Minutes of the Board of the
Pacific Northwest District, Church of the Brethren
Meeting April 9, 2026

In attendance: Barbara Daté, Enten Eller, Patrick Fiegenbaum, Daniel Klayton, Peggy Liley, Debbie Roberts, Liz Ullery Swenson, Howard Ullery, Lani Wright

Peggy called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Minutes

The minutes of the March 12, 2026 were approved as distributed.

Finances

a. **Report** – Daniel distributed the Profit and Loss sheet and the Balance Sheet received from Debbie Franklin. The major item of note is the receipt of $1.2 million from the sale of the Columbia-Lakewood Community Church property and building. Daniel is totaling the various expenses involved with the sale, and preparing to reimburse the District for those costs associated with preparing the building for sale, mileage, etc.

We will also consult with the United Church of Christ about the division of the sale proceeds.

b. **Question of moving an amount now in Eder accounts**. For now, we're holding the sale proceeds from the sale of Columbia-Lakewood Community Church in the District checking account. We discussed the amount of the proceeds expected from the sale, and the amount we could transfer to the District's Eder Financial account.

c. **Proposal to offer financial donation to district churches**. There are some churches in the District who are financially vulnerable. Debbie Roberts and others have suggested that the District could offer the churches in the District a monetary award or low-interest or no interest loan. Lani likened the idea to the parable of the talents.

Enten mentioned that Atlantic Northeast District has a program for congregations to apply to the District for funding of specific projects up to $5,000. The money can be a one-time gift or a continuing renewable grant of money to finance specific needs or programs.

Daniel expressed concerns about the depreciated value of money taken by inflation and other financial uncertainties like market fluctuation, and the interest on the funds held may not be enough to cover ongoing grant obligations. As such, it may be wiser in some instances to make a full one-time grant rather than to make a continuing, renewable grant.

Keeping in mind that the District operates on a deficit of about $70,000 annually.

It was the sense of the meeting to send a letter announcing the beginning of a program to make grants of up to $18,000 to each of the District's congregations, and encouraging them to apply

Mission and Ministry Board

Barbara reported on the Mission and Ministry Board's meeting this past month at Modesto, California on the West Coast. Her formal report will follow. Some highlights of the preliminary report: The Board discussed moving to a consensus basis. There has also been a great deal of staff turnover in the denomination in the past several months. Financial status of the denomination. An envisioning process for the Board's purpose. The ransomware debacle and recovery process has been finalized. Update on the Deportation Defense Response. Bethany Seminary and its future. Barbara will finalize her report and send it to the Recording Secretary.

Report on Columbia-Lakewood Community Church property sale

Consideration of District Executive Team's draft letter to PNWCUCC in the wake of the sale of the Columbia-Lakewood Community Church and the proposal for the division of the proceeds. Debbie Roberts drafted the letter and the members of the District Executive Team extensively discussed the tone and terms of the letter. The Team will discuss the input from the Board, and finalize the letter for mailing to the appropriate UCC recipient.

Proposal to increase Daniel's Administrative Assistant hours

Daniel currently works 10 hours per week, and the proposal is to increase his time to 15 hours per week. The District Executive Team went over Daniel's job description and noted that he has taken on a lot of responsibilities outside his formal job description. The Team is recommending to the Board this increase in his weekly hours. After discussion, it was the sense of the meeting to increase Daniel's compensated time to 15 hours per week retroactive to April 1.

Ministry Team Report

The licensed minister and ordained minister credential cards have been received and mailed out. Any clerical person who has not yet received their card should contact Enten. As of this

morning, Daniel Klayton has completed his ordination paperwork. The process is now ready to move toward his formal ordination and investiture, and the Board agreed to meet by e-mail to act on the Ministry Team's recommendation to the Board.

Closing We adjourned at 7:48 p.m. Next meeting May 14, 2026 at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Fiegenbaum
Recording Secretary
Pacific Northwest District