

## **Church Council Meeting Minutes**

**Church:** Lutie Watkins Memorial

**Date:** March 9, 2026

**Time:** 6:00pm

**Location:** LWMMC Fellowship Hall

**Recorded by:** Pastor Bryan and Transcribed through Chat GPT.

### **Attendance:**

- Present: Carol Faulkenberry (Chair), Lauren Timms, Malinda Hoerster, Rob Wilson, Carol Cunningham, David Griffith, Angela Buttery, Jena Garnett, Rev. Bryan Rogers, Janet Brown (Lay Leader), Dale Steltzer
- Absent: Blake Schultze, Kelly Johnson, Dr. Sky Forrester, Todd Keller

### **Call to Order**

Meeting Was Called to order at 6:00pm by Carol F. The meeting opened with introductions.

### **Opening Devotional And Prayer**

Rev. Bryan Rogers shared a short devotional on 2 Thessalonians 3:3, and talked about the Faithfulness of God in all things.

### **Approval of Prior Minutes**

The chair asked if members had received minutes by email and requested any corrections.

*Action/Decision:*

A correction was noted to add Mrs. Kelly Johnson to the *Audit Committee*. The Amended Minutes were approved.

### **Ministry Reports**

- **Youth Ministry Report - Kemp Lowery:**
  - Jr. High attendance has grown to approximately 25-30 students on Wednesday nights
  - High School attendance has grown from 8 students to approximately 25-30 students on strong nights.
  - Roughly 36 participants attended winter camp, including adults.

- A Mission trip to Dallas was also completed with high school students.
- Wednesday night combined attendance isn't spring averages around 50 students.
- Families are signing up to provide meals, with reimbursement available up to \$150 from the youth fund if receipts are turned in.
- Kemp expressed the need to develop new systems and leadership structures as the group grows, including the possibility of forming a *student leadership team* among older youth.
- Kemp also noted the positive impact of the church van on transportation and ministry participation.

Council expressed appreciation for Kemp's work and support of the youth program.

- ***Children's Ministry Report - Miranda Rogers:***

- Ministry Report was submitted in writing.
- Continued challenges with Wednesday Night scheduling conflicts
- Volunteer strain caused by competing school and extracurricular events.
- A request that future reports include:
  - Logos Fee Structure
  - Camp Costs
  - Scholarship Information

Council suggested that these reports will help the congregation better understand ministry needs and possible support opportunities.

- ***Financial Report***

- The van is still listed as a fixed asset and needs to be corrected in the accounting system.
- Several expense lines were noted as "at risk" or above the year-to-date spending percentage. It was clarified that some are seasonal or one-time expenses, but will monitor and change line items if needed.
- Utilities and other building-related costs may continue to rise.
- The overall budget report was approached and is now being included more consistently.

- ***Audit Committee Report***

An update was given on the internal audit process.

- Committee members are dividing the work into manageable task.
- Needed reports are being gathered.
- Connectional giving records appear to be in good order, only with some clarification still needed.
- The committee is making notes and developing a process template for future audits. *No formal action was taken at this time.*

## **Old Business**

- **SPRC Council Representative**

Because of the change in leadership, whereas Carol F. Was elected to the Chair Position, a new SPRC representative was needed.

**Nomination:** Todd Keller

**Action:** Todd K. Was approved/selected as the new SPRC Council Representative.

- **Roof Update**

Pastor Bryan reported the main sanctuary roof is almost completed with some minor touch-ups and gutters needing to be installed. The FLC roof work is expected to begin on Wednesday (Mar 11, 2026), pending weather. A recent Main Kitchen Leak was related to unfinished roofing work near the grease trap and has been resolved.

- **Legal Case Update**

Pastor Bryan shared an update received from legal council that the church, and others, remain in the waiting period to learn whether the Supreme Court will take up the case. The filing was submitted on Feb. 13, and the court has 45 days from submission to respond.

- **Parsonage Update**

The parsonage work was reported as complete. Council Members commented positively on the final result.

## Action Items Review

- Van Financial Status - The issue was discussed earlier during the financial report and remains pending correction in the accounting system.
- Bus/Vehicle Repairs and Readiness - The bus remains operational but needs attention, especial regarding the air-conditioning system. Kemp has been asked to coordinate repairs and has been in touch with the Bus Maintenance Manager at the ISD about repair options.
- Records Retention and Clean up - Pastor Bryan will instruct April to begin the process and additional help may be needed and recruited within the Membership of the Church.
- Kitchen and Pantry Clean Up plan - This remains in progress. Discussion included the use of reporting form for maintenance or facility concerns and the need for clearer systems.
- Pew Bibles - Janet Presented two ESV Bible options, Larger Print was Received by the Council.  
*Action Item: Janet will determine quantity needed and proceed with ordering.*

## New Business

- **Sound and Streaming System.**

Pastor Bryan raised concerns about the church's digital soundboard and livestream setup.

Key Concerns:

- Live stream audio quality inconsistent.
- The system requires specialized knowledge to operate well.
- Current volunteers are helping, but the church needs more reliably expertise or training support.
- The Sanctuary sound system and stream sound require separate attention.

No formal action was taken, but council agreed this is an ongoing concern needing future attention.

- **Long Range Planning Committee**

Council discussed forming a *Long-Range Planning Committee* to address the churches future in areas such as:

- Facilities
- Capital Needs
- Membership
- Discipleship
- Worship and Ministry direction

*Action: Council members were asked to bring possible names for committee membership to the next meeting.*

- **Building Security/Re-keying**

Discussion included:

- Ongoing problems with specific exterior doors (North Side Door, and main Fellowship Hall door to office).
- Discussion about re-keying buildings and what are the best options. (Keypad, KeyFob, on select doors)
- Need for better control over building access.

Further information and possible outside consultation to be pursued.

- **Maintenance/Custodial/Lawncare**

- Council discussed the need for written agreement clarifying work expectations and compensation.

*Motion: David G. - Develop a contract for maintenance/custodial/lawn care workers and pay no more than budget monthly amount.*

*Second: Janet B.*

*Action: Motion Carried.*

Pastor Bryan will draw up the contract.

- **SMS/Text Messaging Communications**

Lauren raised the possibility of pursuing text message reminders to members of the church.

Pastor Bryan confirmed the church likely already has this capability but it has not yet been set up.

*Action: Pastor Bryan will look into what is required to implement this feature.*

- **Basement Grinder Pump**

Discussion focused on the persistent basement odor and the need to replace the grinder pump. Lauren indicated willingness to move forward on diagnostics and repairs.

*Action: Lauren was authorized to continue pursuing the needed work and report back ASAP.*

**Adjournment 7:28 PM**

## **Action Items from Council Meeting**

1. Develop a written contract for custodial/lawn care service that clarifies:
  - Expected Duties
  - Compensation Limits
  - Maximum amount consistent with the approved budget.
  - Responsible: Pastor Bryan (to email for approval)
2. Begin identifying members for Long Range Planning committee
3. **Financial Audit**
  - Correct accounting Entry for Church van
  - Continue internal audit work
  - Develop Notes/Templates for future audits to simplify the process moving forward.
4. Investigate Church repairs for the Church bus. (Kemp L.)
5. Begin Records Clean Up (Bryan R.)
6. Develop Plan for Kitchen and Pantry clean up (Lauren T.)
7. Order new Pew Bibles (Janet. B.)
8. Evaluate Building Security and access control (David G.)
9. Address Basement Grinder Pump (David G./Lauren T.)
10. Explore implementation of text messaging/sms communication system (Bryan R.)