

MINUTES

**The Church Board
St. Paul's United Church
January 28, 2026**

In Attendance:

Ernie Epp Miriam Bangura Cyndy Raby Ray Quinn
Judith Tiriwepi Tanya Forneri John Hannam

Chair:

Rejean Langlois

Trustees:

Marilyn Marrier-Oberne

Treasurer:

Secretary:

Don Macdougall

Recording Secretary:

Kristin Williams

Non-Profit Housing:

Gail Henderson

Minister:

Rev. Desire Tiriweipi

Regional Council:

Bette Ann Elliotson

(14)

Regrets:

Susan Phillips

(1)

Absent:

Dale Hache

Scarlett Hanley

Lucy Darkey

(3)

Guest:

Index

Subject

Action By

Call to Order

1) Call to Order: Chair – Rejean Langlois called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM. The meeting was held in Lunan Hall.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

2) Declaration of Conflict of Interest:
Rejean asked if there was any conflict of interest and there was none.

Devotions & Affirming Statement

3) Devotions & Affirming Statement:
Kristin Williams read devotions and read the Mission Statement and the Affirming Ministry Statement.

Approval of Agenda

4) Approval of Agenda:
Moved by: Marilyn Marrier-Oberne **Seconded by:** Bette Ann Elliotson
That the Agenda be approved as amended. CARRIED.

Approval of Previous Minutes

5) Approval of Previous Minutes:
Moved by: Kristin Williams **Seconded by:** Ray Quinn
That the minutes of December 2, 2025, be approved as amended. CARRIED

Moved by: Kristin Williams **Seconded by:** Tanya Forneri
That the minutes of December 17, 2025, be approved as amended. CARRIED

6) Business Arising from Board Meeting:

Business Arising

a) Fundraising Committee: Terms of Reference.

Rejean mentioned that the Executive made some changes and sent the comments back to the committee for further discussion. The question was asked from the Executive if this committee was going to do any stewardship or not. The committee will review the revisions and report back.

7) Correspondence:

Correspondence

a) Rejean said he didn't receive any correspondence.

8) New Business:

New Business

a) Notice of Motion – Endowment Funds

Marilyn Marrier-Oberne discussed and explained the background on how endowments funds are used.

Marilyn read the Notice of Motion that was distributed:

The First Motion:

“In order to respect the wishes of and provide opportunity for persons wishing to demonstrate support for St. Paul’s United Church by gifting or bequeathing funds that will be invested in perpetuity in an Endowment” This would be called the “Enduring Endowment” The Enduring Endowment will grow primarily by the receipt of gifts and bequests designated to this Endowment or where there is expressed direction to a general restricted principal endowment. The Fund will be administered by the Board of Trustees. The Principal will be invested in perpetuity with low to moderate risk (not spent). The income (only) from the fund’s investments will be used to advance the Ministry and Mission of St. Paul’s United Church. Investments and income will be reported annually as part of the Board of Trustees’ Report. The use of the income will be directed by the Church Board”

The Second Motion:

Seed money transfer *“Moved that \$50,000 of the Principal of the General Endowment be transferred to the Enduring Endowment in recognition of past gifts and to provide seed money as Principal for the Fund.”*

Rejean asked Don to distribute both of these motions to the Board to review and let Marilyn or Rejean know if any questions or concerns before the next Board meeting.

9) Minister’s Report:

Minister’s Report

a) Rev. Desire said further to his report he wanted to highlight a few things:

i) The GO Project that will take place for the youth the week of March 16th over the March break here at St. Paul’s. Funds have been received \$6,000 from the Region. They will be sleeping in Lewis Knutsen and in the Chapel – buying some twin air mattresses. Funds can come out of the Kitchen committee “youth activities” and the Communications committee. Funds could come out of the Trustees as well. Rejean will look at buying the air mattresses from Canadian Tire and/or Walmart. Blessing, Scarlet, Asfatyk and Lizzeth will be the leaders and take turns sleeping here with them. Need volunteers to drive the kids around. They are expecting approximately 20 youth.

ii) Janet Hannam has started her craft group and another Women’s group will be starting and have met. Tanya spoke about the new group and some great the ideas/suggestions were discussed that we could do together. A survey/questionnaire has been handed out and will also be emailed to see what the interests are and events they would like to do all together.

10) Chair of the Board Report:

Chair of the Board Report

i) Rejean read his chairperson’s report that will be in the Annual Report about all of the wonderful things that happened in 2025.

The AGM will be on Sunday February 22nd and will need help in the kitchen – he will be making chili with buns – also will need 1 veggie and 1 with no tomatoes. Will need help on Friday the 20th making the chili.

11) Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer's Report

i) Ray said that he is not the acting Treasurer so no report.

Trustee's Report

12) Trustees Report:

i) Marilyn said that she and Gail are working on the Annual Reports and is complicated to put together because of the switch from Edward Jones to CIBC Wood Gundy but we are getting there. The stair loan has been paid off by a very generous anonymous donation. The leftover funds will go to the operating account.

Finance & Administration

13) ACTION ITEMS:

a) Finance & Administration:

i) Ray handed out an Analysis of yearly givings from 2018-2025 and reviewed the budget for 2026, which we reviewed.
We ended the year on a positive note being in the black, mainly because of donations that were received in 2025 with a special thanks to the Trustees for keeping us surviving.

Worship

b) Worship:

Cyndy said that a lot of things are happening at Easter and we have invited Harmony to come for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday will be at St. Paul's because the Baptists aren't renting out our sanctuary anymore and Easter Sunday – and Rev. Desire will do the Sunrise Service. We have authorized Diana to buy new microphones and are hoping to use the Memorial Fund to pay for them. Everything else is in their minutes. Pancake Tuesday is February 17th and the Ash Wednesday service will be Tuesday after pancakes – Church Family will be looking after it.

M&P

c) M&P:

John said that the committee hasn't met but the staff is happy. Deb is back from her time out west with her grandbaby and looks great! Cards with gift cards were given to the staff. Diana went on a holiday and will be going on another one.

Property

d) Property:

i) Rejean said that there will be a new light in the elevator.
ii) He will be getting a quote to replace the boiler from Buhler Mechanical- it is 25 – 30 years old.
iii) Vacuums are not good – centra vac needs to be cleaned and needs general maintenance. Joshua got it cleaned up and it is working well now.
iv) The hand vacuum is not good, so will research getting a new one – might be \$750.00 or less.
v) Got some more chemicals for the boiler for \$550.00 so it is good to go!
vi) making a list to have some repairs made or items fixed in priority to be done in 5 years, then 10 years – long term boiler – long term parking lot.
Discussion about getting the snow pile removed in the parking lot so there are more parking spaces – but very expensive.

Inclusion & Diversity Task Group

14) SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

a) Inclusion and Diversity Task Group:

i) Tanya said to refer to their minutes. We will do something for PIE day in March on the 14th. Maybe a movie night on February 28th. It would be good to have the PIE day the week when the youth are here, but might not work out,

St. Paul's Place

b) St. Paul's Place:

Gail said that it is too cold for anyone to complain!

Camp Duncan

c) Camp Duncan:

Ernie said that they have 13 rentals so far and they have raised the rental amount to \$500 per day – 48 days so far!

d) Kitchen Committee:

Kitchen Committee

**Canadian Shield
Region Report**

**Questions to
Committees**

Special Gifts

**Adjournment/
Closing Prayer**

Kristin said that there was nothing to report.

15) INFORMATION ITEMS:

a) Canadian Shield Region Report:

i) Bette Ann said there was nothing to report, but the AGM is on June 4th in Sault Ste. Marie. Blessing, Diana will be in charge of the music.

16) QUESTIONS TO COMMITTEES:

17) SPECIAL GIFTS:

None

18)ADJOURNMENT/CLOSING PRAYER:

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned by Marilyn Marrier-Oborne at 7:56 p.m.

The meeting closed with prayer.

Minutes Approved:

February 25, 2026

Date

_____ **Chair**

_____ **Secretary**

**Next Meeting:
February 25, 2026
6:30 pm Lunan Hall
Devotions: Rejean Langlois**