Charter Oak Church
Church Council Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2026 – Council Meeting

Council Members: Bob Carter, Wendell Davis, Duane Goodsell, Ben Little, Steve Manges, Jordan Morran, Adam Pardee, Amanda Polinsky, Brian Quinn, Larry Rybacki, Garth Shaner, Autumn Vinopal, Chris Whitehead, Jason Halfhill (Ex-Officio), Kristi Fellers (Ex-Officio)

Absent: Wendell Davis

Guest Attendance: Amara Forsyth, Luke Burda, Laura Graham, Allen Graham, Juan Macias, Tammy Macias, Chris Kondrich, Janice Kondrich, Abby, Denny Fellers. Larry Morris, Luann Morris, Nathan Anderson, Kathy Anderson, Dave Kromel, Silas Bogert, Bud Wheeler, Tracy Wheeler, Nate Manges, Ben Ament, Mylee Been, Giana Snyder, Ron Anderson, Barb Anderson, Cindy Mills, Rick Mills, Justin Anderson, Michelle Kondrich, Maddie George, Nick Beaken, Doug Smeltzer, Mitchell Ross, Luke Perry, Grace Perry, Josiah Ferenczy, Andrew Schnur, Skip Bennett, Christina McCaffrey, Kari Manges, Ty Holler, Jeff Duda, Bruce Minick, Barb Minick, Anita Hoover, Sherri Holler, Traci Grace Shearer, Kelli Whitehead

Prayer: Brian Quinn

Review the September 2026 Meeting Minutes

- MOTION by Bob Carter to accept the September Church Council Meeting Minutes.
  - Motion 2nd by Autumn Vinopal.
  - Motion ACCEPTED (11-0-1).

Ministry Update from Abby

Finance Report: Larry Rybacki

- See the attached documents titled Treasurer Report 10-15-26 and Treasurer Report Summary Notes 10-15-26
  - Although September experienced a loss, the strong August results have kept the church profitable year-to-date. Revenue has reached 15% of the annual budget, while expenses have reached only 14%, with approximately 17% of the fiscal year completed.
  - Reserve for Ministry Grants has been added to the Treasurer Report to track ministry grant opportunities.

Questions/Comments from Visitors

- Janice Kondrich questioned that we charge building fees for Members of our church to get married in the church. Chris Kondrich stated that they have been faithful members for over 30 years and have served the church, and doesn't understand why they should pay fees for their daughter to be married in the church. He is requesting a policy change.
- Tammy Macias shared that the Jeannette Campus is located in an area with impoverished households, troubled youth, and drug addiction. They have a mission to meet people where

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they are and work alongside community partnerships. She expressed that the Jeannette Campus needs a pastor who is enthusiastic and has a huge compassion for the mission of the Jeannette Campus. She shared her shock that Holly did not get approved, especially after the Jeannette Leadership Team approved her and appreciated her enthusiasm. She asked that the Leadership Team's voice would be trusted more through the process.

- Juan Macias, who was part of the Jeannette Campus Pastor search team and is part of the Jeannette Campus Leadership Team, also shared his shock and disappointment that Holly was not approved even after she was approved through all phases of the entire hiring process.
- Steve Manges shared his reason for his vote for the Jeanette Campus Pastor candidate based on the historical complementarian view of 1 Timothy 2 & 3. He later stated that churches who affirm LGBTQ issues also began by ordaining women as pastors. He also pointed out that ordaining women doesn't always lead to affirmation of LGBTQ issues.
- Amanda Polinsky clarified that Steve was sharing his personal opinion, not the full opinion of Council.
- Anita Hoover shared that the Lord calls us individually to our talents and giftings. She stated that the Global Methodist Church does ordain women into pastoral ministry.
- Tammy Macias shared that our bylaws refer to "he or she" when referring to pastoral staff at Charter Oak Church.
    - Nathan Anderson stated that he made a mistake in including "he or she" in the bylaws. He wants to work alongside everyone through this. He believes there was an incomplete reformation in the Methodist church.
- Laura Graham asked why Holly was permitted to go through the process if we are a church that does not permit women to serve in pastoral ministry.
    - Jordan Morran shared that women have been interviewed in the past. Church Council was made aware that the female candidate was being interviewed and presented to the Jeannette Campus. The Campus Pastor and Directional Teams approved Holly. She did not receive two-thirds approval at last month's Church Council meeting.
- Allen Graham asked about the "he or she" comment in the bylaws and whether that will be changed following Nathan's comment.
    - Jordan Morran shared that those bylaws were unanimously approved at the time they were written.
- Larry Morris, a member of Charter Oak Church for thirty-three years and was a former member of Church Council, shared that he supports not excluding a candidate because of gender. He has witnessed many female leaders in the church who served well and were great witnesses for the Lord. He puts his confidence in the leaders of our church to determine whether a candidate is appropriate. He said that this is not an essential beliefs issue. He believes this is issue is less about male and female, and more about authority in the church. He believes that the appointed leader of the church has the authority to interpret Scripture, and that we should not make

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decisions based on any person's opinion. He expressed his confidence in the appointed pastoral leadership of this church. He expressed his desire to see unity in our church.

- Josiah Ferenczy shared his love for people in this church. He believes that division in the church should be settled as quickly as possible, yet he believes there is a time for correction as well. He shared his complementarian perspectives from his study of 1 Timothy, 1 Corinthians, and Titus.
- Nathan Anderson shared a correction from his comment last month. He believes that appointing a woman as a pastor is a sin, whereas last month he said the opposite. He believes that Council Members appealed to other than Scripture in their discussion last month. He again expressed his belief that Scripture prohibits women from the teaching and preaching roles of pastoral ministry. He shared his theology from 1 Timothy, Titus, and Genesis. He encouraged Church Council to pause before changing the precedent for our church. He encouraged church members to ask the Campus Pastors to exposit the scripture.
- Silas Bogert, an eleventh-grade student, respectfully shared his perspective on hiring a female pastor. He believes that Scripture does not support women in pastoral ministry.
- Ben Ament, a twelfth-grade student, respectfully opposed women in pastoral and elder ministries. He asked, "What are we conforming to in this issue – faith or culture?"
- Dave Kromel encouraged people to discern from Scripture, not listen to others. He shared his theology on scripture from Galatians, Romans, and Acts. He stated that we should use clear passages to discern unclear ones. He does not believe that a woman should be permitted to serve in a pastoral role in the church.
- Sherri Holler acknowledged the young men who were present and have spoken tonight. She shared that men should be the authoritative people of the church who will lead these young men. She believes we should make a statement that our Lead Pastor and Campus Pastors should be male.
- Adam Pardee expressed his appreciation for those who shared.
- Garth Shaner shared that he has seen churches split over insignificant issues. He is overwhelmed that this body has instilled in its people the ability to tackle a potentially divisive subject with love, respect, and a heart for the Gospel that will allow us to live out our vision and mission.

Old Business

- Open Items
    - Directed Giving Initiative
        - There are no updates at this time. The conversation will continue in the future.
- Campus Improvement Items
        - We have opened up the design discussion for the Frye Farm Campus and are pricing out needed items.
- Executive Director Report (Jason Halfhill)
    - Facility Updates

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- Installation of the main water line leak detection monitor will happen on Friday, October 16. Moving forward, we will be able to remotely monitor our water system and be notified if there is a leak/burst pipe.
- We received updated quotes for the FF Worship Center HVAC and are currently reviewing our options. The cost is significantly less than what we experienced in the bid process. All 3 units are a "like for like" based on our current unit. The cost of the 3 individual units range from $125,134 to $101,986. My plan is to make a recommendation to Church Council in November's meeting.
- A potential location has been found for the MPS Campus. We are negotiating terms for this location. The Finance Subcommittee will review the information soon, and if viable, the recommendation will be presented at the November meeting.
    - There is no compromise related to the location. The discussion will center around the lease cost and whether it is feasible.
    - Skip Bennett shared that we would not want to lose the opportunity since negotiations tend to move quickly.
    - Church Council Members expressed that an emergency meeting can be called if needed.

- Charter Oak Church Institute will be holding a seminar called "The Mission of the Early Church" on Tuesday, November 10 from 6:00 to 8:30PM. In this seminar, come see how the Holy Spirit moved the Church from Jerusalem outward – and gain a deeper biblical framework for understanding God's mission and our place in it today as disciples and leaders.
- Frye Farm Student Ministry will be holding their first ever middle and high school retreat to Pine Springs. This retreat will unite all students for an exciting weekend of worship, teaching, and time spent out in creation.
- Missions
    - Jamaica Mission trip is October 31 through November 7 and has 19 "goers"
    - Conversation with a Middle East worker will take place at the Frye Farm Campus on Sunday, November 1 from 4:00 to 5:00PM. This event is open to students in grades 6 thorough 12.
    - Stories from the Middle East will take place at the Frye Farm Campus on Monday, November 9 from 6:30 to 8:00PM. Our full-time worker will share about her two years in the Middle East. This is a great opportunity to hear what God is doing, ask questions, and enjoy refreshments.
    - Missions Book Discussion will take place at the Frye Farm Campus on Sunday, November 15 from 12:30 to 2:30PM. This small group discussion will be based on the book "Something Needs to Change" by David Platt. A light lunch will be available immediately after the last worship service, and the discussion will begin at 12:45PM.

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- Our next Baptism Sunday is November 15.

New Business

- Review Q3 2026
  - Church Council Members reviewed and discussed the Q3 2026 Quarterly Report, which provides metrics for quarterly average attendance, year-to-date membership, quarterly serving engagement, year-to-date general fund giving, year-to-date baptisms, quarterly small group engagement, and year-to-date missions engagement.
  - The quarterly report can be found on our website: Quarterly Report | Charter Oak Church.
  - Copies of the quarterly report will also be mailed out with third quarter giving statements.

Open Items for Next Month's Meeting

- Wedding Contract Building Fees
- Directed Giving Initiative
- Minimum Unrestricted Cash on Hand (Percentage of Operating Expense)

Executive Session

- Church Council went into Executive Session.

Next Church Council Meeting

- Thursday, November 19, 2026 – Charge Conference at 6:30PM and Church Council Meeting at 7PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristi Fellers
October 15, 2026

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Treasurer's Notes: Sep '26

** Numbers are based on a Revenue Budget of $3,195,409, and an Expense Budget of $3,015,264

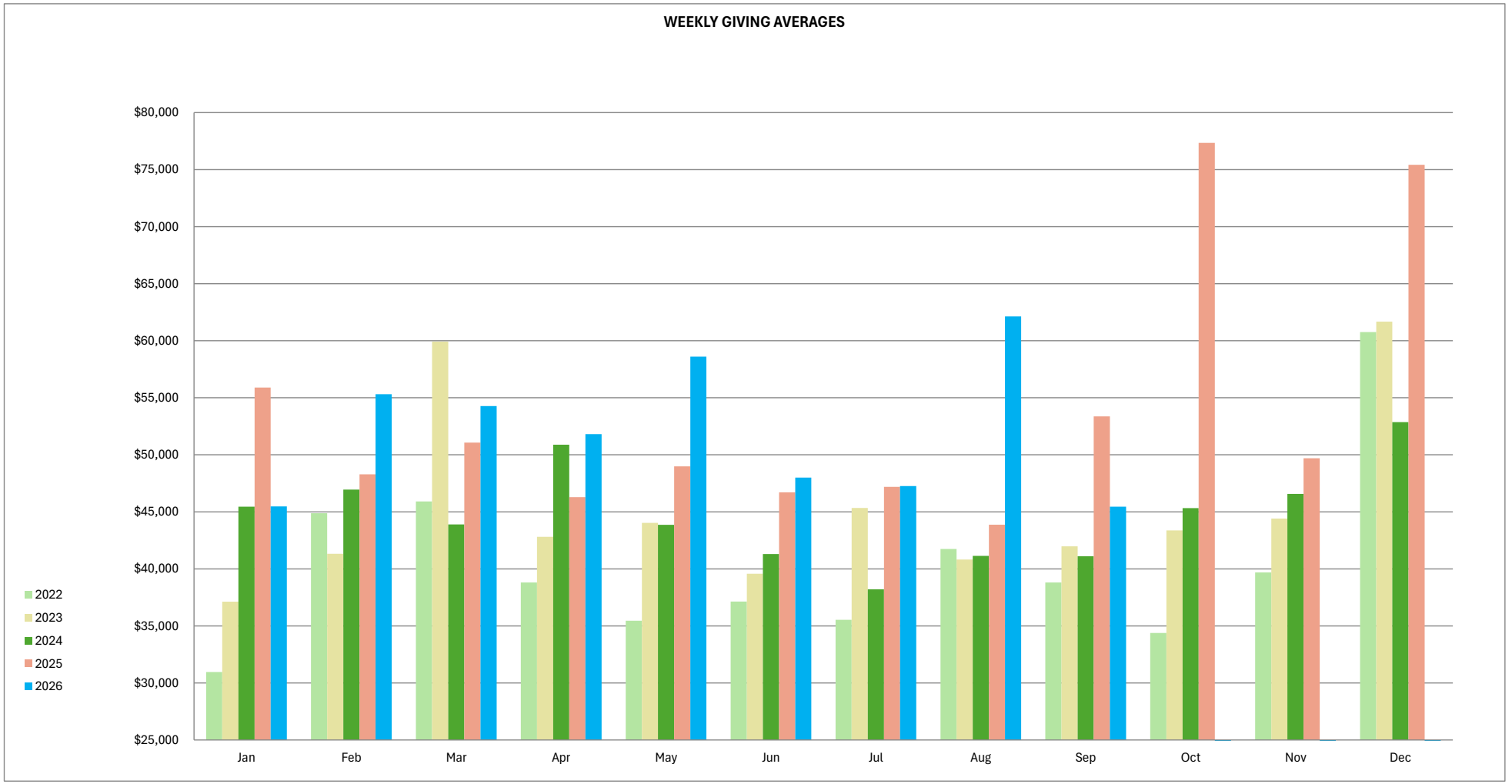
Revenue	Aug-26	Sep-26	2 MONTHS ENDED 09/30/26		
Frye Farm	245,566	136,784	382,350		
Central Services	-	-	-		
Expansion	-	-	-		
Crossroads	34,386	26,029	60,415		
Jeannette	17,053	8,528	25,582		% of
Mt Pleasant / Scottdale	13,624	10,751	24,375	Budget	Bdgt.
Totals	**310,629**	**182,092**	**492,722**	3,195,409	15%
2025/2026	224,031	215,837	439,868	Note>2/12=	17%

Expenses	Aug-26	Sep-26	2 MONTHS ENDED 09/30/26		
Frye Farm	137,800	118,784	256,584		
Central Services	23,400	43,909	67,309		
Expansion	-	-	-		
Crossroads	31,532	34,697	66,229		
Jeannette	481	3,686	4,167		% of
Mt Pleasant / Scottdale	15,243	11,422	26,666	Budget	Bdgt.
Totals	**208,457**	**212,499**	**420,955**	3,015,264	14%
2025/2026	171,816	194,865	366,681	Note>2/12=	17%

	Aug-26	Sep-26	2 MONTHS ENDED 09/30/26	Budget
Unadjusted Net Income	102,173	(30,406)	71,767	180,145
Mortgage Principal	(9,550)	(9,600)	(19,150)	
Adjusted Total Profit / (Loss)	**92,623**	**(40,007)**	**52,617**	
2025/2026 Unadjusted Net Income	52,215	20,972	73,187	

Available Cash	Sep-26	Aug-26	
Total Bank Accounts	1,517,060	1,526,538	(9,478)
Outstanding Payables / Prepaids	(4,184)	10,921	15,105
Payroll Liabilities	(28,774)	(27,551)	1,224
Reserve Commitments	(1,057,495)	(939,438)	118,058
Unrestricted Cash	$ 426,607	$ 570,471	$ (143,864)

Balances of Select Reserve Accounts:	Sep-26	Aug-26	
Crossroads Future Start Up	177,594	163,442	14,152
Reserve for Capital Improvement	222,646	217,493	5,154
Strengthening Our Future	167,645	165,165	2,479
Reserve for Missions	116,270	116,147	123
Reserve for Mission Trips	25,214	31,535	(6,321)
Reserve for Ministry Grants	100,000	-	100,000
Reserve for Outreach	107,931	107,889	42
COC Holdings LLC Operating Account	23,570	5,010	18,560



Weekly Giving Averages	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Weekly Avg/Mo
2022	$ 30,953	$ 44,876	$ 45,915	$ 38,804	$ 35,449	$ 37,142	$ 35,532	$ 41,748	$ 38,811	$ 34,379	$ 39,682	$ 60,762	$ 40,338
2023	$ 37,125	$ 41,325	$ 59,924	$ 42,816	$ 44,036	$ 39,578	$ 45,339	$ 40,816	$ 41,980	$ 43,368	$ 44,415	$ 61,679	$ 45,200
2024	$ 45,450	$ 46,953	$ 43,891	$ 50,883	$ 43,857	$ 41,296	$ 38,216	$ 41,142	$ 41,107	$ 45,324	$ 46,573	$ 52,860	$ 44,796
2025	$ 55,892	$ 48,285	$ 51,064	$ 46,289	$ 48,993	$ 46,715	$ 47,192	$ 43,869	$ 53,363	$ 77,341	$ 49,700	$ 75,419	$ 53,677
2026	$ 45,472	$ 55,318	$ 54,268	$ 51,812	$ 58,613	$ 47,999	$ 47,260	$ 62,126	$ 45,449				$ 52,035
w=# of weeks	'23=5w		'24, '25, **26** = 5w	'23=5w	'22, **26** = 5w	'24, '25 = 5w	'23 = 5w	'25, **26** = 5w	24 = 5w	'23 = 5w	'25, **26** = 5w	'24= 5w	