

Hamline Church United Methodist Church Council Meeting Minutes

March 24, 2026 - 7:00pm

Mariah Tollgaard, Brian Lulek, Amy Ireland, Heather Grantham, Kathy Schill, Priscilla Luitjens, Sharon Fields, Angela Wolf Scott, Becky Omdahl, Carole Anderson, Emma Close, Jay Alexander, Miriam, Friesen

7:03 Mariah welcomed everyone and asked the check In question, “Where are you seeing signs of hope?”

7:18 Consent Agenda Minutes (att 02. Minutes February 2026), Finance: Operations Policy to Offset Operating Costs (att 03. Operations Policy...Costs), Trustees: Vendor Bid Policy (att 04. Vendor Bid Policy) Amy asked for a motion to approve. Kathy moved to approve. Becky seconded. The motion was unanimously passed.

7:20 Discussion Agenda Bridge Autism update (att 06. Lease Termination Agreement). The situation is almost resolved. The Separation Agreement has been signed. There is still one final payment of \$8100 to collect.

Zion Community Commons (part of Zion Lutheran) is looking to use the vacant space. It won't be a long-term rental situation. They only need five weeks. It's ecumenical work. They pack bags of food for families in need. They would use the classrooms closest to the west entrance Fridays and Saturdays.

2026-27 Congregational Goals (att 05. Hamline Church Goals) Mariah went over the basics of this since the packet is very detailed. She gave an overview and asked for any questions.

Lower-level space vacancy and Budget Implications (att 07. Space Availability) Mariah led a discussion about our vacant space & how it will/should look moving forward. The council then split up into three small groups to discuss.

Question 1 – How do our core values determine how we use the space? Many ideas were brought up including childcare, food shelf, because they fit the mission. Therapy, immigration law was also mentioned and other things like small businesses that just need internet and space.

Question 2 – Given what you heard what are three viable options? Three mentioned were office/business space, adult education, and before and after school care. See notes in the Google Drive.

8:52 SPRC – *closed session only voting council members in attendance* Mariah began by mentioning that annual reviews for staff are happening. She then mentioned the challenges with finances. There needs to be less errors and more accuracy. There is a need to bring in an experienced part-time bookkeeper.

Mariah Renewal Leave 2026 (att 08. Short Term Renewal Leave Proposal – Tollgaard). Clergy need a break for rest and renewal and this is something with which everyone agrees. Amy asked for a motion to approve. Kathy moved to approve. Emma seconded. The motion was unanimously passed.

9:11 Amy asked for a motion to adjourn. Kathy moved to approve. Priscilla seconded. The motion was unanimously passed.

Mariah closed the meeting with prayer.

Important Dates:

- *Mar 29 - Palm Sunday*
- *Mar 29 - M&A Le Chemin de la Croix*
- *Mar 29 - Palm Sunday March*
- *Mar 29 - New Member Class & Meal*
- *April 2 - Maundy Thursday*
- *April 5 - Easter*
- *April 9 – Monarca Upstander Training*

April 19 – CCEC Program

Next Meeting –Tuesday, April 28, 2026 at 7:00pm Supplemental Materials