

Board Meeting Minutes for April 16, 2015

Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga

Present: Leslie Brock, President; Monique Lewis, President-Elect; Buck O'Rear, VP Resources Ministry; Cecile de Rocher, VP Religious Growth Ministry; Linda Park, VP Outreach Ministry; Greg Cruz, VP Congregational Life Ministry; Daidee Springer, Treasurer; Bill Derrickson, 2015-2016 Assistant Treasurer; Frank Caperton, Past President; Rev. Cathy Harrington, Developmental Minister.

Absent: Jim Welborn, Secretary

Leslie called the meeting to order at 6:35. Bill lit the chalice and Frank shared a reading from Clark Williamson's book, "Way of Blessings, Way of Life". Everyone checked in.

March Minutes: Linda made a motion to accept the minutes. Daidee seconded and the minutes were approved.

Minister's Update: In addition to her filed report, Cathy shared the following: A conversation with a former member at our first table talk led Cathy to ask what the person missed about the church? His reply was that if on a Sunday, when he left, he didn't feel like a better person, he did not return to that church. Cathy asked us to think about this way of measuring our Sunday services.

Because we have several new persons that wish to become members, Cathy will schedule a New Member Ceremony on Celebration Sunday, May 17.

"Serving with Grace" — We split into two small groups and Cathy asked that we discuss a case study. Each group discussed the "church problem" presented with the facts that were reported. One speaker from each group then shared the solutions they had decided on after discussing the problem.

Financial Report: Daidee reported that during March, we spent \$6000 more than we took in. Also, she warned that we may have to dip into the "Church of God" rent by the end of the church year.

Policy Review Update: We have met but our progress has been slowed down by members going out of town. Also, we had to get a legal opinion on a matter of concern. It has been difficult to move forward with the policy review.

Items from Finance Committee: Buck reported that the finance committee recommended that the monies received from Helen Solomon's insurance policy (\$10,055.01) be deposited in the Endowment fund. Daidee moved that this contribution be placed in the endowment fund. Buck seconded the motion and it was passed. Buck also reported that the Solomon family is

considering giving another gift of approximately \$10,000, to the church, which they would like to see contributed to the R.E. department.

Solomon Photo: Buck brought a proposal to the Board to put up a photo of Ray and Helen Solomon on the memorial wall next to the Livingston photo. He gave us details about the proposal, then made a motion that the photo and plaque be hung on the memorial wall. Daidee seconded the motion and it was passed.

Table Talks Update: There are two more Sundays for table talks and Buck asked that hosts please write up some notes of how everything went and suggestions for improvements. One host suggested that we ask participants at our table what they would like the church to do in the future and what they would cut if we don't meet our budget.

Stewardship Campaign: Current information is explained in Buck's finance report which is included. At this writing, 22 pledge cards have been turned in for a total of \$49,020. This is an overall increase of \$9,840 that was pledged from these families last year.

Religious Education: Cecile is leaving tomorrow for OWL (Our Whole Lives) training which she hopes we can offer at our church in the future. Also, she reported that she has two gallons of paint in her car and that the hall painting, downstairs, will begin soon.

Outreach: Linda Park's report is attached –no additional comments were made concerning outreach. Linda did announce that the vice presidents are still trying to meet to discuss the consultant's report.

Congregational Life: Greg reported that the Sound/Communications committee will meet tomorrow to review the budget items for technology.

Donation of Piano: After much discussion, Greg made a motion that the board decline the donation of Richard Ralston's piano. Cecile seconded the motion and it was passed. Bill Derrickson was asked to contact Richard, thank him, and let him know that due to the growth in the R.E. department, the Board feels that we no longer have the room downstairs to place the piano.

Quick Report: a) Next meeting: May 26—6:30 b) Opening/closing reading for May-Leslie c) Please read chapter 2 of "Serving with Grace" d) Monique was asked to contact committee chairs to have them turn in their "roles & responsibilities" statements.

Minister's Contract: Frank suggested that we not just do a minor "tweaking" of the contract. This Board should evaluate Cathy's performance. Daidee made a motion that the 3 presidents and the treasurer meet to evaluate Cathy's performance and report this information to the Board. Monique seconded and the motion was passed.

Closing Words: Frank read a poem as our closing words. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30.