

St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Amityville
Consistory Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2025

Present – Curt Clifford, Peter Dadey, Wendy Elser, William Falstich, Brenda Haas, Autumn Herbst, Jackie Hertzog, Judy Leister, Kay Nyman, Linda Okuniewski, Marsha Pingitore, Doug Reinert, Marianne Reinert, Judy Reitz, Michele Ross, Martha Sitler, Kathy Weller, Rich Zuber. Rev. Don Epps. Guests: Joe Aguiar, Sandee Burns, Sharon Epps, Rob Hettel, Barry Kulakowsky, Barbara Kulakowsky, Christine Lambert, Susan Newland, Michelle Stern.
Devotions were given by Linda Okuniewski

Following a delicious meal provided by our president, Curt Clifford called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Guests were welcomed and Curt thanked members of the executive board – Vice President Jackie Hertzog, Treasurer Peter Dadey and Secretary Martha Sitler for their support throughout his two-year term of office.
A quorum was confirmed by the Secretary.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Approve meeting minutes of November 12, 2025, as presented.

MOTION BY: Judy leister

SECOND: Brenda Haas

VOTE: All in favor

Minister's Report

Rev. Donald Epps

- Report emailed
- Rev. Epps invited members of Consistory to attend a program he will present to our Confirmands on Sunday, Dec. 14 on how to get the most out of any sermon. He also encouraged Elders and all members to join him in Parking Lot Ministry, greeting and getting to know the interests and concerns of people as they arrive for worship. The Christmas season, especially Christmas Eve, is a great opportunity to increase attendance, but requires follow-up calls or notes to visitors and potential new members. Lastly, he emphasized that he is intentionally raising the level of lay leaders participating in worship.

Secretary's Report/ Correspondence

Martha Sitler. Secretary

- No report. No correspondence.

Treasurer's Report

Peter Dadey, Treasurer

	<u>November 2025</u>	<u>Full Year 2025</u>
Income	73,187	533,231
Expenses	37,216	501,263
Surplus/(Deficit)	35,971	31,968

- Kathy Weller noted that facility rentals have brought in over \$10,000 so far this year.

President's Report

Curt Clifford, President

- President Clifford welcomed newly elected Consistory members Sandee Burns, Rob Hettel, Joe Aguiar, Susan Newland and Michelle Stern who will formally join the group in January. Elders and Deacons will be ordained on Sunday, January 11.

High Priority Business

- The President announced that Barry Kulakowski has agreed to serve as President for 2026 but must be elected by Consistory. Hearing no further nominations for president, Mr. Clifford called for a motion.

MOTION: To elect Barry Kulakowsky President of Consistory for 2026.

MOTION BY: Autumn Herbst

SECOND: Judy Leister

VOTE: All in favor

- President Clifford then reiterated that Kay Nyman’s name was placed in nomination for Vice President during the Annual Meeting. He asked for other nominations. Hearing none, he asked for a motion .

MOTION: To elect Kay Nyman as Vice President of Consistory for 2026.

MOTION BY: Jackie Hertzog

SECOND: William Falstich

VOTE: All in favor

Committee Reports

Worship Committee

Judy Reitz, Committee Chair

- Report emailed
- The next meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on January 8, 2026.

Youth Committee

Stacey Ambrose, Committee Chair

- Stacey was unable to attend the meeting but sent her report to be read by the secretary.
- Games and activities are planned for this Sunday following Christmas caroling.
- In November, the Youth created Thanksgiving cards that were distributed to our shut-in members.

Budget, Finance & Stewardship

Bill Falstich, Committee Chair

- No report

Capital Campaign

Richard Zuber, Committee Chair

- The Capital Campaign officially ends on February 25, 2026.

Christian Education

Wendy Elser, Committee Chair

- Report emailed.
- Wendy reported that Advent devotional activity books were given to all families of Sunday School children and to our Confirmands. Families have reported that they are enjoying the daily activities and readings as a family.
- There will be no Confirmation on 12/21, 12/28 or 1/4 and no Sunday School on 12/28.

Church and Ministry

Richard Zuber, Committee Chair

- No report

Evangelism

Kathy Weller, Heidi Pennypacker Committee Co-Chairs

- Report emailed.
- Kathy reported that Committee members were present at the Optimist Club Christmas Tree Lighting/ Live Nativity on December 7. They interacted with people and gave out ornaments, coloring books, book markers, homemade cookies and hot chocolate – in addition to information about our church and Christmas Eve services.
- Next Sunday, December 14, the Evangelism Committee will partner with the Youth Committee to go caroling at three local residential facilities. This will be followed by a pizza party with games and fun for all.
- The Committee’s next task will be to plan the PALentine dinner to be held in February.

Facilities

- Doug Reinert reported that the elevator has been inspected, but we still need to address the non-working emergency phone.
- We have received several more donations toward needed upgrades in the restrooms in the Office wing, so work will begin in the new year.
- The Chapel door on the Lower level facing Airport Road is deteriorating at the bottom and will need to be repaired or replaced.

Fellowship

Judy Leister, Committee Chair

- Judy reported that the luncheon following the Annual Meeting was well attended.

HVAC

Judy Leister and Kay Nyman, Committee Co-Chairs

- Report emailed
- Kay reported that we have requested one more proposal for air conditioning the sanctuary.
- We expect to be able to complete work on the lower level of the Chapel when the remainder of the pledges come in.
- The Committee continues to look into the costs and benefits of installing solar panels in the open field to the north of the FLMC.

Missions

Michele Ross, Committee Chair

- Report emailed
- Michele reported that the Live Nativity held at Amity Park near the Middle School on December 7 was very successful. Thanks to the actors, the lighting crew, those who helped to set up and tear down and to our narrator Curt Clifford.
- The Blessing Box is up and running. Committee members are taking turns checking and resupplying the box weekly. We are hoping to add some insulation to prevent products from freezing.
- Our congregation provided 110 gifts for children from L.I.F.E. House and Fostering Hope. Many thanks to Sara Trejo for coordinating this effort and to Sharon Epps for being a liaison for Fostering Hope.
- We were able to donate \$900 in Redners Gift cards to families of Daniel Boone Area School District for Thanksgiving meals through the Birdsboro Ministerium. We also plan to collect donations for Christmas meals.
- The next meeting is scheduled for January 22.

Settled Pastor Search

William Harrison, Committee Chair

- No updates

SPLASH

Marianne Reinert, Committee Chair

- Marianne stated that the SPLASH program is losing one of our staff members, so is seeking someone to work with the children two mornings and five afternoons a week.

Suppers

Marianne Reinert

- Marianne reminded us that the Spring Turkey Supper will be held on the last Saturday in March due to Easter being the first week in April.

Technology Committee

Kay Nyman, Committee Chair

- Report emailed.
- Kay highlighted several Committee activities including setting up new mini-computers in the offices.
- The new freestanding microphone donated by Susan Newland was used very successfully at the Live Nativity.

Communications Branch

- Committee members are working well together to produce the Weekly Word as well as the monthly St. Paul's Epistle. Kay thanked everyone for their help and support during all of the changes in the past year.

Deacons

- No report

Elders/ Spiritual Council

- There will be a Retreat for all members of the Spiritual Council on Saturday morning, January 17 beginning at 9:00 am. Newly elected elders (who will be ordained by then) are invited as well.

Other Committee Reports

- Circle of Friends will meet tomorrow for a potluck lunch with Christmas music by Martha.
- Scouts – Kathy Weller reported that our troop collected 4,700 pounds of canned and other nonperishable food during last month's Scouting for Food drive.
- Home Association – Rich Zuber stated that renovations on the Parsonage are nearly complete and an Open House for members of the congregation will be scheduled in mid-January.
- Guldin Trust – Wendy Elser reported that they have received 9 applications and will have a little over \$14,000 to distribute to students attending college while maintaining their ties to St.Paul's.

Old Business

- Kathy Weller reported a recent incident where two adults and two children were found sitting in the Social Room late in the evening with no apparent reason to be there. When questioned the man said they were looking for the Narc-Anon meeting and they found the (portico) door unlocked, so they entered and turned lights on. Kathy asked them to leave and waited until they left the parking lot. Please be aware that the portico door does not always lock securely when it is used.

New Business

- **The next Consistory meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 14 at 7:00 in Room 8.**
- **Devotions** – for that meeting will be given by Brenda Haas.

Expenditure Motions – (Unbudgeted or >\$500)

- None

Adjournment:

- At 8:37 pm.

MOTION BY: Autumn Herbst **SECOND:** Wendy Elser **VOTE:** All in favor

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Sitler
Secretary