

July Council Meeting Minutes
July 20th, 2026 at 6 pm; Hybrid (in person + Zoom)

Present: Pastor Steve, Morgan Wright, Liz Peter, James Holden, Kristie Evans, & Mike Seden

Absent: Jesse Lutabingwa, Jennifer Davis, Amy Atkins, Lynn Caldwell, Eric Breitenstein, & Jonathan Stamey

1. Call to Order - James @ 6:03PM
2. Devotion – P. Steve. His recent sermon was on our inability to distinguish between weeds and good seed. It isn't necessarily our job to determine which is which. Deeper question - What does it mean to be a good seed when good and bad are mingled together? What does it mean for our congregation to be a force of good in our community? What does it mean to be a good seed in the soil of Boone? Do the people that work for Grace feel loved and supported? Look at how far our staff has come in the 9 years they've worked together and who's purpose is to support our congregation. Our employees like coming to work, they feel their work matters, Steve hopes this overflows and is detected by congregants and visitors. What makes the soil so good at Grace?
3. Ground Rules – Reviewed by James
 - Please raise your hand to indicate that you would like to speak.
 - Please give your name and state your views on the matter under discussion, including any questions or concerns you may have.
 - In order to allow others ample opportunity to join in the conversation, please keep any subsequent comments by you on the issue/motion succinct and to the point.
 - Please remain quiet when others have the floor so everyone can hear.
 - Please be respectful of those voicing differing opinions.
4. Congregational Input -

Liz - have young people share their input periodically in church

James - noticed a group of people checking out the visitor cards. They mentioned they liked them and felt welcomed.
5. Approval of June Council Meeting Minutes and email voting: No vote (no quorum)
6. Strategic Visioning – James
 - A. Review Organizational Chart and Liaison Assignments
 - B. Council Goal-Setting Process
7. Policy – James
8. Monitoring and Oversight
 - A. Reports:

- 1) Senior Pastor Report - YTD average attendance is 1 below from last year.
- 2) Campus Ministry Coordinator
- 3) Music Ministry Report
- 4) Office Manager Report
- 5) Facilities Report
- 6) Treasurer Report

B. Old Business

- 1) Capital Campaign Updates
 - a. Gifts and pledges received to date – Total \$290,000!
 - b. Thank you notes - did not address due to lack of council members present
 - c. Projects' update
 - i. Roof Replacement - project nearly completed, total cost is \$155,000
 - a) 2 things unexpected (\$20K over budget)
 - Plywood under the shingles.
 - The (unknown) chimney had to be completely rebuilt.
 - ii. Councill House Update - mini-split unit replacement completed
 - iii. Parking Lot Expansion – completed, negotiation around plantings
 - a) First \$24K collected will go into the restricted fund to help pay the cost of this.
 - b) 3 year pay back plan.
 - c) We now have 128 spaces (inclusive of handicapped parking). This represents, assuming 2 people/car, parking for 256 worshippers. There are 302 seats in the sanctuary (plus choir loft).
 - iv. Grace Place Update - Scope of Work Completed and Waiting on Bids
 - a) Property committee meeting soon to work on this. Might have some bids by then (bidding sent out to 4 contractors).
 - v. Playground Project - reactivate the planning group in late August/early September
 - vi. Operational Cash Reserve
- 2) Director of Congregational Life
 - a. Housing status – Lease Contract with Holdens
 - i. Internet cost to be covered by Grace
 - ii. Refill oil tanks when they move out
 - iii. Pay balance of electric costs pursuant to lease agreement
 - b. Start Date August 1st. Installation August 9th
 - c. Gift card “pounding” underway
- 3) Council Retreat follow-up - P. Steve’s compiled list of goals (solidify by August 2026)
- 4) Nursery Coordinator Position – No Applicants Yet

- a. P. Steve to highlight position in upcoming e-news letter
- b. Possibly advertise at ASU student work portal

C. New Business

- 1) Facility Requests - none
 - 2) Annual Meeting Final Details - discussion of budget commentary
 - 3) Nominating Committee
 - a. Council
 - i. James agreed to 2nd term on council
 - ii. Mike agreed to 1st term on council
 - iii. Additional people contacted for council
 - b. Foundations - P. Steve in contact with possible members
9. Meeting adjourned with prayer – P. Steve

Upcoming Devotion List:

Aug - Morgan