

PCCUCC Church Council Agenda & Minutes
August 17th, 2025
11:30AM | Church Conference Room and via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88009256284?pwd=Z3BNSVQzc3EyM0hteENJSks5Sm4rdz09>

Meeting ID: 880 0925 6284 Passcode: 706376

2025 Council Members and Areas of Focus

x	Pat Herman	Financial
x	Rhea-Joy Simonich	Apple Tree Preschool
x	Shawn Hillman	Operations & UCC Connection
x	Elizabeth Ormes	Memorial Board
x	Tina Andry	Member at Large
x	Joan Caton	Community Outreach
x	Barbara Newton	Membership & Welcoming
x	Ginny Noble	Congregational Life
x	Rev. Joe Newton	Attending Clergy
x	Guests	Mark Gerth Samantha Gerth Kyle Andry

AGENDA

- Establish Attendance and Council Quorum (5 members required)
- Review and Approval of July Council Meeting Minutes
- Financial Report (Pat)
- Office Manager Report (Sharon)
- Memorial Board Report (Elizabeth / Pat)
- Operations Report (Shawn)
- Membership & Welcoming (Barb)
- Congregational Life (Ginny)
- Community Outreach (Joan)
- Apple Tree Report (Rhea-Joy & Barb)
- Pastor Report (Joe)
- IL Conference & Eastern Association News (Shawn)
- Calendar Review (All)
- Old Business
- New Business
- Closing Prayer
- Next Meeting Confirmation & Leader

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MEETING MINUTES

Establish Attendance and Council Quorum (5 members required)

- Call to order: 11:41am. ALL present (noted by 'x' above)

Review and Approval of July Council Meeting Minutes

- Will be shared and reviewed via email

Financial Report (Pat)

- Abbreviated Financials: Adjust PNL \$1,196.77 (*Not accurate on meeting materials. Pat will re-do*)
- YTD we're still in black
- Treasurer's report: missing some expenses (*Hope Day chef, etc.*). Pat will look into this and resend.
- Elizabeth has been helping more with financials. Has all access.
- Miscellaneous: \$1,000 donation from The Long Family Fund (*Jeff is friend of Pastor Joe*). Thank you note sent.

Office Manager Report (Sharon)

- Electronic sign - Shawn, Sam, Elizabeth and I had our first sign training session (Mark couldn't attend) and went over the basics of sign management and functionality. I made up a "cheat sheet" for reference which should help down the line.
While we're on the topic, we decided to research the basic costs of upgrading our nearly 20 year old sign (the guts of it, not the cabinet) just for grins. The main upgrade will be having the ability to update the sign remotely. I will let you know when I have more details.
- AC units - I know this is already on the agenda, but AT reported just this morning that their unit in the south classroom won't turn on. Todd is going to take a look at it. With this heat wave, it's pretty steamy in the office even with the unit running full blast from the second I get in until I'm ready to leave. I've been going in either early or late to avoid the hottest part of the day. The office barely gets cooled during the time I'm there.
- Bi-weekly Operations calls - we collectively decided to break for the summer, but will resume after Rally Day.

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- Vacation - Katy will be officially done with her internship mid October so I'm going to take a week then and also the week of Thanksgiving, as usual. I'll forward October dates as soon as I know.
- And last but not least.... I've had verbal conversations with several of you regarding my retirement, but am officially putting it in writing. **At the end of January I will be 65 and SO READY for retirement.** I have been working since I was 12 years old and am looking forward to experiencing whatever retirement looks like. We've already started on transition stuff (spreadsheet for all office software, current passwords in rolodex, sign training, etc.) and will continue to work towards a smooth transition for whomever or whatever comes next. Remember we are closed on Labor Day, September 1st. Have a blessed rest of August.

Memorial Board Report (Elizabeth / Pat)

- Balance: \$41,741.14. One disbursement in July (Pastor: Boundary training)
- Got a thank you note from Katy Kuzel for \$2,000 scholarship (will be noted in August financials).

Operations Report (Shawn)

- AC Units - currently looking at repairs/replacements. Mark has mapped out all units. Need to look into bulk/commercial discounts with vendors
- Building Maintenance
 - All doors in working order and complete (thank you Todd & Wunderlicht)
 - Extended wi-fi and new camera at garage (thank you Elizabeth & Jason)
 - New ring doorbell speakers being worked on (thank you Samantha & Elizabeth!)
 - New dumpsters here. Need to purchase locks. LRS invoice should be discounted as a result
 - New cleaning company (Stratus Building Solutions) starts Aug.31st
 - Closing out account and partnership with Premier at end of month. They have been notified and were very gracious in accepting the outcome. Have offered to be a backup if we need anything down the road.
 - New sanctuary sound system close to being purchased. Looking at installation on/around 9/6. May hire in professional help. Trying to stay within \$15k cap.
 - Rally day tent setup 9/6 - could use help
 - Some windows and other deep cleaning (thank you Mark & Victor!)

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- Shawn: Septic system updates
- Discussions
 - Samantha: Note about needing to order new AED Children's pads (Shawn)
 - Mark: Dumpsters confirmed, but one is NOT labeled recycling as we need. Shawn to reach out to LRS
 - Mark: Windows and work updates with Victor
 - Shawn: Septic system updates
 - Pat: Thank you Samantha and Elizabeth for helping organize our building keys!
 - Pat: Landscaping done? Yes and John has been helping with weeding

Membership & Welcoming (Barb)

- Steady stream of visitors each week. Tim (James' dad) was a new guest today
- Many members sharing ideas about how to be more welcoming. Membership bags, gifts, etc.
- Discussion about pronouns and how to be more open and inclusive

Congregational Life (Ginny)

- Game Night - today at 4pm
- Rally Day
 - Picnic in planning (*main dish covered*). Need side dishes & desserts (sign up sheet coming next week)
 - Will be an auction for baked goods and/or services
 - Money designation TBD, Joe challenges us to have something that people can give to
 - Motion (Rhea Joy, second-Ginny): Use Rally Day funds for sound system (if needed) and air conditioning units
 - Have Sharon put out email blast
 - Andrea is donating some paintings.
 - Discussion: Have Sharon put pictures of these ahead of time in Faith Times and on Facebook

Community Outreach (Joan)

- Joan will NOT be at September Hope Day
 - Agenda, flyers, and table talk plans have been done. Ad is in Patch. Registration materials will be sent out to team.

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- Announcements help us get contributions for Hope Day. Please keep these active (FT, sign, and worship announcements).

Apple Tree Report (Rhea-Joy & Barb)

- Meeting this week
- July Meeting:
 - Cleaning needs (has been addressed)
- Enrollment: Currently up to 67 kids. Possibly 68 by end of next tour. Banner is helping!
- September Council: Michele and Alaine will come to September council
- Field Trips & Fundraisers
- New swings purchased (in Ken Simonich name)
- Question (Elizabeth): Will there be more mulch needed? Barb: Not needed right now so not this year.

Pastor Report (Joe)

- Excited about fall: Increasing numbers, Sunday School, etc.!
- Request: Musical instruments needed for little ones to make more joyful noises in worship!
 - Discussion (Elizabeth): We have some on site, Elizabeth will get these out.
- NEED: "Transportation Ministry". We have an increasing number of people wanting/needing to worship with us on Sundays but can't get here. Also a person that wants to attend spirit suppers.
 - Please have an announcement in Faith Times, and let's see if we can get this going.
 - Discussion (Pat): We need a coordinator of this. Elizabeth will step up to help with this if no one else does.
 - Discussion (Barb / Pat / Elizabeth): Plfld. Twp. has a 'disabilities closet', Pat will look into what they have.
 - Use of a 'transport chair' for some members may be good
 - May be able to get an Rx for coverage.
 - Ginny will email Sharon about this
- New Member Sunday (next week 8/24). Will have 3 new members join via faith affirmation: JP, John, and Annette.
- Confirmation Sunday: End of October. Current class is Kyle, Samantha, & Peg

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IL Conference & Eastern Association News (Shawn)

- EA Fall Worship and Celebration Meeting
 - HERE 9/27
 - Planning meeting (zoom) will be within next few weeks
 - EA Council this week

Calendar Review (All)

Old Business

- Sunday School (Elizabeth): Do we have more leaders/volunteers?
 - Ginny: Yes. Andrea, Barb, Justin & Becky, Emily & Phoenix (as helpers)

New Business

- Labor Law posters: Elizabeth has posted in office and shared with AT.
 - AT should post new versions in the lounge
- Christian Education: Sunday school and Spirit suppers represent a growing commitment to education. Please add as a ministry and bullet point for Council
- Next Congregational Meeting: Motion by Ginny to make 11/23, Seconded by Pat
- Joe: Planning on being out first 2 weeks of November.

Closing Prayer - Joe

Motion to Adjourn: All; Seconded; All. Approved

- Adjourn: 1:34pm
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Next Meeting Confirmation & Leader

- Next Meeting: Sunday 9/21 11:30am

MOTM Schedule

- September: Joan
- October: Ginny
- November: Pat
- December: Tina
- January: Shawn