

Session Meeting Minutes: January 20, 2026

Attendance

- **Present:** Cheryl Chrisman, Martha Everman, Gene Gant, Sandy Groves, Jan Harrell, Mike Ireland, David Kaeb, Barbara Meek, Sara Palmgren, Rich Schroeder, Mark Ulbrich, Mark Wylie
- **Excused:** Scott Hamilton
- **Moderator:** Rev. Trey Haddon
- **Clerk:** Bill Cummins

Call to Order

The meeting was held in F202 and Pastor Trey Haddon called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. and opened with prayer.

A **motion** to approve the agenda for the meeting was **passed**.

Old Business

A **motion** for approval of the minutes for the Session on November 18, 2025 was **passed**.

New Business

Enrichment and Devotions. Pastor Trey reiterated the task for Lenten devotions needed to be sent to Sydney. Trey then asked Session “What is the Church?” (Community, Worship, Gathering, praying, personal recharging) and then asked “How do we do Church?” (liturgy, praise, fellowship, enrichment, confession, prayer, transformation, the great commission). Next, “What does Church mean?” (two of more as community, meeting with God, Open hearts prayer, share,). We were reminded that the Greek word for “church” was ekklesia, or “an assembly” referring to community rather than a physical building.

Joys of Ministry. Elder Mark Ulbrich came to church Sunday early and observed the gathering of our breakfast neighbors and was glad we can provide the opportunity. Mark also reported that Little Children had 4,000 at the sunrise service on Christmas day! This involves travel from the mountains and other locations to get to the service by sunrise. Very moving.

Elder Jan Harrell reported that there are currently 3 weddings planned for 2026! Jan was also happy that the Bridge will finally be opening and we could lift up the Bridge in prayer. The goal for the Bridge is to lift the members into a permanent residence in maybe 6-8 weeks.

Elder David Kaeb said that White Horse Academy has 40 or more students this fall and are looking to have maybe 5 or so years to grow at Second Pres.

Elder Barbara Meek said that we are having another new member class in April and she can look around the sanctuary and see the recent members around the service and is excited.

Pastor Trey reminded us of the Bridge concert and the \$13,000 added! Many kudos to Bryan and Dennis and to all the community who contributed.

Elder Sandy Groves remarked on the Illinois Symphony concert in the sanctuary last Saturday with the Springfield Choral Society filling the choir loft. It was a joy to hear!

Clerk Bill Cummins reported that it was a joy to drive his grandkids home from the service and to have them singing and enjoying the anthem. Many remarked that it was a joy to have the added youth singing.

Elder Sara Palmgren said that she enjoyed singing with the advent choir and that it was uplifting and enjoyable.

Pastor Trey mentioned that Wednesday that in addition to inviting the choir to KidsMin dinners he hoped to somehow include a church-wide invitation.

Elder Jan Harrell said that we had a volunteer to cover the kitchen while Gerrald was out and that the volunteer renewed his certification.

Clerk's Report

Clerk Bill Cummins presented the PCUSA 2025 Church Statistical Report, the Certificate of Liability Insurance, and the Certification of non-profit filing, and the Terms of Call form for the Great Rivers Presbytery. A **motion** to accept the Clerk's report was **passed**

Pastor's Report(s).

Pastor Trey announced that the Leader's retreat will be April 25, 2026 (9-1:30) with a focus on pastoral care. Trey reported we have an opportunity to initiate a project to renew the visual environment in the church. This will include screens to replace the projectors, digital cameras to update and support the new screens. There is a need to update screens around the campus to be able to receive the signals.

Elder Mark Wylie made a **motion** to allow Trey to raise funds for a video project. The motion **passed**.

Elder Mike Ireland made a **motion** to create a task force to oversee the video project, including members from Worship, Trustees, Hospitality, Finance, Deacons and including a member from the congregation. Terry, Tammy and Trey will be non-voting staff support. The task force will have the authority to review and accept the contracts The motion **passed**.

A **motion** to accept Trey's report was **passed**.

Other Business

Elder Mark Wylie made a **motion** to approve the revised budget with the revised amount of pledged donations. The motion **passed**.

A **motion** to approve the 2026 budget adjusted to include additional pledges and some reallocation was **approved** and will be presented to the congregation.

A **motion** to approve the consent agenda was **approved**.

Closing Prayer

A **motion** to adjourn was requested by the moderator and **approved** by the Session. After Pastor Trey's prayer, meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully recorded and submitted, Bill Cummins, Clerk