McFARLAND UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST
A Church with Heart

Minutes to be approved on November 12th, 2026

Group Name	Servant Leadership Team (SaLT)
Date	October 8th, 2026
Recorder	Diane Mikelbank

In Attendance:
Rev. Robert Koepcke, Walt Jackson (Moderator), Lisa Schweitzer (Vice Moderator), Kathy Schwenn (Treasurer), Cody DeWayne (SaLT Member), Kristen Broderick (SaLT Member), Amy Cavi (SaLT Member), Diane Mikelbank (Clerk)
Absent: none

Agenda Item/ Topic	Discussion / Decision	Action
Opening Prayer	Lisa opened the meeting with a prayer	
Welcome and Check-In	Robert gave an update on his health. On medicine and has every intention of leading service on Sunday.	
Invited Members & Guests		
Final Approval of the September 10th 2026 Meeting Minutes		Amy moved; Cody seconded that the minutes be approved. Approved unanimously
Treasurer's Report (Kathy)	**General Fund Revenues and Cash Balances:** • September's revenues (13,378) were down (2,271) for the month. • Contributions are under budget for the year by (2,987) (after adjusting for OCWM budget), so MUCC is short ($9,659) compared to budget for the year. • The amount needed to meet budget is $15,913 per month. The current 12-month rolling average is 14,048. Kathy will keep watching this metric. • We included $2,000 to fund Long-term Capital needs in our 2026 Budget. If our contributions continue to decrease and there is an urgent need in the General Fund, SaLT can revisit this decision.	

	• Per SaLT, MUCC should have 4 months of operating expenses in our unrestricted cash accounts before considering a transfer of excess cash to other funds. Per this policy, we should have $63,650 available. The balance in the unrestricted funds for September 2026 was $61,204. Per the agreed-upon policy, cash reserves are to be evaluated based on the June and December financials. **General Fund Expenses:** • OCWM was budgeted in September but will be paid in October. • Confirmation materials were purchased for the three confirmation students. • Two old checks from 2025 were voided in September. $300 to ZOE on Campus – this was an honorarium for Brian McLaren's talk. Kathy contacted the place several times and was not able to get someone to work with me on this. The expense went to the Creation Care Team ministry expense (general fund). o $400 rent assistance check in December 2025. Not able to get a hold of anyone to correct this. The expense went to Pastor Discretionary. • Pulpit supply expense went to Worship. There was a total of $1,064 in Pulpit supply expense recorded in September (this was for August and September services). • A new podium mic was purchased for $373. This was put to Worship. **Restricted Funds:** • $100 honorarium was paid to Christine Jeske for her book talk. This was paid out of the Social Justice Collective fund. • **Three donations were made by the Outreach fund:** o $2,500 to Madison College Foundation for the First Step Scholarship fund. o $1,500 to Hogar's Helping Hands for help in funding a second story to their tech school building. This nonprofit helps an orphanage in Guatemala. o $1,000 to Hope 4 Women to sponsor a student to learn English so she can teach others. • Pastor discretionary paid $400 towards rent for a person in need. Month of October will be lower by over $4,000 due to long-term disability. Kathy will be leaving for a few weeks soon. If a check is needed, either Walt or Lisa would need to sign the check. They will cover details after the meeting. In addition, Ginger will be getting her own credit card. This will allow	

	her to make purchases after checking with Kathy, but the separate cards will clarify who is making the purchases.	
Committee & Mission Team Updates 1. Befriender Care Team 2. Buildings and Grounds 3. Creation Care Team 4. Finance Committee 5. Music/Tech 6. Outreach Funds Committee 7. Pastoral Search Committee 8. Personnel 9. Social Justice Collective Ministry 10. Technology Committee 11. Youth Update	**1. Befriender Care Team** **2. Buildings and Grounds** **3. Creation Care Team** **4. Finance Committee** **5. Music/Tech** **6. Outreach Funds Committee** **7. Pastoral Search Committee** **8. Personnel** **9. Social Justice Collective Ministry -** Amy attended their most recent meeting. They are doing great things - encouraging "get out the vote." Encouraging people to check their voter registration. They shared a lot of good tips and suggestions. **10. Technology Committee -** sent detailed notes of their last meeting. They were reviewed. **11. Youth Update** **Youth retreats - It is** highly suggested that confirmants attend a youth retreat. Lisa has looked into the retreat options. A decision will be made soon on whether they will be attending.	
Old Business - **Further Discussion on 2027 Annual Meeting Jan. 31st at 11:15 a.m.** **Update on training by Geoff and Rev. Robert for SaLT - Nov. 5th and 19th from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.** **Discussion on leadership retreat (Lisa)** **Ongoing discussion and assignments of current work group tasks to standing by-law descriptions and committees for Annual Meeting 2027**	**2027 Annual Meeting Jan. 31st at 11:15 a.m. - Identify positions that need filling -** we need a deadline for reports from Ginger. Once we have this, Committee leads will be informed of the date when they need to submit their report for the annual meeting to Ginger. **Training by Geoff and Rev. Robert:** They are working on this and look forward to it. **Leadership Retreat:** Lisa would like to recommend we make this an initiative for 2027. There is too much going on right now. We can put together a small work group for the 50th anniversary celebration. Rev. Robert shared that he once started in a new church and they put together a leadership retreat that included the new pastor. **Ongoing discussion and assignments of current work group tasks to standing by-law descriptions and committees for Annual Meeting 2027** SaLT would like to come up with a system to support the pastor. The onboarding of the Interim was a little rough, and we want the onboarding of the new pastor to go more smoothly. We have developed more formal documents recently that will help. Onboarding - how to get their benefits and payroll.	SaLT members review the onboarding spreadsheet and bring additions to the next meeting so an updated document can be created for the settled pastor.

	An onboarding list that was created when Rev. Robert started. Diane found this and shared it with SaLT.	
New Business **Any other new business** **Pastor's Share Time (Robert)**	Discuss SaLT November Bulletin Board responsibilities Openings: Vice Moderator, At Large, Treasurer position - needs to decide. 2 Financial secretaries, The board could introduce SaLT members who are finishing their terms and describe the position. Info. station. On the November bulletin board, invite people to attend the December SaLT meeting to get to know more about what we do. Tracey Donohue and Rachel Bergen were names shared as potential future SaLT members. 5:30 gathering, and the meeting will start at 6:00 The parade went well, and everything was very popular - bracelets, candy, and the great banner. **Pastor Share Time:** Neighbors in Need discussion will be the focus this week. Special music later this month on Oct. 25th. Sunday, November 1st is Día de Los Muertos, Day of the Dead. The youth committee is thinking about doing something with skulls during the Calling All Ages. They are looking at creating an altar for **Día de Los Muertos** at church on that day. Thinking of asking a guest speaker to talk about the Day to the congregation. Russ St. Clair may have knowledge or know someone. Judy Taber requested that Jessica Reichenburg have a church key due to her involvement with the fire ceremony and other church events. SaLT agreed this seemed appropriate. Someone who goes to Oakridge UCC said she has heard wonderful things about our church.	Amy will take the lead on the bulletin board, and SaLT members will share job descriptions Amy will tell Ginger that Jessica R. has permission to have a key.
Next SaLT Mtg.	Thursday, November 12th at 6:00 p.m.	
Closing Prayer	Walt closed the meeting with a prayer.	