

MINUTES
The Church Board
St. Paul's United Church
February 25, 2026

In Attendance:

Dale Hache	Cyndy Raby	Ray Quinn
Judith Tiriwepi	Lucy Darkey	Miriam Bangura

Chair:

Rejean Langlois

Trustees:

Marilyn Marrier-Oborne

Treasurer:

Secretary:

Don Macdougall

Recording Secretary:

Kristin Williams

Non-Profit Housing:

Gail Henderson

Minister:

Rev. Desire Tiriweipi

Regional Council:

Bette Ann Elliotson

(13)

Regrets:

Susan Phillips

Tanya Forneri

John Hannam

(3)

Absent:

Scarlett Hanley

Ernie Epp

(2)

Guest:

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Subject

Action By

Call to Order

1) Call to Order: Chair – Rejean Langlois called the meeting to order at 6:33 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:
 Rejean Langlois read devotions and read the Mission Statement and the Affirming Ministry Statement.

Approval of Agenda

4) Approval of Agenda:
Moved by: Don Macdougall **Seconded by:** Marilyn Marrier-Oborne
That the Agenda be approved as amended. CARRIED.

Approval of Previous Minutes

5) Approval of Previous Minutes:
 Moved by: Kristin Williams Seconded by: Dale Hache
That the minutes of January 28, 2026, be approved as amended. CARRIED

Business Arising

6) Business Arising from Board Meeting:
 a) Fundraising Committee (Draft Proposal):
 Ray discussed the Fundraising Committee's Terms of Reference that was distributed. The committee needs to know what other committees have planned for fundraising ideas – haven't heard from anyone yet – need to get events on the calendar.

Moved by: Marilyn Marrier-Oborne Seconded by: Dale Hache
That the Terms of Reference for the Fundraising working group, known as the Fundraising Committee, be approved. CARRIED

b) Notice of Motion (Endowment Fund):

Rejean talked about the Notice of Motion and how there are two different items so wants to deal with one at a time.

He read out the Notice of Motions:

1. Create Enduring Endowment:

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 – and read the motion below:

Rejean read out a note from John Hannan in support of the motion. With no other comments or concerns, Rejean said that it is reasonable and fair and everyone is in agreement that this is a good thing because it leaves opportunity for people to give as they wish.

Moved by: Marilyn Marrier-Oborne Seconded by: Gail Henderson

That the Enduring Endowment be created as follows:

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).

Income (only) from the funds 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. CARRIED

2. Seed money transfer:

Rejean read out the Motion for the seed money in the amount of \$50,000

Discussion and comments about the amount of the \$50,000: Ray as Chair of Finance, had concerns with the seed money and why we need it to start this Fund. Rejean spoke of his concerns, along with others – why do we need seed money to start this Fund.

Marilyn explained that seed money will inspire others. This likely was the intent of some of the previous bequests. Marilyn explained more in detail. The money will be invested with a better return and earn interest that will come back to the operating fund. Marilyn discussed the future and if we use up the general endowments to survive and have to move on, we still have this little one to take with us, if we have to close and move on somewhere else. This is for our future and for the generations to come, for our children and grandchildren. After much discussion with man around the table, Marilyn made a friendly amendment to reduce to \$25,000, but was voted down by the seconder. After more discussions, a friendly amendment was made to \$30,000.

Moved by: Marilyn Marrier-Oborne Seconded by: Gail Henderson

Moved that \$30,000.00 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. CARRIED

7) Correspondence:

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

Correspondence

New Business

8) New Business:

a) Treasurer Position:

Rejean said that Ray Quinn will be the Treasurer for 3 months while we find someone and we thank him!

Moved by: Marilyn Marrier-Oborne Seconded by: Judith Tiriwepi

That we approve that Ray Quinn be Treasurer for 3 months. CARRIED

b) St. Paul’s Place – Report for Annual Report at AGM:

It was brought to our attention at the AGM that there was nothing about St. Paul’s Place in the Annual Report. Gail said it was a good idea to promote St. Paul’s Place and will make sure it is in next years Annual Report.

c) Access from St. Paul’s Place to Church through Gym:

Dale mentioned that some residents who live at St. Paul’s Place would come to church if they could go though the gym like they used to – they could walk along the side of the gym where the floor wouldn’t be as bouncy. Many use walkers so they can’t go outside in the winter weather. Dale would like to revisit this issue. Rejean will speak with the Cheerleader person, to see if there is a solution.

Minister’s Report

9) Minister’s Report:

a) Rev. Desire said he didn’t have a report but highlighted a few things:

- i) Had a wonderful Intercultural service, with the best attendance of the year.
- ii) Norwest Health Committee decided to support our Intercultural activities, and they gave us a cheque for \$3000!! Desire attended a ceremony to accept the cheque.
- iii) GO Project March Break – everything is ready. Kitchen committee paid for 12 or so, for our St. Paul’s youth at \$100 each. Still need some volunteers in the kitchen and drivers! Drivers will need \$2,000,000 liability for their vehicles if driving youth around.
- iv) Easter Services– Palm Sunday with Harmony with us, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunrise service, Easter Sunday.
- v) Bette Ann mentioned that a new family from Nigeria just came to Thunder Bay so she will pass along their contact information to Desire.

Chair of the Board Report

10) Chair of the Board Report:

i) Rejean said that he bought 20 air mattresses for the GO Project with funds of \$400 from the Trustees, income from the MO Nelson Fund and \$100 was from Ray Quinn.

Treasurer’s Report

11) Treasurer’s Report

- i) Ray reviewed the January 2026 Financial Statement – we do have the Youth Group in the budget.
- ii) they are looking for someone to do the Financial reviews for 2024 and 2025. Bruno Valente is interested and will give them a quote. He will all Deb tomorrow. Rejean has someone he can ask.

Trustee’s Report

12) Trustees Report:

i) Marilyn said that the donation of \$400 for the mattresses came from the interest of the MO Nelson Endowment fund.

Finance & Administration

13) ACTION ITEMS:

a) Finance & Administration:

- i) Ray said there was nothing else to mention.

Worship

b) Worship:

Cyndy said that you can look at their minutes, and the upcoming Easter services.

- i) International Women’s Day Cyndy will be preaching!
- ii) The committee is planning on doing a fundraising event sometime “Going on Safari” .

