



## Leadership Board Minutes for June 3, 2025

Parker United Methodist Church  
11805 S. Pine Drive, Parker, CO 80134

### Leadership Board Members:

Li Roberson (Chair)  
Dave Ambors  
Kim Bimestefer  
Kelly Evans (Vice-Chair)  
Susan Gustin  
Heidi Handel  
Julie Kronbach, Lay Leader

Laura Easter Rainwater, Senior Pastor  
Eric Ross  
Emily Shaffer, Little Blessings Preschool Director  
Elizabeth Gore Stanley  
Ron Wyckoff

### Members not in Attendance:

- I. Call to order: Li called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- II. Eric opened us with a reflection on perhaps the most important word in the Bible -- **everyone**
- III. Review and approval of minutes of May 6, 2025
  - A. Eric moved to approve; Ron seconded
- IV. Senior Pastor's Report
  - A. Statistics
    1. Worship through 06/01/25 (includes Easter Sunday which skews a bit)
      - a. 9 a.m. service avg = 212
      - b. 10:30 a.m. service avg = 71
      - c. Total in person = 283
      - d. Online viewers = 191
      - e. Average concurrent online worshippers = 50, approximately 70 total
    2. Membership
      - a. 2 baptisms (children)
      - b. 7 joined the church (Gene Olvera and Chris Denny, David Spencer,
      - c. Ramona Council, Kristen Difani, Jacki Brock, Stephanie Hegde, TJ &
      - d. Kimberlee Kuhl)
      - e. 3 members passed away (Bill French, Allan Johnson, Ernie Loomis)
      - f. 4 members withdrew membership (Jana Collins; Andrew, Jill & Sarah Reynolds)
  - B. Adult Education
    1. Summer is slow. Adult Sunday School & Faith Talk group are still meeting
    2. In July, plan for Fall activities and classes
    3. In September, we will begin a 5-week sermon series through Genesis
  - C. Annual Conference – next week (June 9-12)
    1. Eric Ross & Dan O'Neill are delegates
    2. Ruth Wills is lay equalization delegate
    3. Pastors Laura & Cody will be in attendance Wednesday -Saturday
  - D. Other updates/upcoming work
    1. Additional membership audit work with the help of Susan Gustin

2. Updating Building/Facility Use agreements
  - a. Sarah and Candi Robinson (Little Blessings) to update
3. Drafting Volunteer Process/Recruitment Strategy
4. Will begin work with Health & Safety Team – follow up with safety plan
5. Working with Communications team to update signs in the building
6. Update on people helping serve as online hosts for Sunday morning virtual worship
  - a. Jane Smith and Jackie Brock
  - b. Jackie wrote up instructions so we can expand the people who help with this task
7. Sustainability Team to meet next week
8. ERC funding received (employee retention from COVID)
  - a. 6 checks, \$670,428 to the church
  - b. Gives church some breathing room in terms of finances
9. Pedalheads (bike training for kids) has been renting our parking lot to conduct camps
- E. Gloria Bokencamp’s inquiry concerning position of PUMC on LGBTQ+ people – where on the spectrum are we between affirming and reconciling? Can’t we state more specifically on the website?
  1. Stating “All are Welcome” doesn’t seem sufficient
  2. Laura – conversation from Facebook group of pastors raised the question of the meaning of All are Welcome – feeling among participants that it means nothing
  3. Laura – what the website says matters a great deal
    - a. It’s the path many take to check out our church
  4. Laura provided statements from several local UMC church websites
  5. Elizabeth –maybe we need other word(s) than **welcome**, such as **inclusive**
  6. Kim – we are getting more LG couples, believes we can continue to take small steps so as to avoid fracturing the church further
    - a. Perhaps say something about how inclusivity and diversity make us stronger?
  7. Laura – Cody’s comments about how church is moving through a trauma response as a result of the split, concern about exacerbating
  8. Dave – perhaps a message about how we acknowledge and embrace differences?
  9. Ron – we need to respond to Gloria and affirm her question
  10. We will discuss this at our next meeting
    - a. We are encouraged to view the statements that Laura provided and think about how we might present ourselves

V. Business items

- A. Little Blessings – Emily
  1. Shared the end-of-the-year letter that went out to parents
  2. Summer enrollment = 40 kids/day in 3 classrooms
  3. Kim – how is enrollment for next year doing?
    - a. Emily – enrollment continues to be strong
    - b. Emphasis on UPK stronger for coming year
- B. CPR classes for fall update – Heidi
  1. Aiming for September/October timeframe, after people settled back in school
  2. Advertise starting in July
- C. Goals, metrics and measurability of PUMC Vision, Mission and Values – Kelly and Li
  1. Kelly -- Developing questions for a survey to try to measure
    - a. Do people feel connected?
    - b. Is their faith growing?
    - c. Do people feel they make a difference?
  2. Planning general engagement of the congregation in the fall
  3. Probable survey in the bulletin and link in the Midweek

4. Kim – we want to convey the message that wherever people are on their faith journey, we are glad you are at PUMC and want to meet you where you are
    - a. No pressure
  5. Dave – want to make sure questions not just binary – either this or that
    - a. What can we do better?
    - b. Lead to action items
  6. Laura – also have to figure out who are the targets of the survey – members only or include attendees as well?
  7. Li – hoping to gather data in the early fall
- D. New members for the Board
1. John Quest has had to resign
    - a. Ron will fill John’s position on the Building Team
    - b. Idea of Men’s Group providing coordination of use of Fellowship Hall on hold for now
  2. Looking for two interim members to complete the terms of people who have left (Linda Thomas, term ending 2026; John Quest, term ending 2027)
    - a. Replacements will have to be voted on at Annual Conference
  3. Would be good to add at least one man to the Board, and, as always, someone younger
  4. Also looking for a new Lay Member to Annual Conference (no term set)
  5. Responsibility of all on the Board to talk to potential Board members
  6. Laura cautioned us not to promise that someone who expresses an interest will be chosen

VI. New business

1. Ron – reminder of 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual golf Tournament at the Pinery September 8
  - a. Looking for volunteers

VII. Next meeting

- A. Tuesday, August 5, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.
- B. Heidi will provide the devotion

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Review of Minutes: The meeting minutes of June 3, 2025 were submitted to Laura and Li for review on July 10, 2025.

Susan Gustin, Leadership Board Member