

# First Christian Church Council

## Agenda

**January 28, 2026**

(Meetings are scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month @ 3:00 p.m. unless otherwise published.)

*“Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt,  
so that you may know how you ought to answer everyone.” Colossians 4:6*

Items	Notes
Opening (Arlene Stauffer, Moderator))	
<b>CONSENT AGENDA</b>	
The reports in this section are routine discussion points grouped into a single agenda item that is considered in one action. Council members should review items prior to the scheduled meeting. If a Council member has concerns regarding a Consent Agenda item, s/he should request the item be removed from the Consent Agenda for further discussion.	
<b>Minutes:</b>	<i>November 19, 2025</i>
<p><b>FCC COUNCIL 11.19.2025</b></p> <p>Christy Thompson, Moderator, opened the meeting with prayer. Present were: Christy Thompson, Arlene Stauffer, Ron Kreger, Pastor Stephen Johnson, Bob Corbin, Jan Scott, by Zoom Judy Basham, Lester Freeman and Marilyn Leming. Nancy Stevenson took minutes.</p> <p>CONSENT AGENDA: One correction included below. APPROVED</p> <p>OLD BUSINESS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since last meeting, a special meeting was held to approve hiring of Lisa Sloan as Outreach Director at salary of \$24,520 (\$23.57 an hour). She accepted and will begin Dec 1. APPROVED.</li> </ul> <p>NEW BUSINESS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NO Council meeting in December</li> <li>• Bob presented the final 2026 budget to be submitted to congregation on Sunday. There is a difference between Income and Expenses due to 2 salaried positions not yet hired. His sheet shows other revenues available to make up the difference such as investment funds and non- restricted memorial funds, separate from corpus funds. His work was commended. APPROVED.</li> <li>• Lobby and gathering area remodeling tabled until next year in hopes for better prices.</li> <li>• Christmas dinner planning for Dec 7. Planning for 15 tables. Will need to pull extra chairs. Many options were considered including Golden Chick again due to their support for Friendship Feast. Stephen to finalize. Jan to check with 2 classes for desserts or may have sign-up sheet.</li> <li>• APPROVED email proposal for Karen to take on payroll duties previously contracted to Nancy Nelson with increase in salary from budgeted funds. Stephen will confirm amount.</li> <li>• Proposal has been made to Wards to deduct cost of choir a/c replacement from what they owe to us. No reply yet.</li> <li>• Proposal made to add another safety railing to choir loft stairs APPROVED.</li> <li>• Stephen talked about difficulties finding an associate minister with Michael Davison. Many new seminary grads not seeking church work or work in small town Oklahoma.</li> </ul> <p>Stephen closed with prayer.</p> <p>Nancy Stevenson, Congregation Secretary</p>	

Ministry Reports:				
Stewardship/Financial Resources	(Bob Corbin, Treasurer/Financial Steward)			
<b>Stewardship and Financial Resources Team (SFRT) Minutes</b> <b>December 18, 2025 @ 2:00 p.m.</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening prayer – Bob</li> <li>• Review SFRT Minutes from November 2025 (Attached) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Minutes were approved with no changes.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Review financial documents for January 1 – November 30, 2025 See key metrics below:</li> </ul>				
<u>Year</u>	<u>Income (YTD)</u>	<u>Expenses (YTD)</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Budget (YTD)</u>
2025	\$271,118.24	\$258,589.54	\$12,528.70	\$275,000.00
2025*	\$271,118.24	\$267,802.45	\$ 3,315.79	\$275,000.00
2024	\$263,234.31	\$250,567.20	\$12,667.11	\$284,570.00
*Adjusted for new recording date for payroll				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Status of HVAC replacement project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ \$7,500 of the Capital Projects (account D22.100 = \$9,328.23 on 11/30/2025), is designated to pay remaining due on Ward’s contract. Ward’s is to provide training to FCC staff on the operation of the HVAC system and, in lieu of cleaning oil stains in the carpet, make a payment to help fund the carpet replacement. The pro-rated value of the damaged carpet submitted to Ward’s was \$12,413.73, so Ward’s owes FCC a refund.</li> <li>○ As of today, this project is financially complete. Ward’s submitted a bill for the new unit over the choir room and the \$4500 credit for the flooring replacement was applied to this invoice and paid.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Financial secretary report – Karen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Karen will start running payroll in 2026, starting with December payroll payable on 1/10/2026.</li> <li>○ Council approved paying Karen what was originally being paid to the payroll service in 2025.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 2026 FCC budget approved during November 23 Congregational Meeting - Bob</li> <li>• Stewardship-Budget-Congregational Meeting schedule - Bob <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>Thursday, Sept 18 SFRT review preliminary 2026 budget</del></li> <li><del>Wednesday, Sept 24 Council review preliminary 2026 budget</del></li> <li><del>Monday, Oct 13 Personnel Committee deadline to recommend 2025 salaries</del></li> <li><del>Thursday, Oct 16 SFRT review edited 2026 budget</del></li> <li><del>Wednesday, Oct 22 Council review 2026 budget</del></li> <li><del>Sunday, Nov 9 Stewardship week 1</del></li> <li><del>Sunday, Nov 16 Stewardship week 2</del></li> <li><del>Monday, Nov 17 SFRT finalize 2026 budget</del></li> <li><del>Wednesday, Nov 19 Council final approval of 2026 budget</del></li> <li><del>Sunday, Nov 23 Stewardship week 3; Congregational meeting to approve 2026 budget and church leadership nominations</del></li> <li><del>Thursday, Nov 27 Thanksgiving Day</del></li> <li><del>Sunday, Nov 30 First Sunday in Advent</del></li> </ul> </li> <li>• New Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Insulation in attic area above the Sanctuary is very deficient. Is this something that needs to be addressed? Does the finance committee have any thoughts? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mike – as long as the leaks are taken care of</li> <li>▪ Stephen – There are many persistent leaks – 2 in the hallway, 1 in the access to the attic, 1 in the closet by Koats for Kids storage. We have not been able to really figure out where these leaks are coming from.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>				

- Ron – thinks there may be a leak above where the bell tower was sealed when we contracted to have it sealed.
  - Continuation of service on SFRT – Council moderator will most likely be in contact with members about serving again on the SFRT committee.
- Closing Prayer – Bob

Next meeting: Thursday, January 15, 2026 @ 2pm

### Stewardship and Financial Resources Team (SFRT) Minutes

January 15, 2026 @ 2:00 p.m.

- Opening prayer – Bob
- Review SFRT Minutes from December 2025 (Attached)
  - **Approved as is.**
- Review financial documents for January 1 – December 31, 2025

See key metrics below:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Income (YTD)</u>	<u>Expenses (YTD)</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Budget (YTD)</u>
2025	\$301,576.99	\$285,652.00	\$15,924.99	\$300,000.00
2025*	\$301,576.99	\$294,864.91	\$ 6,712.08	\$300,000.00
2024	\$306,131.50	\$273,865.90	\$32,265.60	\$310,440.00

\*Adjusted for new recording date for payroll

- This will be the last month with the correction for changing the month that payroll hits.
  - Bob noted the \$6712.08 in income more than the expenses in 2025.
- HVAC replacement project completed except for training
  - This project is done and all financial transactions have been completed.
- Review utility spending graphs
  - Mike mentioned that he is concerned about the inefficiency of the new system. He has reached out to Kim and Bob to discuss this and hopes that his concerns will be discussed with Wards.
- Financial secretary report – Karen
  - Are there any things that Karen provides that the group wants to discontinue?
    - Want to continue Utility Compare Graphs
    - Want to continue Financial Graph
  - Are there any additional items that the group would like Karen to provide?
    - The group does not want anything additional
- Discuss expectations/changes for 2026
  - The only significant thing being added to the 2026 budget that was not in 2025 is the payroll expense for the Outreach Coordinator, Lisa Sloan. Karen explained that this expense will fall in the same area of the budget as the rest of Personnel.
    - The only thing that may come into play with Lisa’s compensation is that if we come to the point where our operational income does not meet the needs of our operational expenses, we will need to pull extra funding from Memorial or Investment sources as we discussed in earlier meetings.
- Next meeting: Thursday, February 19, 2026 @ 2pm
- Closing Prayer – Bob

**Benevolence****Benevolence / Outreach Coordinator Report  
December 2025****December 2025 Report for January 2026 Meeting Prepared by: Lisa Sloan****Outreach & Community Coordination***The following are just a few highlights from December outreach activities:*

- Spoke with Gwendolyn at Salvation Army on December 16th to review and update the community resource list.
- On December 22nd, worked with Grand Mental Health to assist a family with no food by providing a holiday box from the church, access to the food pantry, and getting them set up with NERA. When the family experienced difficulty getting established at NERA, I met them there and assisted them with the intake process.
- On December 22nd, worked with **Emily Salazar with Solace Patient Health Advocacy**, who contacted the church after receiving a referral from NERA. During the initial intake regarding the needs of a 74-year-old gentleman with terminal cancer who required home enhancements to remain in his residence, it was identified that his wife was tribal and that he qualified for tribal assistance. Once identified, reached out to Lavina Clark at Kaw Nation Injury Prevention Program. Worked with Home Sweet Home Realty, which completed the work for Kaw Nation, and the gentleman now has a wheelchair-accessible way to enter his home.
- On December 29th, assisted an unhoused individual in 5th Park. Followed up with Peachtree Landing and assisted him in getting into the shelter. This month marked the first time males were able to utilize the new male section of Peachtree Landing, a significant achievement that many have worked for years to make possible.

**Items Received from NERA**

Met with NERA, and they provided the following items:

Note: These items are kept in the outreach office until a need arises.

- Two shower and day passes for the RecPlex.
- Two laundry vouchers, along with laundry soap and dryer sheet packs for use with the Spin City vouchers.
- Two-day bags for the unhoused, containing protein bars and other nonperishable items intended for single-day use.

**Outreach Food Panty Assistance Provided**

- Holiday food box provided to a family in need (December 22nd).
- Food pantry access provided during December; **four families were helped**.

**Benevolence Reconciliation – December 2025**

- Beginning balance (December 1): \$16.82
- **Total donations received:** \$2,625
- **Monthly allocation:** \$200
- **Total funds received:** \$2,825
- **Funds distributed:** \$600 Utility assistance provided to **12 households**
- Ending balance (December 31): \$2,241.82

(Lisa Sloan)

**Friendship Bikes**

Outreach Coordinator, Lisa Sloan, is looking for ways to better serve those in need of bicycles. She will have more to report next month. (Lisa Sloan)



**Child Development Center (CDC)**

The Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting for the “new” facility was very well attended. (CDC moved at the end of the summer to the former Washington Elementary School building.) The “new to CDC” facility and partnership with PCPS has been successful and well received. This partnership includes reduced rates for the children of PCPS employees. Enrollment is solid. NOYS is hosting a family night for the CDC children and parents (at the CDC facility) which will include educational activities and games. The CDC Annual Mac & Cheese fundraiser has been rescheduled to January 31 at PTC. Vicki Braden, CDC Board member and FCC member, will provide a list of needs (by month) to Brenna to be published in the weekly newsletter. Vicki also hopes to have Mary Beth Hunt, CDC director, visit FCC to share information about this mission that has deep roots in our history. (Vicki Braden)

**Disciple Women**

The FCC Disciples Women do not meet during the winter months. They will resume lunch meetings in April 2026. (Nancy Stevenson)

**Koats for Kids**

Thus far for winter 2025/2026, FCC has gifted a staggering 276 new coats to children from Garfield, Liberty, Lincoln, Union, Roosevelt, and West! (Brenna Combs)

**Lincoln School Tutoring/PIE**

No Report

**Marland’s Place**

No Report

**Wee Care**

Enrollment: 16 FT children; 1 part-time child. Staff: Director, Carrie Short (FCC and Hilltop/Eastern Heights) and 3 teachers. WC continues to follow Ponca City Schools calendar. Discussions are happening regarding the summer program.

Longtime WC teacher Mary Arnold had open heart surgery in November; the team developed a GoFundMe to help support her. She hopes to return in mid-February.

Thanksgiving and Christmas parties were enjoyed by children and parents. The Christmas party included a bounce house, Christmas dinner, and books given to the children. The children have been learning about snow (storms). (Carrie Short)

**Staff Report:**

(Pastor Stephen Johnson)

Audio/Visual/IT - With the addition of Lisa Sloan to the staff, Karen set up a computer and monitors for Lisa’s office. She also coordinated reprogramming of the phone system to integrate Lisa into the system.

Financial - Karen is taking over full responsibilities of payroll. The transition from 2025 to 2026 accounting and record keeping is complete.

Music - Amy Boatman has resigned as Accompanist. We are working on finding a replacement.

Office - All of the paperwork and folder creation for 2026 is underway.

Outreach Coordinator - Lisa Sloan began working with FCC Ponca City on December 1, 2025. She has taken over the responsibility of distributing Benevolence funds, coordinating Friendship Bikes and fielding requests for assistance in a variety of forms.

<p>Pastor - Since Lisa has joined the staff, my volume of phone calls has been reduced. Though the reading the Bible in a year effort has been concluded, Monday and Tuesday discussion groups continue.</p>	
<p><b>Approval of Consent Agenda:</b></p>	<p>Reports not submitted prior to the Agenda publication or any Consent Agenda item requiring action will be considered under New Business.</p>
<p><b>REGULAR AGENDA</b></p>	
<p><b>Introductions:</b></p>	<p><i>Arlene Stauffer, Moderator</i> (No action required.)</p>
<p>Lisa Sloan—Outreach Coordinator</p> <p>Council Members and position with responsibilities.</p>	
<p><b>Old Business:</b></p>	
<p><i>Choir Loft Handrails Update</i></p>	<p><i>Arlene Stauffer, Moderator</i> (No action required.)</p>
<p>Choir Loft Handrails previously approved have been installed by Floyd Novotny.</p>	
<p><i>Other Old Business</i></p>	
<p><b>New Business:</b></p>	
<p><i>Council Meeting Schedule</i></p>	<p><i>Arlene Stauffer, Moderator</i> (Council approval needed.)</p>
<p>FCC Bylaws--<b>Article VI. Council</b>—Item 6. The current meeting time is difficult for Bob Corbin; he needs to be to Friendship Feast no later than 4:00. Are there other requests for meeting time modifications?</p>	
<p><i>Congregational Meeting Minutes</i> <i>November 23, 2025</i></p>	<p><i>Arlene Stauffer, Moderator</i> (Council approval needed.)</p>
<p><b>FCC CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 11.23.2025</b> Christy Thompson, Council Moderator, opened the meeting with prayer after the 11:00 service. There were 56 members present and online.</p> <p>First order of business was the approval of nominees for the church leadership positions for 2026. Christy read the names for Trustees, Council, Elders and Deacons. (Attached) The slate was approved without opposition.</p> <p>The next issue was the 2026 proposed budget. Bob Corbin introduced the current SFRT team: Bob, Ron Kreger, Marlena Freeman, Dave Bryan, Mike Morriss, with ex officio Pastor Stephen, Christy and Karen Adams, Financial Secretary. Together they manage the budget and conduct the stewardship campaign.</p> <p>Using slides (attached), Bob presented projected income as \$325,000 from pledges, non-pledged contributions, and investment income (Nield Memorial Fund). Expenses (including personnel, property, operations, missions, worship, education and hospitality) projected to be \$403,571.62 making a deficit of \$78,571.62. However, the deficit reflects the anticipated salaries for an Outreach Coordinator (just hired) and an Associate Minister not yet hired. Bob explained that could be made up by transferring \$28K from investments and \$50K from restricted funds. That should balance the budget and if not some invested income could be used. Also the budget included a 2.7% salary increase for staff.</p> <p>Ron Kreger asked the group if there was an excess could it be used for outreach activities. No poll was taken but a discussion in conjunction with an additional question by Ryan Collenback about what the Outreach position entailed. Christy explained that it meant coordinating outreach</p>	

activities for the community, benevolence, counseling, directing to local resources etc. Pastor Stephen added that she would be handling maybe 18-25 help requests a month. It is part time.

Bob said a complete line item budget was available to see. Bobby Jorgensen made the motion to accept the proposed budget. It was approved without opposition. Pastor Stephen gave the closing prayer.

Nancy Stevenson, Congregational Secretary

<i>Special Congregational Meeting</i>	<i>Arlene Stauffer, Moderator (Council approval needed.)</i>
Apparently, we failed to elect the Assistant Treasurers (Mike Morriss and Karyn Sledge) and the Congregation Secretary (Nancy Stevenson) at the November 2025 Congregational Meeting. Since the bylaws state that these are elected positions, I believe we will need to have a special congregational meeting to rectify this oversight. Special Congregational Meetings are called by the Council.	
I propose this plan to take care of this business: Schedule Special Congregational Meeting: February 15, 2026. Publish notification in Newsletter: January 30; February 6, and 13. Print in bulletin, post in opening announcements, and announce in services: February 1 and 8. Hold Special Congregational Meeting: February 15, 2026.	
<i>Service Schedule</i>	<i>Arlene Stauffer, Moderator (Council approval needed.)</i>
A request has been received to move the late service starting time to 10:30 instead of 11:00. Discussion regarding all schedules; choir rehearsal time; fellowship time; Sunday School; etc.	
<i>FCC/PC Front License Plates</i>	<i>Arlene Stauffer, Moderator (Council approval needed.)</i>
Request/suggestion from Mike & Andrea Morriss. Cost \$10 each. Preorders with a few extra. Mike and Andrea Morriss will order and take care of details. See handout.	
<i>NA Entry Codes</i>	<i>Pastor Stephen Johnson</i>
Discussion regarding providing entry codes to NA leadership.	
<i>History Book Publication</i>	<i>Sandra Brown/Joyce Ketcher</i>
A request has been made to publish some "history" books about FCC including information regarding the stain glass windows in the Sanctuary. Joyce Ketcher will explain the details.	
<i>Other New Business</i>	
<b>Action List Items:</b>	
<i>Appointment of Committees</i>	<i>Arlene Stauffer, Moderator (Council approval needed.)</i>
<i>Stewardship &amp; Financial Resources Team</i>	Bob Corbin, Facilitator; David Bryan; Marlana Freeman; Ron Kreger; Mike Morriss. Ex Officio members: Pastor Stephen Johnson; Karen Adams, Financial Secretary; Arlene Stauffer, Council Moderator.
<i>Personnel Committee</i>	Joyce Ketcher, Council 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Moderator/Personnel Committee Chair; Ron Kreger; Jerry Brace; Jeri Waller; Marshall Basham (Arlene Stauffer); Bobby Jorgenson; Christy Thompson. Ex Officio members: Pastor Stephen Johnson; Arlene Stauffer, Council Moderator.
<i>Trustee Committee Facilitator</i>	Ron Kreger
<i>Financial Procedures &amp; Accountability Review Committee</i>	Gabby Gregg; Suzanne Moore; Jan Scott.

<i>Pastoral Relations Committee</i>	Stan Brown, Facilitator; Ruth Brace; Jackie Chitwood; Joyce Ketcher; Julie Sheffield.
<i>Maintenance Coordinator</i>	Kim Stauffer
<b>Announcements:</b>	
<i>Pastor's Comments &amp; Closing</i>	<i>Pastor Stephen Johnson</i>

**MEETING ATTENDANCE (In Person or ZOOM):**

- |  |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arlene Stauffer                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Becky Davis            | <input type="checkbox"/> Joyce Ketcher | <input type="checkbox"/> Bob Corbin     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dave Bryan                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Patrick Gray           | <input type="checkbox"/> Ron Kreger    | <input type="checkbox"/> Marilyn Leming |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jan Scott                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Pastor Stephen Johnson |  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nancy Stevenson, Congregational Secretary |   |  |   |

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE (LIST):

**Additional Notes:**