

Unitarian Church of Ventura

Board of Trustees minutes of the Board Meeting of February 19, 2026

Members Present: Gina Norstedt, Rob March, Joe Osbourn, Erin Merrill, Gudrun Eastham

Members Absent: Don Henniger, Kathy Swift

Staff: Pastor Eric Halseth

Agenda

1. Moment of silence for the passing of Jim Merrill & Chalice lighting
2. Brief check in by all present
3. Added Hosting a Fridge to the agenda
4. Consent Agenda accepted
 - a. January 2026 Meeting Minutes
 - b. December 2025 Financial Statements
5. Treasurer's Report
 - a. Received one letter from the IRS, but haven't heard from the abatement side.
 - b. Account balance good, has not had to touch reserves this year
 - c. May have Major Maintenance may have an expenditure for the water heater.
 - d. VIOP phone crossover almost complete
 - e. Successful budget update with congregation. Working on what a balanced budget will look like for next year with an average increase of 2.5% from pledging.
 - f. Pastor Erik to work with Jen to see where the difference in auction payments is.
6. Minister's Report
 - a. Working on getting replacement water heaters & will be taking some of the cost from the Kitchen Fund so that Major Maintenance fund will be impacted less
 - b. Working on a Spirit Level Grant, looking at doing a proposal for other works around the campus
7. Overnight Parking Lot
 - a. Looking to LUYV with the Board to work on expectations of length of stay of guests & working towards permanent housing. A group other than the Board needs to coordinate.

- b. Discussion of unauthorized people staying on property & have been asked to leave multiple times.
 - c. Motion to extend our current 2 guests for 6 months during which time the Board will seek to clarify the policy & review the agreement. Motion 2nd & passed.
- 8. Generosity Team/Pledge Drive
 - a. Pastor Erik to follow up with Jen to send letters to everyone on their pledge mid FY
 - b. Visible advertising campaign. (Thermometer with total amount)
 - c. Pledges due before the last Tuesday in April 21 for Finance committee budgeting.
 - d. Pastor Erik to work with Jen for a weekly accounting of where we are with regards to weekly updates.
- 9. Council of Committees
 - a. Correct misspelling in notes
- 10. Update of Classroom 5
 - a. Sweat equity project to address smells in Classroom 5.
 - i. Remove carpet & polish concrete floor or put down linoleum
 - ii. Repaint but save the mural
- 11. Review of Security System
 - a. Pastor Erik & Jennifer to review key, fobs & re-pin doors.
- 12. Host a fridge for 805UndocuFund
 - a. Looking for a space in our building to have a refrigerator to store some perishable foods for short periods of time for 805UndocuFund donations.
- 13. Board Letter to Congregation
 - a. Letter for the Pledge Drive
- 14. Closing Words & Extinguish Chalice
 - a. Chalice extinguished, no closing words.