



## Leadership Board Minutes for February 3, 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  
Ron Suppes

### Members not in Attendance:

Heidi Handel

### Visitor:

Elizabeth Simonton (PUMC Facilities Coordinator)

- I. Call to order: Kelly called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- II. Devotion
  - A. Eric presented a devotion "The Secret of Great Planning" based on Proverbs 16:3.
- III. Elizabeth Simonton, new PUMC facilities coordinator, was introduced to the Board.
- IV. Review and approval of minutes of January 6, 2026
  - A. One correction to the minutes was noted
  - B. Eric moved to approve; Li seconded
  - C. Approved unanimously
- V. Senior Pastor's Report
  - A. Stats for 2025
    1. 14 people joined the church this year
    2. With our membership audit playing a big part, 245 are no longer members
      - a. Included are 5 who passed away in 2025
    3. Our total for the statistics is now 761 (calculated by taking last year's number and adding/subtracting.)
    4. Susan Gustin and Pastor Laura will work on calculating the true number as this number is different from the one reported at church conference
    5. Once we have the "correct" or "real" number that is in our database, adjustments will be made to both the statistical number and church conference number (Pastor Laura has done this before for another church.)
    6. We baptized 7 young ones last year, as well.

- 7.
- B. Worship
  1. We averaged 282 in Sunday morning worship for both services (220 + 61 – includes Easter & Christmas Eve) plus 175 who worship online (based on You Tube views).
  2. We averaged around 40 for all other non-Sunday morning services (includes At the Table).
- C. Lent
  1. Ash Wednesday is February 18
    - a. Drive thru ashes: 7 – 8:30 am and 4 – 5:30 pm
    - b. Service in the sanctuary at 7 pm
  2. Holy Week
    - a. Palm Sunday is March 29 – one service at 10 am for cantata and church-wide event afterwards
    - b. Maundy Thursday is April 2 – service in sanctuary at 7 pm.
    - c. Good Friday is April 3 - service in sanctuary at 7 pm.
  3. Easter
    - a. Easter Eve on Saturday, April 4 - service in sanctuary at 5 pm.
    - b. Easter Sunday is April 5 – at both services 9 am & 10:30 am
  4. Several Lent studies for adults
- D. Goals in 2026
  1. Continue to address the issue with our mortgage
    - a. Pastor Laura is reaching out to organizations to help us determine if a capital campaign to pay down a huge portion of the mortgage is feasible. She will work on getting our Building Futures team together – please let her know if you are interested. Two of our now-retired Board members (Ron Wyckoff, Kim Bimestefer) agreed to continue participating for continuity reasons. Eric and Geoff are also on the team.
  2. Updating Policies & Procedures
    - a. Finance is looking at Financial Policies
    - b. Candi and Pastor Laura are looking at the Employee Handbook and will have SPRC review it at their meeting next week.
    - c. Pastor Laura will work with Elizabeth, Facilities Coordinator, on the Building Usage Guidelines; they are in good shape, but Sarah and Pastor Laura were looking to make some modifications.
    - d. Copies of all policies will be sent to the Leadership Board when they are complete.
- E. Summer Calendar Update
  1. Annual Conference is June 10 – 14 in Billings, Montana
    - a. Pastor Laura and Pastor Cody will be gone all week
    - b. June Webster will preach in their absence
    - c. Still need delegates for Annual Conference
  2. Pastor Laura is going on a mission trip, as a pastor's spouse, to Kenya from July 8 – 24
  3. Pastor Cody will be going with the youth to Detroit from July 14 – 21
  4. On July 19, Dan O'Neill will preach (in the pastors absence)
  5. There will be one service on July 5

- VI. Business Items
- A. Little Blessings Pre-School - Emily
    1. Enrollment for next year strong
      - a. 78 - 80% full
    2. UPK (the year before kindergarten) enrollment for non-Little Blessings families starts on the 6<sup>th</sup>
    3. Summer camp will open soon
      - a. 40+ kids per day
    4. Will be sprucing up spaces over the next month (Allen Cook, PUMC Facilities Team, is also looking around the church for things that need to be done.)
  - B. 2026 Budget Discussion – Finance (Eric)
    1. There was considerable discussion about the proposed increase of the Mission Share from 10% to 11% of adjusted gross revenue, given the projected 2026 deficit of over \$150,000.
    2. The Board decided to keep the Mission Share at 10% and then re-evaluate where we are financially both at mid-year and toward the end of the year (October)
    3. Dave moved to approve the 2026 budget. Eric seconded, and it was approved unanimously.
  - C. First Quarter Reminder: Staff to Board Assignments
    1. Li: talked to Paul and no material things are needed (requested prayers for his recovery)
    2. Dave: Alan and Dave are doing OK
    3. Eric: giving treats to Emily, Candi and Elizabeth
    4. Kelly: Laura, Cody & Noelle – all is well; will take the out for coffee this quarter
    5. Kelly will contact Heidi (assigned to Kurt & Jon)
- VII. New Business and any other items of importance and interest
- A. Eric reminded the Board of the various “50 Ways” handouts from the last meeting and asked that we keep them in mind relative to ways to increase membership and community involvement
  - B. This prompted various ideas/conversations
    1. Faith on Tap needs a new home and there are hopes that this will be done by February 17. Lone Tree Brewery is one possibility.
    2. We were part of a grant for A Table for All
      - a. We should focus on experiments, start something new, end it and determine what went right and what went wrong, go on to the next level
      - b. Think about what is going well with the church and how to make it better
  - C. How should the Board be kept informed about what is going on in the church?
    1. Every fall we publish a Connections catalog
    2. Elizabeth is going through the calendar and will put together a summary of all the groups that use the building
      - a. Invite groups that use our building to some of our activities (having conversations now)
    3. Update the website; Paul is doing the website updates when requested
    4. Jason is trying to interface CCB, but there are calendar limitations with CCB
  - D. We need to consider Leadership Board goals for 2026
- VIII. Next meeting
- A. Tuesday, March 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 7:20 p.m.

Review of Minutes: The meeting minutes of February 3, 2026 were submitted to Laura and Kelly for review on February 4 2026.

Sue Saip, Leadership Board Member