

CMCL Council Meeting – 7:00 PM Grant Street Building – May 12, 2026

Present: Hope Sholly, Karen Davis, Beth Oberholtzer, Marlene Reiff, Laurel Martin, Deb Van Pelt, Mike Sharp, Nathan Grieser, Susan Gascho-Cooke, Craig Clearwater, David Stallings,

Absent: John King

1. Opening – Marlene

Mental health awareness month - *what do you do for self-care?*

2. Finance Items

a. April Financial Reports

- 2/3 (67%) through the fiscal year.
- Offerings: \$394k which is 4.5k more than last year at this time.
- Total Income: \$408k (76%)
- Total Expenses: \$367k (65% overall). All except Christian Ed are in line or under yearly percentage
- Current income-over expenses: \$42k

David motions to approve the April Financial Reports. Marlene seconds. All in favor.

Action: April Financial Reports approved.

b. 2026-27 Budget Process review

Hope reviewed the budget process for the next few months and highlighted some concerns about the current total budget. Since committee chairs are still reviewing their lines, Hope will send an updated budget draft by the end of the week, so council can approve the budget via email.

c. Switching check signers

Larry (Treasurer) recommends Nathan Grieser (new Director of Church Administration) be added as a signer for the church checking account, and Carolyn Weaver removed. Larry is also a check signer for the account.

Marlene motions to approve Larry's check signer suggestion. Beth seconds. All in favor.

Action: Nathan will be added to CMCL account as check signer, and Carolyn removed.

3. Staff Relations Committee

a. May Staff Reports

Council reviewed May staff reports. Beth motions to approve the reports. Laurel seconds. All in favor. **Action: May staff reports approved.**

b. Staffing Updates & Concerns

Members from Staff Relations and Pastoral Search Committees had a conversation with Joanne Dietzel discussing CMCL's staffing issues. CMCL has met some staffing needs but there is still support that is needed, especially in the pastoral area.

Some staffing needs that have been met:

- Nathan Grieser (Director of Church Administration) added at .5 time
- Dan Laubach (Interim Director of Youth Ministries) has committed to another full school year.

Staffing concerns:

- Still seeking a permanent Youth Pastor position
- Most of the pastoral needs fall on Susan

SRC advises a congregational meeting (perhaps in June) to discuss staffing updates and concerns. Staff Relations Committee & Pastoral Search Committee chairs and Susan discussed the possibility of looking *within the congregation* to fill these needs, so there is more of a shared responsibility. (Especially in areas of pastoral care/visiting/worship planning/preaching.) What talents are already in the congregation that can help with this?

→SRC to write blurb to put in announcements and in bulletin about congregational meeting addressing these needs.

c. Church Sexton Updates

Henry Clapper to be finishing his term as the interim church sexton this month. We are currently in the process of interviewing a new applicant.

4. Council Openings

Mike's term as council chair ends in September. Council to ideally have 9 voting members next year.

5. Leadership Selection Committee

Two people leaving the committee, two new members joining.

6. Security Grant

The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency recently awarded UUCL another security grant. The request of approximately \$22,000 will provide a new camera recorder, four new cameras, and two new electronic locks.

With our security needs, could CMCL pursue a similar grant? Or do our values not align?

David motions to point this decision in the direction of the Facilities Committee. Deb seconds. All in favor. **Action: Decision to pursue security grant to be forwarded to the Facilities Committee, and re-evaluated next month at Council meeting.**

7. Adjourn

Beth motions to adjourn meeting. Marlene Seconds. All in favor. **Action: Meeting adjourned.**

Notes: Hope Sholly

May council minutes unanimously approved via email May 22, 2026.