

## **Corinth AC Update Report January 22, 2026**

AC Members: Rev. Annie Melick (Moderator for both the AC and Session), Greg Eyler (Vice Moderator), Nora O'Toole (Member), Sue Seiler (Session Clerk), and Rev. Jody Noble (AC Clerk)

Work completed by our AC since our last report to the Presbytery on November 8, 2025 includes:

\*Following the Corinth Session's unanimous vote on Wednesday, October 29 to hand Original Jurisdiction to our AC, we have met/held regularly scheduled Session meetings at Corinth at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 19 and Wednesday, December 17. Our next meeting is Jan. 28 at 2 pm.

\*We have met on zoom as an AC for 2+ hour meetings on Monday, November 17, December 1, December 15, January 4 (Sunday), and January 19 to accomplish the visioning and planning work necessary to continue to support Pastor Cynthia and the Corinth congregation.

\*We worked with Neal Duiker and Terry Kukuk for two weeks in December to research a request from a Corinth committee regarding the possibility of using their CE Building and/or entire property for an affordable housing venture. Work went on pause over the Christmas/New Year holiday weeks and has now resumed again.

We learned from Neal last week that Corinth is part of an ER4 Zone, which means the church property may only be used for single family or duplex type housing. The city people who Neal has spoken with predict that there would be significant resistance from the Corinth neighborhood to a request for rezoning the church to turn the church property into affordable housing uses.

Neal also shared with us that Corinth's church parcel is considered a legal nonconforming parcel based on the parking requirements. When Corinth was built the city did not have a minimum number of parking spaces required. If a substantial change of use for the Corinth building were to occur, it would require the purchaser to meet the code or get a parking variance.

Neal will be meeting with the neighborhood association representing the three surrounding neighborhoods, the local business association, and the City Commissioner who lives in the neighborhood soon to see if there is an adaptive way for Corinth to continue to be in their church building and also welcome one or more other groups/churches/businesses to use their church in a lease or rent agreement to help Corinth diversify their income. The AC will also be working with Pastor Cynthia and the Corinth congregation to encourage their participation in the Good Future's Accelerator Program in tandem with Neal's efforts.

\*Because the AC did not receive final 2026 Stewardship Campaign numbers until December and we were focused on working with Neal on the question of Corinth's property being made into affordable housing, plus then the break for the holidays, the AC did not work on the 2026 Budget until the week of January 12-19. The 2026 Corinth Budget is now approved and will be shared with the congregation as part of the 2025 Annual Report that will be emailed to all congregants on Saturday, January 24 and provided in paper copies to the congregation on Sunday, January 25 in preparation for the Annual Meeting on Feb. 1.

For the Presbytery's information, Corinth does not have an endowment fund, they do not have a savings account, and the balance in the checking account on Jan. 10 was \$40,397.52. Their 2026

pledges totaled approximately \$87,000. The Leadership Council of the Presbytery approved providing Corinth with \$8,000 in 2026 to reimburse them for utility costs (their 2025 utility usage cost was ~\$13,5k) to give them more time to see if there is a way to keep the congregation open and growing at their current location. Corinth was also directed by the AC to suspend all per capita payments beginning with the second quarter in 2025 (savings of \$1,800) and they have again been directed by the AC to not pay per capita in 2026 (savings of \$2,400 to the congregation). Corinth ended 2025 just over \$35,300 in the red. If the proposed decrease in Pastor Cynthia's Terms of Call is approved (see next paragraph), there will still be a projected deficit for 2026 of ~\$23k, which the AC hopes the congregation will be able to make up all or most of with new revenue sources they have ideas and energy for developing in 2026.

\*In an effort to bring Corinth's budgeted expenses into closer alignment with their projected income, the AC has worked with Pastor Cynthia in January to agree on a proposed reduction in her Terms of Call from 30 hrs/wk (total cost of ~\$64k to the congregation) to 25 hours/wk (total cost of ~\$52k). The proposed 2026 Terms of Call will go to the congregation for a vote at their Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 1.

### **Support Overview**

Our Presbytery has provided significant support to Corinth Presbyterian Church in 2025 through the assignment of a 5-person AC in March to support their work, suspension of their per capita payments from April – December (a savings of ~\$1,800), and the approval of a \$500 Northminster grant to help support them in providing two monthly community meals. In 2026, the Leadership Council of our Presbytery approved Corinth to receive an \$8,000 grant to reimburse them for utilities, has suspended their per capita payment (a \$2,400 savings), the AC will continue to serve with Original Jurisdiction as the Session, and we will encourage Corinth's participation in the Good Future's Accelerator Program to help them develop new revenue sources through the use of their CE Building.

We appreciate the continuing support and prayers of the Presbytery, and are happy to answer any questions you may have regarding our work and/or this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Jody Noble, Clerk of the Administrative Commission