

Nativity of the Theotokos Orthodox Church

First Quarter 2026 Council Meeting
Thursday, January 20, 2026, 5:30 p.m.

APPROVED MINUTES

- I. Opening Prayer: “O Heavenly King...”
- II. Establishment of Quorum —
Attending: Fr. Alex, Greg, Nick, Nick I., Pat, Vlad, John
Observer via phone: Mary L.
- III. Acceptance of Agenda —
Motion by Nick to accept the agenda, 2nd by John, all in favor.
- IV. Review and Approval of Previous Minutes —
Motion by Nick to accept the previous meeting minutes, 2nd by John, all in favor.
- V. Finance Committee Report
 - a. Council reviewed the attached financial reports and account balances.
 - b. Overall balances showed slight increases, with liquid assets also increasing.
 - c. Discussion held regarding expenses associated with the All-American Council and use of savings funds.
 - d. Memorial donations included \$500 designated for banners and \$500 deposited toward future altar robes.
 - e. Pension payment procedures and fund flow were reviewed.
 - f. Council discussed funds held by each church.
 - g. Final budget versus actual figures were reviewed.
 - h. Madera budget income reflected a surplus. Stewardship offerings remain slightly below projections, with approximately 10% additional giving needed to meet 2026 goals.
 - i. Discussion held regarding having altar servers hold the collection basket following Liturgy.
 - j. Council plans to amend the budget if maintenance expenses arise during the year.
 - k. Parish budget reviewed, including charitable giving, which remains above projected levels.
 - l. Parish house rental income increased with the addition of a security deposit.
 - m. Cemetery fund remains strong.
 - n. Motion by Vlad to accept the financial reports, 2nd by Pat, all in favor.
- VI. Old Business
 - a. Madera Renovations
 - i. Update provided regarding installation of the altar counter and sink.
 - ii. Stair railing project remains upcoming.
 - iii. Discussion held regarding walls in the entranceway and altar area, including determining which projects should be completed before Lent and which should be postponed until afterward.

- iv. Next anticipated project is an awning over the front doors.
 - b. Madera Church Grounds Improvements / Surveying / Consolidation
 - i. Greg provided an update regarding ongoing research into tax maps, deeds, and courthouse records.
 - ii. Investigation continues regarding the possibility that the triangular property across the road belongs to the church.
 - c. Madera 2026 Iconography Project
 - i. Current donor list was shared with Council.
 - ii. Project is presently 42% funded.
 - d. Parish House Rental
 - i. Fr. David has obtained rental insurance.
 - ii. New lease agreement enacted with a \$50 monthly rent increase.
 - iii. Routine inspections discussed.
 - iv. Parish-owned items are to be moved to the library.
- VII. New Business
 - a. Parish Ministries Committee Appointments
 - i. Two members are to be appointed to review the five joint parish accounts.
 - ii. Madera Council appointed Nick I. and John H. as representatives to the Parish Ministries Committee.
 - iii. Motion by Vlad to accept the appointments, 2nd by Nick, all in favor.
- VIII. Good of the Order
 - a. Potluck signup sheet for the Bishop's visit needs to be distributed.
 - b. Library demolition work party for the Irvona project scheduled for Saturday morning, February 14.
- IX. Community Input Session — No additional comments.
- X. Next Meeting — Second Quarter 2026.
- XI. Closing Prayer: "It Is Truly Meet..."
Motion by Pat to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,
Vladimir Sidorick