

Prairie Unitarian Universalist Church

Board Meeting - February 18, 2026

Attending: Reverend Chip Roush, Diane McMahan (President), Jan Spooner (Treasurer), Patty Wright (Trustee), Tom Heisler (Trustee), Katy Upperman (Administrator)

Minutes Recorded by Katy Upperman

- **Opening/Blessing:** Reverend Chip Roush
- **January 21, 2026 Minutes Approved Unanimously**
- **Budget Update** - Jan Spooner, Treasurer: Financially on track through the rest of the fiscal year. Pledge Drive to begin the first week of March. (Brochure to be completed ASAP.) Folks can email Jan to find out what they owe Prairie for 2025-2026 fiscal year pledges. Discussed various fundraising initiatives, including King Soopers and Raise Right programs, which produce small checks with minimal effort. There was agreement to promote these programs more actively during services. A Capital Campaign to raise funds for the future building was also discussed.
At the end of June, review financials and consider transferring any surplus to the building fund.
- **Committee Status Reports**
 - Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) - Diane is working to get this off the ground. More Pagan members are needed at Prairie.
 - Justice League - Patty reported on efforts to coordinate a food drive and check on potential habitat builds.
 - Additional Committee Reports will be shared via email.
- **RE/Youth Engagement** - Discussed the end of Summer Camp, with Jan potentially planning a celebration/event to mark camp's previous years of success. Discussed challenges with religious education/childcare attendance, noting that they haven't had consistent participation. Will track attendance and participation to evaluate the program's success, with Diane taking on backup teaching duties when needed. Regarding OWL (Our Whole Lives) programming, the Board hopes to develop a plan for implementation in Fall 2026, with Michael Meads potentially returning as a teacher, though a potential need for both male and female instructors was also discussed.
- **Staffing/Membership** - Reviewed membership numbers, which showed discrepancies between Breeze (46 members) and Diane's Excel sheet (53 members), with Katy confirming the current number is 52. Staffing was discussed, noting that the Board remains on track with a goal of employing a half-time minister. A need to better define the roles and expectations of Music Director vs. Choir Director was discussed.
- **[Review MASTER PLAN table for One, Five, and Ten Year Goals](#)**

- **Next Board Meeting - March 18, 2026, 6PM-8PM**

ACTION ITEMS:

- **Jan:** Organize “End of Camp” celebration.
- **Jan:** Research and reach out to similar-sized churches (e.g., Columbine or others) to compare music/choir director roles, hours, and job descriptions, and report back to the group.
- **Diane:** Touch base with Taylor and Brett regarding their decision and plans for OWL training and update the group.
- **Diane:** Work with Christina on RE as needed and seek additional RE volunteers if needed.
- **Tom:** Coordinate the summer festival water bottle outreach (keep on radar and follow up as summer approaches).
- **Katy:** Include information about the Minnesota ministers' support fund (MARC H) in the order of service for Share the Plate.
- **Diane, Patty, Katy:** Prepare and launch Pledge Drive brochure once theme is finalized.
- **All:** Promote King Soopers and Raise Right fundraising programs to congregation after pledge drive (April activity), including instructions/brochure codes as needed.