

# Board Meeting Minutes for June 18, 2015 Amended

## 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; Frank Caperton, Past President; Rev. Cathy Harrington, Developmental Minister; Jim Welborn, Secretary.

Guest: Tim Kleve, President-Elect 2015-2016; Pamela Johnson, Secretary 2015-2017; Bill Derrickson, Treasurer-Elect 20015-2016; George Helton, Chair Transition Team

Leslie called the meeting to order at 6:50. Leslie lit the chalice and Rev. Cathy opened with a prayer "Spirit of Life". Everyone checked in.

**May Minutes:** Buck made a motion to accept the minutes. Daidee seconded and the minutes and they were approved. Minutes are uploaded to website once they are approved by the BOT. Jim currently sends the minutes to Tom Kunesh and Tom uploads to website. May and Annual Meeting minutes will be uploaded by end of week. Pam will check to see if she can upload minutes directly to the website.

**June Minister's report:** In light of what just happened in Charleston, SC, Cathy asked: How do we standup for our African American friends in Chattanooga? What are our goals and who is our neighbor. The Church needs to do social justice and not just the Social Justice committee. It challenges us to answer who are we and who do we say we are. Maybe the BOT could host the Day of Remembrance Service. Frank commented that for a church of our size to really be effective we need to partner with local churches such as Grace and Pilgrim.

The Pastoral Care team is planning a Ground Hog Day event. It may be a senior luncheon with a speaker. This could result in a new Tuesday function.

### **Minister Notes to the Board June 18, 2015**

I'm a little weary of "reports," and I suspect you are as well, so I'll make this short.

Looking back over a year ago, when I first met the UUCC board for dinner and we mutually agreed to begin this adventure together, I am grateful to Keith Kron for guiding my path to Chattanooga. I appreciate your support and your enthusiasm for diving into this tasks at hand. We've made great progress this year, I believe, and I am optimistic about our potential for the coming year.

In the past month, in addition to worship duties, office hours, staff meetings, and pastoral care, I have been engaged in the following tasks.

Memorial Garden service

Transition Team meeting

Pastoral Care Team meeting

## Wowzer Planning Retreat

### Harvest the Power

The Writers Workshop at Princeton Theological Seminary that I attended last week was more than I hoped for and I'm eager to register for next year's workshop.

Before I return in August, I'll be attending another Transition Workshop in Baltimore. Last year's focus was "The Work of the Leader" and this year we turn our attention to "The Work of the Congregation."

On Monday, June 22, I fly to Portland to join thousands of UU's at our General Assembly. I am pleased that our RE Director will be attending her first GA and I want to thank you all for making that possible.

Coming this fall will be theme based-worship, Harvest the Power workshops (board included), Evensong for Families, Monthly Vespers, and plans for a Groundhog Day luncheon hosted by the Lay Pastoral Care team.

I'll be taking some R&R time (July) in Ludington to "let the tide go out" and freshen my spirit. The Transition Team will meet in July while I'm away to continue their work.

**Financial Report and items from Finance Committee:** Daidee reported that May results don't mean a thing since there are a number of expenses that will not show until June. One thing of note is that May pledges were down from last year. It is something that we will keep an eye on. Year to date budget for pledges is \$151,320 and we are at \$145,201 so far and need about \$6000 more to come in on target.

Two items need action:

- 1) We had a \$6000 gift for the carpet and there will be an overage of \$615 and the recommendation is to take it from RE-furbish restricted account. After much discussion Daidee made the recommendation into a motion. It was seconded by Linda and passed on voice vote.
- 2) Social Justice Committee over spent their budget by \$45 for materials for a speaker. Daidee made a motion to take \$45 from the Social justice restricted account to cover overage. Monique seconded the motion and motion passed by voice vote.

Cathy and Daidee met to decide how to bring her up to her total package of \$66,920. We did not budget enough for professional expenses. We will need to up that number by \$1500 to \$2500. We can move amount from Health Insurance where we did not need as much as anticipated for 2014-2015.

May financial reports are attached.

**Items from Finance Committee:** Buck was excited about the success of the Financial Campaign. Stewardship is going great and currently we have \$178,500 in pledges with a few outstanding.

We should be around \$180,000. There are new members yet to be contacted. Only two members have asked for waivers.

David Reed has stepped down as chair of Endowment Committee and [George Helton will take over as new chair](#). [Lynna Ruth Standridge has joined the Endowment Committee](#).

Frank Caperton will head a new year around Stewardship Committee.

Bonnie Sinclair will be the new [treasurer](#) of the Memorial Garden Committee.

**Religious Education:** Cecile reported that [wenesday](#) night dinner and program will take a summer break and [resume in](#) September.

The refurbishing is going well. Work continues in the Nursery. The carpet will be installed in July. Once work is complete, we need to plan a special service and tour of the downstairs.

Neighboring Faiths and Religions will be the study for the Sprouts and Medievals. Starting a new Chalice Children class for 3 & 4 year olds.

The teachers are set for the year for all classes.

Cathy pointed out that Wowzers will be doing themes for both upstairs and downstairs.

#### **DRE report:**

**Outreach:** Linda Park's report is attached.

### **June, 2015 Report from VP of Outreach Ministry**

Because of the recently completed Outreach Ministry Annual Report, there is not much to update this month. The Communication, Social Justice and Membership teams are in the process of planning for next year.

#### **Communication**

This committee continues to do its work communicating via Facebook, UUCC's webpage, WUTC, etc., as they plan for next year.

#### **Social Justice**

Social Justice continues to network with other Social Justice organizations in Chattanooga (Grace Episcopal Church; Mercy Junction Peace and Justice Center; Chattanooga Organize for Action; Pilgrim Church; NAACP; Move To Amend; League of Women Voters; Campaign Non-violence Chattanooga....more to come in the future). This summer, the committee continues to plan for next year's events.

#### **Membership**

This summer, this committee will be adding to their team and planning also making plans for the upcoming year.

#### **Other Business**

In the last board meeting, I was asked to follow-up on:

- The UUA Chalice Lighter Program  
I received information from Jessica Curren of the Southern Region UUA. Chalice Lighters are members and friends of congregations in the Southern Region who pool their contributions into grants awarded to other congregations. Most contributions fall in the \$10 to \$25 range. Chalice Lighters agree to give a pledge of \$10 or more – up to 3 times a year, usually fall, winter and spring. Projects to be selected by the District Chalice Lighter committee. I will have a copy of the “Become a Chalice Lighter” form in our meeting.
- Sex Week at UTC  
I found information online about this event. Some of what I found out is:
  - The week is in November, 2015. There are several events scheduled -- HIV Prevention with Chattanooga Cares; Consent 101 with Rape Crisis Center; Book workshop with Meredith Russo (lecture on her book, “If I Was Your Girl”, about her experience growing up trans in the South; and several more.
  - Their mission: To promote awareness of physically and emotionally healthy choices about sex, and to spark educational conversations about sex.
  - Organizers are Students for Sexual Health and Empowerment, the student organization at UTC that organizes and hosts Sex Week and Not Guilty 2015 (a free march that took place on May 2nd to protest rape culture and victim blaming).

Consultant Report VP Review (Item on June Agenda) – the VPs have not discussed this as of this meeting.

Chalice Lighters is a fund that gives grants to individual congregations for projects. In order for a church to participate they must have 10% of their members to be chalice lighters before they can apply for grant. Three or four times they may ask for donations to fund the grant. Forms are on line.

**Congregational Life:** Greg reported during the cleanup of down stairs, art work and banners were gathered and the Standing on the Side of Love banner has been installed over the stair well by the entrance. It can be seen by all who enter or even drive by the front.

**BOT retreat deadline follow-up:** Policy Review Update; Daidee, George and Jim reported.

The policy review committee has met and have a number of policy manual changes to recommend to the BOT. These changes will be sent to BOT members in early July for review and addressed at the August BOT meeting. The committee has added Anne Cornwell to the committee for her computer skills to help us revise the manual.

**Developmental Minister Contract:** The contract was discussed and only minor changes were made. Leslie will make the changes and the contract will be signed on Sunday June 21. Daidee made a motion to approve the Developmental Minister Contract as amended. Bill seconded the motion and contract was approved

**Quick Report:** a) George Helton, [June liaison](#) of Transition Team sent a report to BOT members and a TTREP will attend each meeting and should be added to the agenda.

b) BOT Retreat: Monique set the BOT retreat for Friday August 21 and Saturday August 22

It will start on Friday night with dinner here at the church and the location for Saturday session has not been set yet. More to come and also double check your calendars for the August dates.

Monique will also be attending the Southern Region Leadership Experience on August 23-28.

**c) Next BOT Meeting will be Thursday July 23 at 6:30 p.m. BOT meeting will remain on the third Thursday of each month but may vary as need to meet changing schedules.**

d) Pam Johnson will be responsible for the readings in July.

**Closing Words:** Cathy gave the closing reading and extinguished the chalice. Leslie adjourned the meeting at 8:45.

Jim Welborn, Secretary