

# First Christian Church Council

## Agenda

**February 25, 2026**

(Meetings are scheduled for the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month @ 2:00 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
<b>Opening (Becky Davis, First Vice Moderator)</b>	
<b>CONSENT AGENDA</b>	
<p>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.</p>	
<b>Minutes:</b>	<i>January 28, 2026 (Nancy Stevenson, Congregation/Council Secretary)</i>
<p><b>FCC COUNCIL MINUTES 1.28.2026</b></p> <p>Present: Council Members: Moderator Arlene Stauffer, Becky Davis, Patrick Gray, Ron Kreger, Marilyn Leming, Jan Scott, Joyce Ketcher, Bob Corbin, Dave Bryan (Zoom attendance) and Congregation Secretary Nancy Stevenson (Zoom attendance). Retiring Council Members: Christy Thompson and Judy Basham. Staff: Pastor Stephen Johnson and Outreach Coordinator Lisa Sloan.</p> <p>Arlene gave the opening devotion. She pointed out the 2026 devotion schedule to the group (in their materials).</p> <p><b>CONSENT AGENDA</b> (For details regarding items on the Consent Agenda, see the Meeting Agenda.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arlene explained how the Consent Agenda works and the order of reports in it for new members.</li> <li>• For Lisa's benefit as new Outreach Coordinator, Council members identified themselves and their various roles in the church.</li> <li>• APPROVED: Consent Agenda approved without correction; some questions moved to Other New Business.</li> </ul> <p><b>OLD BUSINESS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handrails were installed in the choir loft by Floyd Novitony, with great appreciation expressed.</li> <li>• Lisa reported she is settling in (hours on Tuesday, Wednesday and part of Thursday); she is updating resources and wants to revamp the Bike Ministry.</li> <li>• Arlene reviewed leftover 2025 business regarding the search for an associate minister; Christy summarized an ongoing project regarding the church providing emergency/disaster staging location/assistance. She and Jan will pursue this with the City.</li> </ul> <p><b>NEW BUSINESS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ACTION: Members agreed to meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at 2:00 pm (instead of 3:00 pm) going forward.</li> <li>• ACTION: Members agreed to call a Special Congregational Meeting on February 15 after late service to rectify not having approved Assistant Treasurers and Congregational Secretary in November, which is necessary for signing checks, etc. It will be publicized in the newsletter and in February 1 and 8 service bulletins.</li> <li>• TABLED/MORE INFO: Suggestion was made for a dinner following the February 15 meeting. Could be in conjunction with Valentine's Day, Shrove Tuesday or Ash Wednesday that week.</li> <li>• TABLED/MORE INFORMATION: Request to change Late Service time to 10:30 am due to members in assisted living facilities not being able to make facility lunch schedules. This would push Early Service (5-25 average attendance) to 8 am, Sunday School 9-10, Fellowship/Choir Rehearsal to 10. Will ask Early Service and Sunday School classes for input.</li> <li>• APPROVED: Pre-purchasing church license plates (\$10). Orders and sales to be handled by Mike and Andrea Morriss. Not a fundraiser.</li> <li>• DISCUSSION: USE OF FACILITIES BY NA. Stephen explained previous arrangements included background checks on leaders before giving them access code to building; reasonable cleaning up is</li> </ul>	

expected. However, leadership changes frequently, codes have been shared, with cigarette butts just outside doors, broken chairs, and irregular donations. Another issue was an incident where NA money (over \$500 kept in a lockbox in the chapel) was stolen. The thief was found and banned. Stephen suggested NA put funds in Karen's door lockbox and the church could keep accounts. NA hasn't yet complied and is still keeping money in an unsecured folder. The Council agreed their mission is invaluable and they needed independence to function without micromanagement. Suggestions made included having the leader/sponsor meet with Stephen or Lisa to clarify expectations and/or meet regularly monthly. More information will be gathered for the next meeting.

- ACTION: For this month, Becky will make a rotation schedule for church volunteers to open chapel at 6:30 (7 days a week). Volunteers are needed. We will reevaluate after a month.
- APPROVED: Purchasing 10 copies of church history book (price estimated at about \$100 each from Shutterfly) prepared by Sandra Brown and decorating committee with copies reserved for Schneider family in memory of Maxine who helped establish History Room, Sandra Brown, Becky Helems, and Randy Smith (for photography), 3 for the church, and 3 TBD. Reprint provisions unknown.

#### OTHER NEW BUSINESS

- DISCUSSION: Ron asked about the future use of \$6000 in excess funds listed in the financial report which could need approval at the meeting. He proposed the excess go to Benevolence. Stephen explained funds for extra benevolence (beyond \$200 monthly budget) are often found from memorial funds and other Trustee-managed funds. Benevolence payments have totaled about \$7000+ through Fall 2025. Lisa is seeking grants and other financial sources. It was suggested to hang on to funds for monthly shortfalls, cash flow, or anticipated HVAC repairs.
- ONGOING: Stephen reported that a Marshallese group was holding services in the chapel; Stephen and Arlene met with the pastor and his wife. There is a language barrier, and Stephen would like to clarify their beliefs, etc. Becky to contact Lincoln school, Sylvia Urioste at PTC, or others to find a translator.
- DISCUSSION: INSULATION IN ATTIC AND WATER LEAKS: With the winter storm there are water leaks in one area and need for insulation in another. Suggestion was made to form a committee to investigate and move forward. Ron volunteered to pursue this task.
- Becky read a thank you note from Marland's Place thanking FCC for the donation of coats, caps, gloves and underwear.
- DISCUSSION: Following the resignation of Amy Boatman, Amy Muegge and Sheila Kirkpatrick will fill in as accompanists until a new organist/accompanist is hired. Amy Muegge will receive \$150/week for preparing and playing for worship services. Sheila will receive \$50/week for accompanying the Choir.

#### ACTION ITEMS

- Arlene reviewed 2026 church committee appointments including:
  - SFRT:* Bob Corbin, facilitator; Dave Bryan, Marlena Freeman, Ron Kreger, Mike Morriss.
  - Personnel:* Joyce Ketcher, Facilitator; Ron Kreger, Jerry Brace, Jeri Waller, Marshall Basham, Bobby Jorgensen, Christy Thompson.
  - Trustees:* Ron Kreger, Facilitator.
  - Financial Procedures Review Committee:* Gabby Gregg, Suzanne Moore, Jan Scott.
  - Pastoral Relations Committee:* Stan Brown, Ruth Brace, Jackie Chitwood, Joyce Ketcher, Julie Sheffield
- APPROVED: APPOINTMENT OF 2026 COMMITTEES.

Pastor Stephen expressed his appreciation for the outreach work Lisa is doing. He closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Stevenson  
Congregation Secretary

**FCC SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES 2.15.2026**

Arlene Stauffer, Council Moderator, convened a special meeting of the church congregation after the late service. Fifty (50) people were present with an additional 10 participating online. The purpose was to affirm Karyn Sledge as Council 1st Assistant Treasurer, Mike Morriss as 2nd Assistant Treasurer, and Nancy Stevenson as Congregational and Council Secretary. These positions had inadvertently been left off the slate of church leaders approved in November. They were approved by acclamation. Pastor Stephen closed the meeting with prayer. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Nancy Stevenson  
 Congregation Secretary

**Ministry Reports:**

*Stewardship/Financial Resources* (Bob Corbin, Treasurer/Financial Steward)

In Attendance: Bob Corbin – Treasurer, Marlena Freeman, Mike Morriss, Ron Kreger, Arlene Stauffer, Dave Bryan, Stephen Johnson – Senior Pastor and Karen Adams – Financial Assistant.

- Review SFRT Minutes from January 2026 (Attached); Minutes approved as is
- Explanation of changes to financial documents:  
Financial Reports Change
- Designated Fund Income and Expenses have not been included on past financial reports. Starting in 2026, these numbers will be shown.
- On the Budget vs. Actual report, these accounts will show as well. They are not included in the Operating Budget. Personnel Raises and related expenses
- Reminder – in 2025 we decided to record a payroll expense when it was paid, not when it was earned (standard GAAP procedures)
  - January Wages are earned in January 2026. The wages are paid on 2/10/2026. The expenses will show up on the February Reports.
  - Today we are reviewing the January Income and Expense Reports.
    - December earned wages were paid on 1/10/2026 (at the 2025 rate). 2026 Raises were effective 1/1/2026. The higher wages are earned in January 2026, paid on 2/10/2026. The higher wage expenses will show on the February 2026 reports through the January 2027 reports.
- Review financial documents for January 1 – January 31, 2026  
 See key metrics below:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Income (YTD)</u>	<u>Expenses (YTD)</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Budget Exp (YTD)</u>	
2026	\$48,302.80*	\$34,115.21		\$14,187.59	\$33,626.54
2025	\$51,182.67*	\$31,041.40		\$20,141.27	\$25,000.00

\*Includes Designated Income

Key Metrics were Recalculated to reflect ONLY Operating Income and Expenses vs Operating Budget

<u>Year</u>	<u>Income (YTD)</u>	<u>Expenses (YTD)</u>	<u>Difference</u>	<u>Budget Exp (YTD)</u>
2026	\$38,706.40	\$31,549.71	\$7,156.69	\$33,626.54
2025	\$36,717.19	\$26,350.73	\$10,366.46	\$29,537.17

- Financial Secretary report
  - PCUA New Average Monthly Payment (AMP) - \$863
  - PCUA – Contact with Billing Manager
  - PCUA – Meeting with Steve Sullivan - General Manager of Ponca City Energy, Craig Stephenson – City Manager, and Kelsey Wagner - Mayor of Ponca City; pending resolution

<u>Trustees</u>	<i>(Ron Kreger, Facilitator)</i>
<p><u>Current State of Accounts and Investments</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2025 Q4 Reports Review</li> <li>• Locally held Memorial Gifts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ C. Jorgenson - \$200.00</li> <li>○ Jean Brace - \$1,250.00</li> <li>○ Gary Davis - \$645.00</li> <li>○ Maxine Schneider - \$1,040.00</li> <li>○ Betty Thompson - \$9,250.00</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Endowment &amp; Stickel Funds (Missions) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Endowment (Annual Distribution) - \$203.82</li> <li>○ Stickel (Quarterly Distribution) - \$4322.52 as of 2/12/2026 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Goal to keep balance of \$4000 in account for unexpected/urgent needs.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><u>Financial Request(s)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NERA – Acknowledged our giving of \$6,500 in 2025 and sent a pledge card</li> </ul> <p><u>Distribution Decisions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NERA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Trustees decided to continue supporting NERA but did not want to return the pledge card.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Mission Funds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Trustees decided to wait for distribution of Endowment and Stickel until the annual distribution is made to Endowment and Stickel receives another quarterly distribution.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Locally held Memorial Gifts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Maxine Schneider funds will be transferred used to pay for Window Books created by the Interior Decorating Committee. If needed, additional funds can be pulled from the Claudia Jorgenson Memorial.</li> <li>○ All remaining memorial funds will be kept local for now.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<u>Service Ministries</u>	<i>(Becky Davis, First Vice Moderator)</i>
<p><b><u>Benevolence</u></b> (Lisa Sloan)  Benevolence Reconciliation – January 2026  Beginning balance (January 1): \$2,441.82  Total donations received: \$545  Monthly allocation: \$200  Total funds received: \$745  Funds distributed: \$400  Utility assistance provided to eight households  Ending balance (January 31): \$2,586.82  Additional Notes  <i>Approximately 40% or more of the calls received requesting utility assistance were not eligible under the one-year assistance guidelines, as they had already received help several months prior. This percentage is significantly higher than in previous months and may be attributed to increased financial strain following the Christmas season.</i></p> <p><b><u>Friendship Bikes</u></b> (Lisa Sloan)  <b>January 14</b>  Met with Paul Reeves at The Virtual Realm Bicycle Shop. They agreed to sell used, working bicycles for \$30–\$40 each. Paul will also visit the Bike Cave to evaluate current inventory and provide store credit for any usable bicycle parts.  <b>January 18</b>  Met with Stephen and presented a proposal to revamp the Friendship Bikes program. The updated structure was approved. Moving forward, Friendship Bikes will only accept road-ready bicycles or those requiring only minor repairs. Additionally, new bicycles will be purchased using funds acquired through</p>	

donations. This change is intended to increase program efficiency, reduce repair backlog, and ensure faster distribution to recipients in need.

Also began reviewing the backlog of bicycle applications previously collected by Robert, some dating back to September. Currently contacting each applicant to determine if a bicycle is still needed and to update records accordingly.

**January 19–21**

Distributed four Friendship Bikes to individuals in need.

**January 20**

Met with Robert to explain the new Friendship Bikes procedures. He initially agreed to sort through and remove the parts and bicycles he intended to repair so they would not be lost or confused during the program transition and stated he could complete this within one week.

Due to a snowstorm, he was unable to meet the original one-week time frame and requested an additional week. After that additional week had passed, he informed us that he was unable to complete the task. On

**February 10**, at the beginning of the second week of February, Robert notified Stephen that he would be stepping down as a volunteer from Friendship Bikes, possibly due to health reasons.

**January 28**

Reached out through Facebook seeking a bicycle donation for a gentleman walking across town to work night shifts at Taco Bell. Mayor Kelsey donated a bicycle to meet this need. The bicycle was delivered directly to his place of employment along with a lock to ensure safe and secure transportation.

This proved to be a life-changing event for the gentleman, significantly improving his ability to maintain employment. Following the post, several additional bicycle donations were received from community members.

**January Total – Friendship Bikes Distributed: 5 Bicycles**

**Food Pantry & Direct Food Assistance** (Lisa Sloan)

*Donation Activity*

**January 14**

Spoke with Jory Jaques at Cross J Cattle Co., who connected with Drew Hurst regarding a hamburger meat donation for the outreach food pantry.

**January 20**

Picked up 20 one-pound packages of hamburger meat from Cross J Cattle Steakhouse for use in the outreach food pantry.

*Families Assisted*

**January 1–19**

Provided food pantry packs for two individuals and two families in need.

**January 20–22**

Provided food pantry packs to four families in need.

**January 27**

Provided a food pantry pack to a family of five, intended to last four days until they were able to access food assistance from NERA.

**January 28**

Provided food assistance to three large families, supplying several days' worth of food from the pantry.

**Friendship Feast** (Bob Corbin)

Friendship Feast averaged serving 112.1 guests per night in January. Weather was a factor in the low numbers. We currently deliver 44 meals nightly to nearby low-income housing units and 12 meals nightly to Peachtree Landing. Another 10 meals are picked up by the Circle of Care for the Tonkawa Tribe and 8 are prepared for Community Service. The rest are eaten in Fellowship Hall. Friendship Feast RCB checking account balance at the end of January was \$17,637.15. A grant application was submitted to the Oklahoma Disciples Foundation in January.

**Friendship Garden** (Nancy Stevenson)

The Garden committee has not met yet this season. Tarps are still down to kills weeks before pollinator plants are planted.

**Child Development Center (CDC)** (Vicki Braden)

The Chamber Ribbon Cutting was a big success. Previous site (Old YMCA building on Central) is for sale. Enrollment is increasing. Items requested for the month of March: Kleenex; Snacks, and Play-Doh.

**Disciple Women** (Nancy Stevenson)

Disciple Women are on winter break and will resume meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of April.

**Koats for Kids** (Brenna Combs)

No additional coats have been requested or delivered.

**Lincoln School Tutoring/PIE** (Becky Davis)

No report.

**Marland's Place** (Becky Davis)

Bob Corbin received a shipment of new clothing originally donated to United Way. The items suitable for children were donated to the MP Clothes Closet. A couple of late in-kind contributions for the Socks and Underwear Clothes Closet (at Marland's Place) was received and passed on to MP. Altogether, FCC has contributed approximately \$1,200 to help foster children and their families.

**Outreach** (Lisa Sloan)

**Partnership Development & Community Collaboration**

**January 6**

Met with Deanna at Grand Mental Health to discuss their new outreach initiative and collaborate on updating community resource sheets to ensure awareness of current local resources.

**January 6**

Partnered with the Humane Society after guests at Friendship Feast requested food support for their pets. Provided four bags of dog food and one bag of cat food, divided into smaller portions to extend availability. This will become an ongoing partnership with the Humane Society, who will refill pet food supplies as needed to ensure continued support for families with animals.

**January 13**

Met with We Care Clothing Closet. They provided personal cell phone numbers and expressed willingness to assist with urgent needs as they arise.

**January 14**

Spoke with Kyle Fisher at Walmart regarding potential bike discounts. He will follow up after internal review.

**January 20**

Met with NERA to coordinate food assistance for individuals with urgent needs during their operational shutdown for maintenance on February 2–3.

**January 21**

Met with Tara Tyler at Survivor Resource Network to discuss the referral process to Peachtree Landing. Then met with Michelle at Peachtree Landing for a tour of expansion and construction progress. Peachtree Landing was short on flooring and had exhausted available funds. The Givers (myself, using Givers resources and contacts) raised \$1,700 within five hours, allowing construction to proceed. As a result, during a severe winter cold snap, Peachtree Landing was able to open the winter cold-weather warming shelter, protecting unhoused individuals from life-threatening freezing temperatures. Flyers were created and posted in the Friendship Feast area with instructions on how to access and contact the warming shelter. Information was also posted on the FCC Facebook page and shared throughout the community.

**January 28**

Spoke with Katrina Sinor with Noon Lions. Friendship Bikes will be placed on their upcoming Tuesday meeting agenda in hopes of forming a partnership to gather used, working bicycles and monetary donations.

**January 28**

Karen updated the FCC website to add separate donation links for Benevolence and Friendship Bikes, improving clarity and accessibility for donors.

**January 2026 Impact Overview**

- Ongoing pet food partnership established
- 20 pounds of hamburger meat secured
- Food pantry assistance provided to 10 families and 2 individuals
- Utility assistance provided to eight households
- Five bicycles distributed
- Friendship Bikes program restructured for efficiency
- Application backlog dating to September under review
- Volunteer transition effective February 10
- Strengthened cross-sector community partnerships
- Successfully mobilized community resources enabling the emergency warming shelter to open during a severe winter cold snap

**Wee Care** (Carrie Short)

*February Enrollment:* 16 children

*February Activities:* Heart Scavenger Hunt, Valentines Day Party, Outside Play (weather permitting)

**Staff Report:**

*(Pastor Stephen Johnson)*

Audio/Visual/IT - Karen is investigating an update to our phone system that would allow designated users to open the doors remotely allowing outside groups or individuals to have access to the building without requiring a staff member or volunteer to be present.

Financial - Financial procedures are on track for this time of year.

Music - Amy Muegee and Sheila Kirkpatrick have been filling in on the piano and organ after Amy Boatman's resignation at the end of January. We are still looking for a new accompanist, but options are limited.

Office - The first-of-the-year procedures such as staff paperwork updates and renewing background checks for volunteers are nearly complete.

Outreach Coordinator - Lisa Sloan continues to revamp the Friendship Bikes program. She has applied for grant funding from the Oklahoma Disciples Foundation for Friendship Bikes.

Pastor - Stephen attended the Brite Divinity School Ministry Week in Fort Worth, Texas. That allowed him to complete about half of his continuing education requirements for 2026. He is registered to attend the Oklahoma Disciples Regional Assembly on March 6-7, 2026, in Edmond, Oklahoma. Stephen will be out of town for his niece's high school graduation in Tennessee on Pentecost Sunday, May 24, 2026. Regional Minister Michael Davison will be preaching.

**Approval of Consent Agenda:**

Reports not submitted prior to the Agenda publication or any Consent Agenda item requiring action will be considered under New Business.

<b>REGULAR AGENDA</b>	
<b>Old Business:</b>	
<i>NA Entry Codes</i>	<i>Pastor Stephen Johnson</i>
Follow-up from January meeting. Per Becky Davis, the NA Door Opening Crew has a small group of volunteers. More are needed.	
<i>Service Schedule</i>	<i>Arlene Stauffer, Moderator</i>
Reports from Early Service; Sunday School; Choir	
<i>Insulation Evaluation</i>	<i>Ron Kreger, Member</i>
Update on progress.	
<i>Marshallese Services</i>	<i>Pastor Stephen Johnson</i>
Update & Follow-up	
<i>Other Old Business</i>	
<b>New Business:</b>	
<i>Office Closing &amp; Meeting Cancellation Procedure</i>	<i>Pastor Stephen Johnson</i> <i>Arlene Stauffer, Moderator</i>
<b>Office Closing &amp; Meeting Cancellation Procedure</b>	
FCC Ponca City offices will be closed <u>and</u> ministry events will be canceled under the following conditions:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Automatically when public schools are canceled due to weather or other events that put the safety of individuals at risk.</li> </ul>	
<b>OR</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When both the Senior Minister and the Council Moderator agree it is appropriate. (In the event the Senior Minister or the Council Moderator are not available for consultation, the decision may be made by either individual).</li> </ul>	
<i>Parking Lot Striping</i>	<i>Arlene Stauffer, Moderator</i>
Last striped 8-10 years ago; bid-\$1,330 from Tru-Line Striping (using same [previous] contractor Rowdy Andrews); monies in Capital Projects; plans in motion to begin project.	
<i>Other New Business</i>	
<b>Action List Items:</b>	
<i>None</i>	
<b>Announcements:</b>	<i>Arlene Stauffer, Moderator</i>
<i>Thank You for Lunch Assistance</i>	<i>Cards for Challengers, Inquirers &amp; Early Service Folks</i>
<i>Painting/Repairs Stairwell Near Bike Cave</i>	<i>Part of previous approval; Sandra Brown is contacting Watermark to go forward with this project</i>
<i>Regional Assembly 2026</i>	<i>March 6-7, 2026</i>
<i>March Meeting</i>	<i>March 25, 2026 (Calendars)</i>
<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:**