

JUSTIN METHODIST CHURCH

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES OF JANUARY 20, 2026

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Mark Peterson, Chairman

Sherry Andrus

Lisa Dyer

Kevin Hubbard

Vicki Pope

Pastor Rob Price

Mike Russ

Allen Sykes

Jason Umbach

Brian Westbrook

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mark Montanari

Amanda Wood

GUESTS:

Dani Umbach

Mark Peterson called the Church Council Meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Tuesday, January 20, 2026. The meeting began with a prayer. Mr. Peterson welcomed Sherry Andrus, Lisa Dyer and Kevin Hubbard as new members of the council.

Future Church Expansion/Build Discussion

The Council held a lengthy discussion on how best to go about deciding on renovating the current church footprint or considering a new building. The council decided to form a planning committee to do some preliminary work before proceeding further with discussions. Vicki Pope proposed and Brian Westbrook seconded the motion to put a Planning Committee consisting of Lisa Dyer, Kevin Hubbard, Allen Sykes and Brian Westbrook be formed. The Council unanimously approved the motion.

As part of the initial preparations, Lisa Dyer will meet with Debbie Walls and Matt Cyr to discuss the City of Justin's interest in certain church properties, and the Committee asked Mark Peterson to visit the owner of The Abby regarding their interest in selling the property currently used for church parking.

Old Town Planning Committee

Lisa Dyer gave an update on Old Town Planning Committee that has been working for several months on a recommendation to City Council to rezone an area around Old Town from single-family residential, multi-family residential and neighborhood commercial to expand the current Old Town footprint; basically, to keep future development designs

more aesthetic and expand uses of Old Town. Ms. Dyer will visit Matt Sears regarding when we should petition a variance for our future renovation/building.

Family/Connections – Jason Umbach

Jason gave the following update:

- Will hold a Snow Cone event the end of February
- Brian Westbrook is donating a TV for the Baby Room next to the Nursery
- K through 3rd grade is still in need of teachers
- 4 boys and 11 girls are going through Confirmation Training. Still need sponsors for each child to help mentor these children. May 3rd is Confirmation Sunday.
- Since the Baptist Church has chosen not to participate with us on a Easter Egg hunt, the staff suggested we hold our own Easter Event – “Egg Extravaganza”. It will be a modified Trunk or Treat concept with 12 stations handing out eggs and children receive a bag of candy at the end. Date to be determined shortly.

After some discussion regarding the nursery on Wednesday nights, Vicki Pope moved, Sherry Andrus seconded and the Council approved hiring a person for the nursery during Wednesday night service at a cost of \$25.00.

Administration/Worship – Vicki Pope

Vicki Pope gave the following report:

Food Pantry – The Food Pantry has notified Vicki of some plumbing issues. Background was given that the Church provides the facility and pays for utilities. The Food Panty is operated by Justin Cares, but there is no lease or understanding of who is responsible for repairs. Vicki suggested the Food Pantry should be placed on a lease to clarify responsibilities. After much discussion, the consensus is for Mr. Peterson to have a conversation with Jodi Davenport to review the possibility of a triple net (insurance, taxes, and maintenance) lease with a \$1 payment. Vicki noted the new driveway provided by Bloomfield (approximately \$4,000) is complete and two new lights will be installed February 4th.

Church Maintenance – Because of a generous donation (approximately \$3000) from a church member, the Church can paint the fellowship hall, hallways and doors the same paint color as the sanctuary. Brian Westwood moved, Kevin Hubbard seconded and the Council unanimously approved the move to go forward with the paint job. Allen Sykes noted a new heat pump has been installed.

Easter Sunday – Staff has met and determined that there will only be one service for Easter Sunday. The Fellowship Hall will be set up for overflow and separate music will be provided Prior to the service.

Civitas Classical Academy – Civitas uses the fellowship hall and two rooms for their classes on Tuesday and Thursday. Their contract comes up for renewal in July; currently pays \$1500/month for under 20 students (currently at 17 students). Mr. Peterson asked for the current contract to be sent to Council Members to review prior to February’s meeting, so the Council is prepared to discuss whether to leave the monthly cost as is or to increase the rental cost.

Troop 931 Boy Scouts of America – The Church is the charter organization for this troop. Ms. Pope made the following proposal for the troop to transition to the Scouts BSA Family Troop:

The move from separate girl and boy troops to a family troop would allow for growth, sustainability and resource sharing, mission alignment, real-world environments, family convenience or diverse leadership.

Allen Sykes moved, Jason Umbach seconded, and the Council unanimously approved for Charter 931 Boys and Girls Troops to transition to the Family Troop Model.

The new web system, Subsplash, will allow the following:

- Able to send communications to members
- Access to Member contact information
- Giving Tides
- TV app for phones
- the system is on google platform

Annual Church Workday – a date needs to be selected prior to Easter for a workday to clean up around and inside the Church, wash windows, clean out gutters, etc. Ms. Pope will check if the Boy Scouts can assist with outside cleanup and send the Council a proposed date to hold the clean-u p.

Finance – Mike Russ

Mike Russ handed out preliminary financials and noted that he is still closing out the 2025 books.

2025 Preliminary January-December Financials:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Income	\$487,682.53	\$426,966.93
Expenses	<u>496,487.95</u>	480,872.62
Net Income	(8,715.42)	(53,905.69)
Other Income	\$ <u>20.00</u>	<u>703.85</u>
Total Net Income	\$(8,695.42)	(53,201.84)

Bank Accounts Current Total \$170,833.75

Mike Russ recommended replacing current staff debit cards with a Vista Bank credit card which would help in reconciling the statement. The card limit is \$20,000 and has no annual fee. Brian Westbrook made the motion to replace the current staff debit cards with a Vista Bank credit card, Allan Sykes seconded, and the Council unanimously approved the motion.

The Investment Committee members are Kevin Hubbard, Allen Sykes, Glenn Averhoff, and Mike Russ.

Pastor Rob Price

The date for the upcoming Charge Conference is next Wednesday, January 28th at 6:00pm, and will be led by Jill Jackson-Sears. Paster Rob noted the following reports will be given:

- Future church by the Planning Committee
- Trustees
- Strategic Investment Committee
- Worship
- Family Ministry
- Website
- Pastoral
- Leadership
- Formulating a wish list

Members were encouraged to attend the upcoming Outreach Seminar with training that will be held April 9-11 at the Truett Theological Seminary in Waco, TX.

Also, Pastor Rob shared his thoughts on the possibility of putting a family life center on the Boss Range property for families in that area.

There being no further business to come before the Leadership Council, the meeting was adjourned with a prayer by Mark Peterson at 9:26 p.m.

The next meeting of the Church Council is scheduled for February 17th at 7:00 p.m.



Sherry Andrus, Church Secretary