

2026-01-12 Commission Chairs Minutes

Meeting Details

Date: January 12, 2026

Time: 7:00 P.M.

Location: Zoom

Present: Nizeet Deiter (VAT Chair), Mike Wiggington (Admin Chair), Melissa Walsh (Worship Chair), Jim Showalter (Spiritual Gifts Discernment Chair), Cheryl Martin (Discipleship Chair), Linda Showalter (Community Life Chair), Craig Oury (Pastor), Andrew Martin (VAT Vice Chair, Secretary)

Opening

Pastor Craig opened the meeting in prayer, recognizing the New Year and the changes that the past year have brought to our congregation.

Next Meeting Scheduled

February 16 at 6:45 in the evening.

Commission Updates

Admin Commission

- Grace Rhine has agreed to manage the church calendar and schedule Zoom meetings
- Carl Rhine has agreed to upload minutes and newsletters to the website
- An announcement will be made in Journeying Together and on Sunday seeking applicants from the congregation for our vacant cleaning position. Alternatives avenues are also being explored to seek cleaning services from outside the congregation.
- Some volunteer positions still need to be filled to take over aspects of the “admin assistant” portion of Pastor Craig’s previous role
- Possibilities of an audit of digital accounts to better streamline processes.

Worship Commission

- Results of the congregational survey have been examined and considered. The majority of the congregation prefer the status quo for communion and offering practices.
- Musicians had expressed concern about the shortness of the offering. Worship commission will ask musicians to finish playing what they have prepared rather than stopping after the offering has been taken.
- A desire for a footwashing service was clear from the survey. The worship commission is planning a Maundy Thursday service this year as a suitable service for footwashing.
- A translator device has been trialed and returned after being found unsuitable for the purposes of translating our services. Other options will continue to be explored.

Spiritual Gifts Discernment Commission

- Carl Rhine has begun the first year of his term for Admin after the resignation of Dan Rosenberger
- Shalom's delegate for Indiana Michigan Conference needs to be appointed soon.
- Work for the next term will begin in April.

Discipleship Commission

- 3rd quarter Sunday Schools have been planned. Books will be ordered after the sign-up period concludes.
- Sunday Schools for the summer are in the planning phases.
- There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday.
- Jim Showalter reports that televisions have been added to two SS rooms with dedicated laptops and email addresses to facilitate teachers getting materials to their classrooms.
- Pastor Craig Oury asked about the history of baptism classes at Shalom to facilitate planning for future baptism class offerings.

Community Life Commission

- The CL Commission will be meeting this week.
- General theme of "Keeping things going". The work of the commission continues.
- Special notice regarding the practice of sending flowers and small mementos to recognize important life moments.
- Recent meal train went smoothly.
- Planning for a February 8, "Game Night" event with Valentine's Day tie-ins is underway.
- Work on the retreat is beginning. Additional volunteers may be sought to aid in planning.
- Pastor Craig discussed care packages for college students.

VAT/Craig

- Pastor Craig has met with Grace Rhine to provide access to the calendar, Zoom, and church emails
- Pastor Craig has met with Carl to discuss uploading minutes and newsletters.
- Chris Deiter has agreed to upload sermons to Youtube and the podcast feed; manage OneLicense
- Interim pastor search has begun. Sharon Yoder has begun sounding out possible candidates.
- Some volunteers for Admin positions are still being sought.
- VAT will be meeting Jan 26

Outreach Commission

- Arlington Woods Neighborhood Association will meet this month.
- A gathering of several Neighborhood Associations will be taking place at Shalom.

- A possible “Pizzas for Peace” event is in the early stages of planning.

Closing Prayer

Andrew Martin closed the meeting in prayer.

Meeting Adjourned at approximately 7:50