Community Dinner, Community Assistance, Environmental

WORSHIP (ROBIN) - Alter Guild, Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, Ushers

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (ELENA) - Sunday School, Vacation Bible School

FINANCE (KELLY & ANGIE) - Budget, Memorials, Fundraising

HEALTH MINISTRY (DAWN)

HUMAN RELATIONS (CHERYL) - PPRC, Personnel

****Each committee coordinator will need to take a hands-on approach with the sub-committee members and attend meetings as needed.**

Vote to approve 7 committee titles & coordinators - Motion by Kelly. 2nd by Cheryl. All in favor. Approved.

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Treasurer's Report

As of 1/9/26 there is a balance of \$83,988.22 in the operating account and \$52,743.91 in the restricted funds account.

The revenue for December was \$24,483.71 and the net income was \$2,476.37. In comparison: The revenue for December 2024 was \$16,793.88 The net income for December 2024 was \$3,620.69.

The YTD Revenue was \$240,199.80 and the YTD Net Income was \$18,406.44. The YTD 2024 Revenue was \$207,588.89 and the YTD 2024 Net Income was \$12,375.58.

Notable P&L events in December:

- 51121 – Guest Speaker - \$150.00 – Coverage while Pastor was away
- 52410 – Music Worship - \$800.00 – Christmas expenses
- 52530 – Special Worship Supplies - \$258.75 - Poinsettias
- 54130 – Volunteer Appreciation - \$525.13 – Gifts from Consistory
- 54502 – Treasurers Supplies - \$1319.64 – Annual QuickBooks renewal

The year ended better than budgeted. This is a testament to the continued support of the congregation and the good financial oversight of the funds by the leadership team.

Vote to approve finances: Motion by John. 2nd by George. All in favor. Approved.

Pastor's Report

- We were able to help 7 families with Christmas gifts this year, and several individuals.
- Having John in the office changed my December in the most positive way! Without having to do the tasks that he has taken over, I had more time for Pastoral Visits and less stress. Thank you, John!
- That's all to report since we have a lot to discuss, I'll include more next month.

Trustee's Report (no discussion; Trustee meeting did not take place in December)

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Fundraising, Stewardship, and Outreach (John):

- New upcoming outreach initiatives:
 - Easter Postcard Campaign (**Approval Needed: 500 postcards + postage = \$400**) and We Miss You postcard campaign (**Approval needed: \$100**)
Overall everyone thought this is a great idea! A few visual changes were suggested and John and Pastor will work on finalizing the images. Vote to approve \$500 request: Motion by Cheryl. 2nd by Dawn. All in favor. Approved.
 - Animal Blessing
Everyone thinks this is a great opportunity to include our furbabies and include the community. Cheryl suggested looking into a local animal rescue to partner with.
 - Facebook & Instagram “Why Zion” Campaign
This is ongoing, looking to expand, more info to come.
- Next Fundraiser: Basket Raffle Sat. 3/21, 12-3pm

Committee Reports - *Of the remaining committees, which reports need to be made and who are the liaisons.* Reports were done as is, will change to new coordinators next month.

- Memorials (George) - \$2,093.41 balance, received memorials for Lawrence, Liberman and Schmidt families.
- Christian Education & Missions (Kelly) Nothing to report
- New Member (Dave) Nothing to report
- PPRC & Personnel (Cheryl) Nothing to report
- Community Dinners & Health Ministry (Dawn) - 15 people attended the Medicaid/Medicare seminar this month. The next workshop will be a class to help women protect themselves through different moves & exercises. There are still 17 cookbooks left to sell. \$20 each. Community dinners - December had 60 leftover dinners which went to the food pantry; Robin will discuss with Chef Rick about lowering the number of dinners and also the times available for pick up.
- Network of Religious Communities (Angie) Nothing to report
- Community Assistance Ministry, Environmental & Food Pantry (Jeff) Nothing to report for CAM; looking forward to spring for add'l memorial work; new trees outside Kuck Hall are poisoned and in danger of dying. Jeff will look into getting an estimate for what it would cost to save them.
- Coffee Hour (Ted) Nothing to report

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Old Business

- (John) Rental Policy updates: Revisit of liability insurance requirement Rental policy was reviewed and a vote was taken to approve John's amendment. Motion by Dave. 2nd by Robin. Abstain by Kelly. Motion approved.
- (John) Zion Memorial Park plaque: Currently in production
- (Dave) Parking Lot Seal & Restripe project: RFP created; we should get 3 quotes; received one quote from Thomann Asphalt (**\$5,800.00**). Dave will look into getting a few more estimates for this project.
- Consistory Handbook Cheryl, Kelly & Debbie are working on this.

New Business

- Create a task force to review Annual Congregation Survey results Brooke volunteered to lead this taskforce. It will be posted for volunteers in the next Zionite and she will reach out to people if still needed.
- Consistory letter needed to open high-yield checking account for Community Dinners - TABLED UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING
- Jeff: Discussion around additional storage and purchase of add'l tables Pastor advised to speak with Trustees about purchasing more tables for Kuck Hall, more chairs for the overflow room and new chairs for one of the Sunday School Rooms. Motion by Cheryl. 2nd by Robin. All in favor. Approved.
- Fire Extinguisher recharge, actuation hose, and cartridge (**Approval Needed: \$775.00**) The group thinks we need more estimates before moving forward. Kelly & Pastor will work on this and speak with Steve & Wally. May have an email vote before next meeting if needed.
- Consistory should look into having rugs shampooed - TABLED UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING

Closing prayer: In the Church, for the people, with one another. Amen.

Adjourned at 9:40PM. Motion to adjourn by Cheryl. 2nd by George. All in favor. Approved!

Next meeting: February 10, 2026 7:00pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Brooke Benn
Consistory Secretary