

Minutes of St. Paul ECC Community Leadership Council
Sept. 14, 2026
Via Zoom

Members Present: Fr. Scott Jenkins, Michele Yonker, Buzz Yancey, Kirsten Barnard, Sue Kaessner

Guests: George E., Athena K.

Meeting began with a prayer offered by Fr. Scott.

Treasurer Report

Michele has been out of town but will get us the report by this Wednesday via e-mail.

Discussion about getting someone to take over the Treasurer position led to Kirsten volunteering to reach out to a community member to see if they would join council and take over the Treasurer position. (See more notes under filling vacancies later in meeting)

Pastor Search Committee Updates

Kirsten has passed along to Buzz all the notes and work product from the initial search work done by the St. Paul leadership council from approximately Nov. 2025-June 2026. Buzz will forward that to the search committee. Buzz has looked into other schools like Iliff and feels the biggest part of the search is figuring out where to seek out candidates.

Fr. Scott has a lead in Parker. There is an independent Catholic Community there that Fr. Scott recently learned about. He passed that lead to Buzz. The community is named: St. Joseph the Worker. Fr. Scott reminded us about the incardination process that must happen for a priest to be a pastor in the ECC. Sue K. Says she will contact Fr. Stan about ideas for finding a pastor as well. Fr. Scott mentioned that the presiding bishop has ties to Regis University and that may be a good person for the committee to approach.

Preparing with Peace

This program has been postponed with a plan to go forward during Lent with plans for a weeknight schedule and a soup dinner afterwards. Kirsten will announce this in the newsletter.

National Synod Updates

Kirsten reported that she and Mary G, the other delegate to synod from St. Paul, met and one parishioner attended. They went through all the legislation that will be considered at the national synod and created questions. They fed those questions to the leaders at Church of the Beloved for their meeting. The meeting minutes from COB were shared back to Kirsten and Kirsten and Mary will now attend national meetings in Sept. via zoom and report back to the parish before synod so the parish has a say in any legislation that will be voted on. Athena asked about the national statutes and constitution info on being incardinated as an ECC priest. Buzz said he has that information and will share with Athena.

The synod conversation strayed into a few more selection committee items such as if St. Paul should collaborate with other parishes who are discerning a new pastor and Kirsten redirected this to be discussed by the selection committee but offered council resources as needed such as reaching out to other community councils.

UCC Interim Pastor

Fr. Scott and Pastor Slataper have traded voice mail but the new pastor is very busy so they haven't met yet. They will get connected.

Need for St. Paul Volunteers/Filling Vacancies

Fr. Scott will continue to announce need for new council member. Buzz suggested we wait on finding a newsletter manager until after Fr. Scott has announced the council need for a couple of weeks. Kirsten agreed to reach out to a specific community member to invite to join council and take treasurer position. Fr. Scott led a discussion on when people's council terms will be expiring. Kirsten's term is finished in February but she will stay on an extra 6 months if needed. Michele would like to come off as she's been on much longer than a two-year term. Sue and Buzz are just starting their two year terms.

Fr. Scott presented the idea that his wife Kris could take on the treasurer role until the end of January. She would do this to give Michele a break and to allow us time to find a new treasurer to join the council. Kirsten clarified this is a volunteer position and that was confirmed by Fr. Scott. Fr. Scott reiterated that a pastor's wife should not be doing the books with any permanency but this is a very short duration to help out. The council voted to approve this help from Kris Jenkins. Sue K. Suggested we could also try paying someone do do our books if a new treasurer doesn't come forth from the community. Michele clarified the position is about one hour a week and at month's end 2-3 hours for that week.

Further Treasurer notes:

At this time in the meeting Fr. Scott requested that Michele bring a budget proposal to the October meeting because this will help us present good information to any pastoral candidates so that will be Michele's last task as treasurer—to create a budget. It will be the primary agenda item for the October council meeting.

Other items

*The potluck was attended by about 15 people. George reported he would like to make this a monthly event. Kirsten will contact the UCC admin to see if we could have the kitchen and adjacent room every third Saturday for this purpose. She will also loop Bobbie H. In on the effort to have a potluck every month and we will get name tags.

*Missals are on order and should be printed in October.

*A few visitors have joined at St Paul to worship over the past couple of weeks and Fr. Scott reported he has had some inquiries about people wanting to join St. Paul.

Next Meeting

October 12, 4:00 pm on Zoom.