

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church
Council meeting minutes, Saturday, Sept. 19, 2026

Attendees: Fr. Chris, Dennis, Steve, Jerry, and Jacob Fall, Jerry Kistner, Matt Cuper, Paula McDaniels, and Steve Dzubay.

Call to order by President Dennis Fall at 11:48 a.m. with group recitation of "O Heavenly King."

Minutes from Aug. 9, 2026, meeting were approved on a motion by Dzubay, seconded by Steve Fall.

Jacob Fall presented the **treasurer's report**, noting recent correspondence from Legion Capital rep Ron Machtan. He asked to be notified when principal repayments are received as he may not be advised by Legion. He reiterated that repayments of principal from the oldest maturities are being repaid first. Once complete, LC will address repayment of preferred stock as "bonds are senior and must be repaid first." Jacob noted big payouts recently include a \$3,318 pre-payment for propane @ \$1.47/gal. He noted a marked increase in monthly electrical bills at the church and rectory, while there had been no significant changes in usage. Discussion yielded that Xcel adjusts rates during periods of high demand – like recent weeks.

Also, Jacob noted \$104/mo. charge by Republic Services for once-monthly church Dumpster pickup. Parish house is now served by Waterman Sanitation as RS discontinued residential service. Fr. C will contact Waterman's about pricing and possibility of shifting Dumpster to them too. Jacob mentioned a kerfuffle with Church Mutual when he was late with annual church insurance premium payment. CM cancelled coverage, then restored it the next day, but shifted billing to a higher rate billed monthly from annual. The balance for annual payment will be invoiced and paid in October. Both church and rectory septs will be pumped by Tombs Sanitation in coming weeks, according to Barron Co. ordinance. Report approved on a motion by Steve Fall, seconded by Jerry Fall.

McDaniels had **no Sisterhood report**.

No cemetery report either.

In his **Pastor's report**, Fr. C noted the start-up of Sunday School, youth group and adult ed next week. Daily services have resumed for the school year with midweek services at least three times weekly. Also, he served a funeral for Pauline (Sweda) Lewan at Lublin, Aug. 25th; has accepted an invite to give a presentation on Orthodoxy Nov. 11 at a UCC church in Wayzata; and reported he has substitute priests lined up for two PTO Sundays in 2027. He said he is available to parishioners to offer spiritual direction. Currently seeing 10-12 parishioners who visit monthly for spiritual direction, and others on an occasional basis.

Among **old business**, Father noted that Kari Moskal has committed to **direct the choir** every other Sunday with Paula. St. Mary's Cathedral co-director Julia Moritz has also offered her services as a substitute when it can be arranged.

Dennis revisited the April discussion on **emergency planning** and said brother Steve would create an evacuation map which can be posted.

For **new business**, Father noted several **rectory maintenance** issues: a leaking vent pipe, small section of peeling siding, dying lilacs, and failed TV reception. Jerry Fall will check out the vent, while Jerry Kistner addresses the siding. Lilac removal/renewal will be revisited in the spring, and a motion was made by Kistner, seconded by Dzubay, to add \$65/mo. basic cable service at the rectory through internet provider Northwest Communications. Vote was unanimous.

There was a short discussion about interest in a **125th anniversary event** within the parish next year. Dominant idea seemed to be inviting Archbishop Daniel in the summer to celebrate liturgy and join parishioners for a meal thereafter. Other suggestions included creation of commemorative shirts and a formal program. No action taken.

Kistner offered to remove and repair a broken spring on one of the **vestibule doors** soon.

Tony Fall has offered to donate a **kids picnic table** to enhance the grounds, and Tom Shafer donated a **chest freezer** for use in St. Michael's Hall.

Next meeting was set for Sunday, Nov. 15th after liturgy. Meeting adjourned around 12:30 pm on a motion by Kistner, seconded by Steve Fall. Fr. C led us in singing of "It is Truly Meet."

Steve Dzubay, secretary