

People's Church Board of Trustees Meeting

March 3, 2026

6:30-8:30pm

Minutes

Present: Martin Sauter, Teresa Klan, Tim Kieffer, Cindy Pietras, Laura Bultman, Juli Ginn, Elizabeth Huff Willis, Tom Hackley, Rachel Lonberg.

Absent: Amy Meyer, Donna Kaye

Opening

1. Chalice Lighting and Words: Juli Ginn
2. Check-in Question: What's something that made you laugh recently?
3. Affirmation of covenant, mission and vision

COVENANT: We convene, bringing our best selves - prepared, listening and open - as we work together to further the Mission and Vision of People's Church.

MISSION: A beloved community embracing and serving our diverse world.

VISION: Aligning with the Principles of the UUA while growing in love, People's Church:

- ☐ Builds a diverse and inclusive loving community
- ☐ Freely searches for truth and meaning
- ☐ Provides solace and rejuvenation
- ☐ Embraces equity and pursues Social Justice
- ☐ Cares for our planet Earth, the home we share with all living things

4. Reviewed and approved minutes of February 2026 meeting.
5. Reviewed and approved agenda for March 2026 meeting.

Meeting the Moment:

"Meeting the moment" questions from the UUA:

1. What is the moment we are in?
 - Democracy is at stake. Resistance. High anxiety in and out of People's. Feelings of isolation, fear, distrust, lack of truthfulness, helplessness. Building a sense of community. Time for action and collaboration. Disregarding social contracts. Can't plan for the future. How to talk to kids about all that is happening?. Need for focus on climate change.
2. What are the most urgent needs and important opportunities of this moment?
 - Bundling our sticks (collaborating/combining resources). Putting our own oxygen masks on first. Being there for each other as a church and also there for our community at large. Finding our power. Providing respite for those with anxiety.
3. What do our shared values call us to do in response to this moment?
 - Prepare, be educated, be pro-active. Connect with each other and with those who need us. Resist. Become more educated about what will be needed. Support those who are resisting. Protect others.
4. Congregational asset mapping.
 - Rachel to compile the ideas generated by board members.

Church and Staff Oversight:

1. Financials Report (Tom)

- Provided update from January 2026 Financial Snapshot.

2. Assessment Update (Laura)

- Because this activity is not at the forefront of what the Board hopes to accomplish this year, a motion was made to table this ad hoc committee, seconded and agreed to by members of the Board. Laura and Amy will share with the Board materials already gathered.

3. Staff and Committee Reports (Rev. Rachel)

- Rachel provided an update regarding Grateful Gatherings happening this month.

Board Business:

1. The annual congregational meeting will be held May 17th.
2. Situations where a quorum is required is being reviewed by Barb Davis, parliamentarian, and will be provided to Laura.

Other

Ongoing Goals:

1. Being a church of justice
2. Being intentional about finances
3. Evaluating the ministry and programs

Closing Words: Juli**Adjournment****Opening and Closing Words for April's Meeting:** Tim Kieffer