

Siloam United Church
Minutes of Church Council Meeting
February 18, 2026 7:00 p.m.
O'Brien/Sproule Library Chapel

Present: Pastor Christina Crawford, Tracey Brown (Chair), Wendy Barbour (Outreach and Social Justice), Steven Britton (Regional Representative), Dave Dunham (Property), Lynn McClary (Treasurer, HEAT), Pauline Newton (Ministry & Personnel), Peggy Rivard (Secretary, Congregational Life), Margaret Smith (Spiritual Life & Worship), Allyn Todd (Trustees)

Absent: Jim Anderson (Congregational Resources), John Little (Congregational Resources)

GATHERED IN WORSHIP

Chair Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked Pastor Christina to open the meeting with prayer.

UNITED IN SERVICE: SETTING THE MEETING

Motion: Moved by Pauline Newton and seconded by Lynn McClary that the Agenda, including the amendments offered, be accepted as circulated.

CARRIED

Motion: Moved by Pauline Newton and seconded by Lynn McClary that the minutes of the January 28 Council meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

UNITED IN SERVICE: STEWARDSHIP & ONGOING WORK

Continuing Business:

Sale of Property – Update

Dave Dunham read a piece of correspondence from Antler River Watershed Regional Council re: sale of property. At this time, Siloam is still waiting for a Certificate of Consent from the ARWRC.

Church Liability for Off-Site Events

A revised waiver of liability was circulated prior to the meeting. However, Allison O'Connor has decided to suspend Young At Heart off-site activities because of liability concerns. Discussion occurred as to the possibility of getting extra church liability insurance that would cover off-site activities.

Motion: Moved by Lynn McClary and seconded by Dave Dunham that the Chair of Trustees contact Siloam's insurance company to get information about extra insurance needed for off-site activities. CARRIED

Chair Brown will contact Dave Peeling to look into this matter; Pauline Newton will contact Allison O'Connor to keep her up to date on the issue.

Pastor Christina distributed a handout entitled *Off-Site Activity Framework*

New Business:

New Member Directory

A discussion was held about the need for an updated Siloam member directory. Pros and cons were offered concerning the use of having IPC look after the program. At this time, Peggy Rivard will speak to Terry Fieldhouse to ascertain if he would be interested in acting as the photographer. If so, it was felt that we could get a directory printed through a small business. The Congregational Life Committee would be in charge of this project.

Approval of AGM Agenda

Additional items were added to the draft copy of the agenda.

2025 Annual Statistics

Lynn McClary outlined a survey that must be completed and submitted to the United Church of Canada. Volunteers who agreed to complete a section of the survey need to submit the section to the church office by February 27.

Thank You for Christine Taleski

Council members agreed that Christine deserved a special thank you because of the extra work she did as Interim Administrative Assistant from September through February. Peggy Rivard will send a card and gift certificate to Christine.

Stewarding Siloam Communication Through Public Forums

Council members discussed with Pastor Christina issues that have come up about how Siloam should communicate information through various public forums. Measures we use are to align with UCC policy.

UNITED IN SERVICE: FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Treasurer's Report

Motion: Moved by Lynn McClary and seconded by Pauline Newton that the financial report be accepted as circulated. CARRIED

UNITED IN WORSHIP AND SERVICE: MINISTRY REPORTS

Dave Dunham read a request from a local theatre group inquiring about the possibility of renting space at the church. Dave will get back in touch with the group's organizer to find out more details about the required amount of time requested, space that would be needed and other specific details.

Allyn Todd pointed out some irregularities between our wording in the updated Governance Model and the United Church manual. There will be amendments noted for the Governance Model before voting at the AGM.

UNITED FOR THE WORK AHEAD

Next Meeting

Siloam's AGM will be Sunday, February 22, 2026 at 11:30 a.m.

Council will meet on Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

UNITED IN PRAYER

Pastor Christina closed the meeting with thankful prayer for the discussions held and the decisions made.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Tracey Brown, Chair

Peggy Rivard, Secretary

