

COS Leadership Team Monthly Meeting
Minutes
Sunday evening, March 22, 2026
6:00 p.m.

1. Call to order: 6:00 p.m.

Meeting called to order by Kara Mitchell

Present at the meeting:

- Kara Mitchell
- Dana Renner
- Clarke Farmer
- Kyle Anderson
- Jeff Knight
- Julie Kriegel
- Amy Johnson
- Cary Fisher
- Dean Smith

Absent:

- Todd Neaves

2. Opening Prayer/Devotion: Cary Fisher

- a. Devote 40 days: Jane Jayroe

For the love of laughter. A cheerful heart is good medicine.

3. Consent Calendar and Packet Items: Kara Mitchell

- a. Consent items

1. Minutes of the previous meeting
2. Financial reports: Previous Month
3. Senior Pastor Report
4. Facilities, Mission Council, and Women's Ministry Reports

Motion to approve consent items

Motion: Julie Kriegel

Second: Cary Fisher

All in favor

4. Creative Work: Kara Mitchell

- a. Senior Pastor Report Highlights - Kyle Anderson
- b. Staff highlights - Chris Ward

- i. Children's moment with Chris
 - 1. Teddy Bear: Children should come to ready to play, feel safe, be excited, and that they belong
 - 2. Heart: show love and teach love
 - 3. Bible: teach about faith in a way that they can experience love and come up with their own ideas about what faith means to me.
 - 4. American flag: Chris's husband is active duty military and stationed in Tennessee. Chris has 3 children. 2 of Chris's 3 children live in Edmond. One child lives in Arizona. Chris is a proud grandma.
 - 5. Chris shared her years of experience working with children.
 - 6. Puzzle: Children's ministries need the support of the church when they are planning and delivering events. The puzzle is a reminder that one person cannot grow a ministry but that it is all of us.
 - 7. VBS theme: Love like Jesus.
- c. Revisit Audit Sub-Contract - Steve Johns
 - i. Churches can do an external 3rd party audit or an internal audit. Historically, COS has chosen an external audit.
 - 1. COS has used two firms in the recent past:
 - 2. Hyde & Company CPAs, P.C.
 - 3. HSPG & Associates, P.C.
 - 4. Pastor Kyle did an informal poll of some other UMC's and discovered that their cost for an audit was considerably higher than what we have been paying.
 - 5. It is the unified consensus between Kyle and Steve Johns that our annual cost is reasonable.
 - 1. The audit covers fraud, internal control, financials, approval of invoices, what level of approval exists for certain employees
 - 2. When Steve receives the engagement letter from HSPG & Associates, P.C., we will know the cost of the external audit.
 - 6. There were several questions from the LT related to this topic. It was requested that Steve gather more information on this issue. However, Steve is leaning toward an internal audit process.
 - 7. Steve will return in July and report back to the LT.

Proceed with HSPG & Associates, P.C. for the 2025-2026 external audit process.

Motion: Clarke Farmer

Second: Jeff Knight

All in Favor

d. Facilities Proposal - Julie Kriegel

- i. Julie shared a presentation with the LT. The presentation will be added to the LT packet and can be approved in the consent agenda next month.

The Building Use Committee will continue with the research and planning of opportunities related to land owned by COS

Motion: Dean Smith

Second: Clarke Farmer

All in favor

e. Garage Sale - Clarke Farmer

- i. This item will be tabled until next month

Motion: Dean Smith

Second: Amy Johnson

All in Favor

f. Listening Post Planning

- i. Kyle shared some thoughts related to the frequency of listening post sessions and when a good time would be to host the next LP.
- ii. May is the next date
- iii. Discussion of the LT:
 1. How many people attend?
 2. Should we reduce the number of sessions we hold?
 3. Should we be more intentional to ask people to sign in?
 4. Should we record questions that are asked in response to the information shared?
 5. The annual conference can count as one LP.
 6. An additional LP will be scheduled after church, during SS time.

The next LP session will be May 31, 2026

Motion: Julie Kriegel

Second: Dean Smith

All in Favor

5. Next Steps

- a. Meeting Recap

- i. Communications
 1. Connect Article: Kara Mitchell will submit the Connect article to Heather DeShazo.
 2. Other Communication Needed?
 - a. NA
- ii. Review Actions Items and Assign Responsibility - NA
- b. Date and Time of the next meeting: April 19, 2026
Devotion & Opening Prayer:
Todd Neaves will have April's Devotional and Opening Prayer

Motion to move into executive session:

Motion: Jeff Knight

Second: Dean Smith

All in favor

6. Executive Session:

Closing to executive session: 7:32 p.m.

7. Adjournment and Closing prayer: Kara Mitchell

7:51 p.m.

*All meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. and are held in Rm 12 of the Adult Education area.