

UNITY CHRIST CHURCH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OPEN MEETING
March 17, 2016

PRESENT:

Board members: Juankee McKinney, Trish Hughes, Lawrence Johnson, Michael Musielak, Kellie Mayhew, No guests

Minister: Rev. Sallie Fox

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:22pm by Juankee McKinney

Check-in: All Board members listened supportively to one another and took note of everyone's personal requests for prayer.

MINISTER'S REPORT: Presented by Rev. Sallie Fox. The Keys to the Kingdom class which began February 14th has three remaining classes left. On average 16 people have been in attendance for each class.

Prayer Chaplin Mary Biggs has been interviewing UCC congregants, and leadership for a project that explores and examines Unity Christ Church. The project discusses the direction of Unity Christ Church, Unity Principles, and classes, from the perspective of the UCC members, leadership, and volunteers.

A motion was made by Lawrence Johnson and seconded by Trish Hughes for a manse allowance increase up to \$25,000 for the year 2016. VOTE: Yes 5, No 0, Abstain 1. The motion passed.

An ad for Unity Christ Church has been purchased for Easter in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch Newspaper at a cost of \$150. The ad was set to run through Holy Week.

A discussion was had about Unity World Wide Ministry's restructuring plan due to financial concerns. The UCC Board will be looking to review our tithing structure.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Presented by Board President Juankee McKinney. Juankee McKinney and Rev. Sallie created an itinerary of important dates for Unity Christ Church in 2016.

March/April- Review of Strategic Plan Meeting

April- Review of bylaws, policies, procedures, and ideas for committees

May 1st- Congregational Meeting- State of the Church

June- Progress report due on the UCC budget for 2017 from Finance committee.

July- 16th Board Training, 31st Unity Celebration

August- Formation of nominating committee for Minister's evaluation.

September- World Day of Prayer/ Minister's evaluation/ special planning

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Kellie Mayhew acknowledged recent correspondence from Unity World Wide Ministries Great Lakes Region, The Unity Urban Ministerial School, and Unity Village giving thanks for received tithes. Ms. Mayhew also read a letter of support through prayer from Silent Unity.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Lawrence Johnson presented a written report reflecting UCC's year to date financial and attendance status. Current total assets are \$1,477,830. Through tithes, offerings, sales, and classes UCC has generated an income of \$6,076.00 and had \$15,901.00 in expenses reflecting a deficit of \$9,825.00. The average weekly attendance of members and visitors for Sunday Service is 40.

A motion was made by Lawrence Johnson and seconded by Rev. Sallie Fox to add Ms. Carolyn Perry to the Finance Committee. VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abstain 0. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Rev. Sallie Fox and seconded by Juankee McKinney to approve the Treasury report as distributed. VOTE: Yes 7, No 0, Abstain 0. The motion passed.

PRAYER CHAPLIN: Juankee McKinney stated that the Prayer Chaplains' first meeting this year was held January 31st. The Prayer Chaplains have begun a "wellness call" program. Once a month, UCC members and visitors will receive a phone call from a Prayer Chaplain offering confidential prayer support. The Prayer Chaplains will be leading meditations on Sunday mornings from 9:45am to 10:15am, cited as "Prayer and Meditations" in the bulletin.

BUILDING TEAM: Rev. Sallie Fox presented a report from the Building and Grounds Team lead by David Yannayon and Judy Townsend. The team will review and recommend maintenance/repair suggestions for the church building and grounds. They will determine what issues are priorities and gather quotes and plans for Board approved work. Harry Drake will be the liaison for the Building and Grounds Team and the Board.

OLD BUSINESS:

LINE OF CREDIT DISCUSSION: There was a discussion lead by Harry Drake about the possibility of establishing a line of credit for maintenance/ emergencies. Many board members had several questions leading to the conclusion that more research was required. The Finance Committee will assist Harry Drake in investigating banking options and will provide a report for the board meeting in April.

HVAC SYSTEM: Rev. Sallie Fox gave a report on the current conditions of the HVAC system. From now on, any repair issues that occur on Sunday, Murphy repair services will be called on the following Monday. On January 3rd the boiler was reset at a cost of \$438.03. On January 22nd the thermostats were reset at a cost of \$295.00. On February 2nd a new bearing assembly was installed at a cost of \$2,921.22 to repair a leaking pump. A new thermostat is on order with an estimated cost of \$625.00. Office manager Judy Lindow is currently negotiating for a reduction on the bill. More information will follow.

NEW BUSINESS:

BOARD RETREAT: The discussion was lead by Rev. Sallie Fox. The Board is aiming to schedule the retreat for July 9th. Prospective locations are still being explored along with the possibility of inviting a guest speaker.

STRATEGIC PLANNING OF 2012 AND UPDATING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES: The 2012 Strategic Planning documents need to be reviewed and modified. All board members are to receive copies of the plan for review. Lawrence Johnson suggested that the 1st Quarterly meeting be dedicated to reviewing and modifying the plan. The date for the 1st Quarterly Meeting is March 26 at 1:00pm.

An updated Strategic Plan will give insight as to what policies and procedures need revision.

Lawrence Johnson made a request for “fundraising suggestions” to be removed for the upcoming agenda and for the topic to be revisited at a later date.

ADJORNMENT: A motion was made by Trish Hughes and seconded by Lawrence Johnson to adjourn open session. All members voted “yes”. The time was 9:05pm.

CLOSING PRAYER: Michael Musielak