

**Minutes of Coordinating Council Meeting
March 3, 2026**

In Attendance:

Olga Hebert Rev. Amy Petrie Shaw Thom Reeves John Spitzer Annie Harrison
Marcia Smith Sally Erb Jean Barlow Anna Drallios Drew Stuart
Steve Leapley Eileen Leapley

Meeting began at 9:30 a.m. Chalice was lit; opening words were spoken by Rev. Amy.

1) Team Reports:

Campus Team - Steve reported that the reclaimed water project is complete. He switched the irrigation company to FloWorks Irrigation, which is the same company that put in the reclaimed water system.

The monthly bill from FPL for the electricity for the sanctuary has been corrected. Previously, the monthly bill had been around \$136.23. Our present bill is \$32.68. That amount is the surcharge that FPL charges us. That will hopefully be the only amount each month. Steve will keep an eye on it.

The cost of the reclaimed water has not shown up on the bill yet; it is hoped that the charge will be reasonable.

Steve and John discussed the matter of scheduling a short meeting to discuss the annual budget before the March 29th Annual Meeting. This will let people delve into details of the budget ahead of time, therefore allowing the Annual Meeting to run more smoothly. It was decided to hold a short meeting on Sunday, March 22nd, after the service, to discuss the budget.

Steve noted that something must be done about people walking on the unpaved area after parking in the northeast parking lot. They walk through the bushes, which is a dangerous trip hazard. All agreed that removing a bush and creating a short walking path would be the best way to proceed.

1A) The C.C. had previously approved the Wish List item to create a special fund to support additional guest musicians in FY2026-27.

2) Annie discussed holding a second Checkpoint meeting. It will be held after the service on April 12th in the Sanctuary. At the first Checkpoint, we had invited 36 new members, and 18 attended. The idea of inviting more people, such as visitors, was discussed.

Several ways to make visitors feel more welcome were noted, such as Rev. Amy's idea of Five Touches, and opening Doors.

It was agreed that we should invite new members, previous people who attended Pathways and didn't come to the last Checkpoint, and all of the last 50 visitors.

It was noted that we are in need of someone to coordinate the Welcome Table. Ideally, four people should be working at the Table on Sundays: two at the Welcome Table, and two to staff both doors. The lack of people signing up for the Welcome Table is a problem. Marcia offered to call each person who is signed up in SignupGenius, to make sure they know how to sign up.

Rev. Amy will make a special request from the pulpit this Sunday that anyone who is interested in coordinating the Welcome Table should see Annie or Marcia.

Marcia reiterated that, to make the Checkpoint session be effective, the Team Leaders' pitches must be succinct, between 60 and 90 seconds. Afterward, she'd like to break up into groups, according to each participant's interests. If someone only has one or two people interested, we'll combine them with another small group. We'll continue to use clipboards, to get names and emails.

3) A class in learning how to access the Breeze app will be presented on March 26th at 11 a.m. in Waters Hall. A SignupGenius refresher can also be included. Marcia will create a signup sheet on the lanai; she will tell people to bring the device they will be using.

Marcia introduced Drew Stuart as our UUCOV nominee for Vice President. Drew will be heading up the Coordinating Council starting in April. He was warmly welcomed by the team leaders.

4) Security – There will be a new security code in order to gain access to both the Sanctuary and Waters Hall as of the end of March. It will be changed once a year. Discussion was held about the importance of not providing the code to anyone we don't know.

5) The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 29th, at 11:15. We need to encourage attendance by all. It was decided that snacks and coffee will be made available, as usual, before the meeting.

6) The Waters Hall renovation was discussed. A committee has been exploring it. Two meetings will be held, on Wednesday, April 15th at 1 p.m. in the Sanctuary, and on Sunday, April 19th after the service, in order to present the proposal, to gather feedback from the congregation, and to launch a capital campaign.

7) The last Shareholder meeting was not well attended. We should encourage attendance by all, as there is always new information to learn from these meetings. This Sunday, March 8th is the date of the last Shareholder meeting. John will give a short presentation.

New Business:

Will Esty will be our summer minister for June and August. Rev. Amy will preach in July.

Anna reminded all of the Save Democracy for All Conference on March 28th from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Venice Community Center. We need to encourage everyone to attend this important conference.

There will not be a Venice Musicale concert in April, as had been planned, but instead there will be two of them next year.

Rev. Amy will interview a prospective Director of Education and Engagement this Friday.

The new Choir Director will start working in November.

Meeting ended at 10:42 a.m.

Next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 7th, at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Eileen Leapley

