

Siloam United Church Council

Minutes of Meeting

July 15, 2026

7:00 p.m.

Present: Tracey Brown (Chair), Rev. Kerry Stover (Pastoral Charge Supervisor), Jim Anderson (Congregational Resources), Wendy Barbour (Outreach and Social Justice, Acting Secretary), Steven Britton (Regional Representative), Mary Dillon (HEAT), Dave Dunham (Property), Anita Elworthy (Congregational Life), Lynn McClary (Treasurer), Dave Peeling (Trustees) Margaret Smith (Spiritual Life & Worship), Allyn Todd (Trustees).

Absent: John Little (Congregational Resources), Chassidy Hall (Ministry and Personnel), Peggy Rivard (Secretary, Congregational Life).

Welcome:

Chair Brown welcomed all to the meeting and introduced Rev, Kerry Stover as the new Pastoral Charge Supervisor. Pastor Mary Dillon opened the meeting with a prayer.

Agenda and Minutes:

Tracey Brown advised that any additions to the Agenda would be dealt with under Committee Reports including a report from Steven Britton on the Regional Meeting.

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION: Moved by Lynn McClary seconded by Dave Dunham that the Agenda be approved with the addition of Committee Report additions.

CARRIED

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: Moved by Steven Britton and second by Margaret Smith that the minutes of the May 27th and June 17th meetings be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Continuing Business:

Sale of Property

Jim Anderson reported that a letter from the City had been received and Skyline Home Builders is working on the necessary work involved. From a conversation he had with one of the principals it may be that they will want to finalize the sale this year. Since they are increasing to 44 units the sale price will increase according to the agreement. The City did request comments/concerns from the neighbours and none were received. A discussion ensued regarding implications to the garden and the parking lot plus fencing.

Church Liability for Off-Site Events

Allyn Todd reported that he had connected with the appropriate person at McFarlan Rowlands, Siloam's broker, and having answered all of the broker's questions, learned quite a bit about the concerns including discussion about various scenarios and being protected against them. The importance of obtaining Releases for sporting participation was stressed along with making sure organizers of outside persons renting any space from Siloam having to submit proof of at least \$2,000,000.00 liability coverage. It came to light that an 'abuse' clause had been removed from the current year's policy and it was the broker's recommendation that for the yearly added premium of \$250.00 it would be prudent to add the coverage back in, if only for the legal cost protection. It was agreed this should be done and Allyn will make the request with the Trustees looking after the additional cost. The answer about coverage for off-site church events was that it was already covered under the scope of the policy. Allison O'Connor will be advised.

MOTION It was moved by Steven Britton and seconded by Anita Elworthy that the abuse coverage be returned to Siloam's insurance protection.

CARRIED

New Member Directory – deferred until September.

170th Anniversary Committee – Margaret Smith advised she still had 2 volunteers and that 5 would be optimal so it will continue to be included in

Siloam communications to further recruit volunteers. Sheila Macgregor has been confirmed as guest preacher for Anniversary Sunday and Shane Cook is still choice for special concert but no firm date has been agreed upon yet.

Planning New Search

There was lots of discussion on this topic including what qualifications a member should have, who should be approached and how, asking the congregation to make recommendations, attributes should include ability to keep things confidential, enthusiasm and preferably a church member who is in regular attendance. Lynn McClary pointed out the Best Practices in seeking search committee members. Tracey Brown advised that as Chair of Council she would be precluded from being part of the new search committee. Rev. Kerry Stover explained the difference between an appointed interim minister who would have little involvement in pastoral care and using pulpit supply plus seeking usually a retired minister to assist with other ministerial duties. It was pointed out that the congregation has several retired ministers already among its membership. Tracey Brown will speak about the search committee planning on Sunday since time is of the essence.

New Business:

Treasurer's Report

Lynn McClary reported that we are still down in Givings and hopefully that will change with the return of some members. It was discussed and agreed that now is not a good time to be requesting a bump in givings or mount a dedicated Stewardship campaign. Lynn spoke about the recent \$20,000.00 donation from Glenn Powell and thank you's required. She asked what should be done with the funds that are now sitting in the operating account and further discussion will be entertained at the next meeting. There were no strings attached to the donation.

Regional Representatives

Next Meeting: **Wednesday, August 19th, 7:00 p.m.**

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m. Rev. Stover closed with a prayer.

Tracey Brown, Chair

Wendy Barbour, Acting Secretary