



## Leadership Board Minutes for January 6, 2026

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

### Leadership Board Members:

Kelly Evans (Chair)  
Dave Ambors  
Jon Bray  
Peter Farney  
Heidi Handel  
Geoff Haskell  
Laura Easter Rainwater, Senior Pastor  
Li Roberson  
Eric Ross  
Sue Saip  
Emily Shaffer, Little Blessings Preschool Director  
Kyle Snoich

### Members not in Attendance:

Dave Ambors  
Heidi Handel  
Emily Shaffer

### Visitors:

Allen Cook (PUMC Facilities Team)

- I. Call to order: Kelly called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
- II. Devotion
  - A. Peter presented a devotion based on John 15.
- III. Review and approval of minutes of December 2, 2025
  - A. Li moved to approve; Eric seconded
  - B. Approved unanimously
- IV. Allen Cook – Building Team Report
  - A. Outdoor Church sign on Parker Road
    1. 4 of 5 light bulbs are burned out and fluorescent bulbs cannot be replaced since they have been banned in Colorado since January 2005
    2. Recommended replacing light fixtures with LED light fixtures with similar brightness.
    3. Ongoing research to select optimum fixture design and placement; preliminary estimate is upgrade would cost under \$1,000.
  - B. Main fire/security panel burned out in early December
    1. Panel was replaced and Security Central was supported in system configuration and testing on 12/22.
    2. On 12/29 a full system test and certification with Security Central and South Metro Fire personnel present resulted in a system failure. The radio link to South Metro Fire was failing when on batter power, so the radio was replaced with a new, upgraded unit.
    3. New test is scheduled for 1/19/26 with South Metro Fire.
  - C. Classroom renovations were completed in December 2025.
  - D. Parking lot and driveway repairs will be delayed until spring, 2026. Bids will be solicited in March.

V. Senior Pastor's Report

A. Worship stats will be updated next month for the end of the (12/31/2025)

B. December was a whirlwind

1. 16 attended the Blue Christmas Longest Night Service in the Commons area. It was a great space for people to share in conversation and the didn't want to leave.
2. Over 1200 attended our 4 Christmas Eve services with about 200 viewing online or watching the video.

C. Goals in 2026

1. New employees:
  - a. The next few months will be busy getting our Finance Manager (Candi Robinson) and Facilities Coordinator (Elizabeth Simonton) onboard.
  - b. Candi has learned very quickly – her relationship with the church and preschool is long-standing. Helping Elizabeth may take more time, but she is already showing to be a quick learner.
2. Continue to address Issue with our mortgage
  - a. Originally thought a capital campaign may be considered to pay down a huge portion of the mortgage. The uncertainty of the economy may not make that possible.
  - b. Pastor Laura will get the Building Futures team together. Anyone interested in joining the team should contact her. Two of our recently retired Board members agreed to continue participating for continuity reasons. Geoff Haskell will join the team.
3. Eric will share thoughts on how we can increase membership. We need an intentional effort to determine the best way to let the community know about our ministries, including worship.
  - a. Relative to our outreach program, Faith on Tap will no longer be able to meet at Bodega Beer Company since it has closed.
4. Updating Policies & Procedures
  - a. Finance is looking at Financial Policies
  - b. Candi and Pastor Laura will look at the Employee Handbook in light of some necessary changes. They will then work with SPRC for further review and approval.
  - c. Pastor Laura will work with Elizabeth (new Facilities Coordinator) on the Building Usage Guidelines. They are in good shape, but Pastor Laura and Sarah Blankman were working to make some modifications.
  - d. Copies of the new handbook and building usage guidelines will be provided to Leadership members when complete.
  - e. Floor plans around the building will be updated relative to ADD and fire extinguishers.

VI. Business Items

A. New 2026 positions filled

1. It was voted on and unanimously approved for Jon Bray as Vice Chairman and Sue Saip as Recording Secretary of the Leadership Board.
2. Staff Parish Relations Committee
  - a. Responsible for clergy evaluations, confirming evaluations of other staff are happening, wage and benefit evaluation.
  - b. Li Roberson and Peter Farney have joined the committee
3. Sustainability
  - a. Geoff Haskell has joined the committee; Kim Bimestefer and Ron Wyckoff will continue to serve on the committee.
4. Christian Education – Open Position

5. Communications Team
  - a. Elizabeth Simonton will join
6. Finance Team
  - a. Eric Ross will continue on the committee and Jon Bray has been added.
7. Contact Kelly if there are any questions or if interested in other committee lead openings
- B. Vote – Ron Suppes additional board member; unanimously approved
- C. Little Blessings Pre-School (Kelly in Emily’s absence)
  1. Enrollment for next year is really strong
    - a. 79% full after Round 1
    - b. Round 2 started on 1/6/26
  2. The 2 classrooms that had water damage and were temporarily in Fellowship Hall are back to their normal classrooms and they are glad to be “home”.
- D. 2026 Budget Discussion – Finance (Eric)
  1. 2026 budgeting to a deficit (due to the mortgage)
    - a. However, we have about \$970K in a “rainy day” fund and endowments can help
  2. Li moved to approve 3% staff raises. Kelly seconded, approved unanimously.
  3. Kelly moved to approve \$5K staff bonus, Jon seconded, approved unanimously
  4. Vote – change bank signatures
    - a. Remove Sarah Blankman and add Candi Robinson
    - b. Approved
- E. SPRC Updates
  1. New Facilities Coordinator discussed previously
- F. Sign – Covenant of Faith
  1. Attending Board members were given a copy of the Covenant of Faith and signed/dated them at the meeting
- G. First Quarter Reminder: Staff to Board Assignments
  1. Leadership Members were reminded to check in with their staff assignments (shown in December 2, 2025 meeting minutes) in the first quarter of 2026
- VII. New Business and any other items of importance and interest
  - A. Eric handed out the following articles for the Board to read and consider relative to ways to increase membership and community involvement
    1. 50 Ways to Increase Worship Attendance
    2. 50 Ways to Welcome New People
    3. 50 Ways to Strengthen Ministry with Youth
    4. 50 Ways to Take Church to the Community
- VIII. Next meeting
  - A. Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.
  - B. Eric will provide the devotion
- IX. Closing prayer
  - A. Kelly closed us in prayer

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Review of Minutes: The meeting minutes of January 6, 2026 were submitted to Laura and Kelly for review on January 7, 2026.

Sue Saip, Leadership Board Member  
(assisted by Li Roberson, Board Member)