

## Board Meeting Minutes for July 23, 2015

### Unitarian Universalist Church of Chattanooga

**Present:** Monique Lewis, President; Tim Kleve, 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; Pam Johnson, Secretary; Daidee Springer, Treasurer; Bill Derrickson, Treasurer-Elect; Leslie Brock, Past President.

**Absent:** Rev. Cathy Harrington, Developmental Minister.

**Guests:** John Standridge (Transition Team)

Monique called the meeting to order at 6:33. Tim lit the chalice and Monique shared a reading from Adlai Stevenson. Everyone checked in.

**June Minutes:** Tim made a motion to accept the June minutes with the following correction: Buck O'Rear (not Bill Derrickson) seconded the motion to approve the developmental minister's contract. Daidee seconded Tim's motion and the minutes were approved as corrected.

**Financial Report:** Daidee presented very preliminary reports. (See attached) She noted that August 1, 2015 is the cutoff for submission of receipts incurred on the 2014-2015 budget. Buck motioned to accept the financial report; Linda Park seconded; motion passed.

**Items from Finance Committee:** (see Buck's report below) Leslie suggested that a check-and-balance be put in place when members have pledges paid by bank withdrawal. A suggestion was that Chris could send an email to the pledge unit stating how much will be withdrawn.

#### **UUC Resource Report - Board Meeting 07-23-15**

Pledge Amount to date    \$180,387

Still Working on                \$     600

#### **Membership Records Adjustments**

July 21 - 105 Pledge Units (single or family)

Total Active Members – 140

- After Campaign – four requested waivers. Possible one pending request. Passed to membership with recommendation to waive. Membership to request board action.
- Seven members moved from active to previous membership status after lack of response to letters of interest.
- Lynna Ruth Standridge worked up comparison sheet demonstration pledges v. actual received for the past four years. We are experiencing an average 5% default rate. UUA indicates 3-4% rate to work toward.

- Frank Caperton as Chair of Stewardship and I are planning on meeting next week to work up comparison quartile guide for this year's stewardship results. (Note – will be similar style as we used previous campaign)
- Finance Committee makes no recommendations to board for July meeting.

### **Religious Education:**

1) Carpet was purchased from Home Depot and will be installed July 28-29-30. Furniture has been purchased for the teen room and will be brought in after the painting is finished.

2) OWL (Our Whole Lives sexuality education) will be offered to teens in grades 10-12. Programming will be presented by certified OWL educators and will take place the second Sunday of each month, September-May, except in December, which will be a break month. OWL will be offered for grades 7-9 on one Wednesday per month, September-May, except in December, which will be a break month.

### **Director of Religious Education:**

#### Religious Education for Children & Youth

- Average weekly attendance in June: 21
- Volunteer Recognition held on June 7th, with special recognition given to James Joyner, for 10 years of service in the Teen classroom.
- DRE attended UUCC Annual Meeting, and delivered her Annual Report.
- Request that DRE be included on agenda for 2016 Annual Meeting.
- Isabelle McCurdy served as Business Manager for 2015 Youth Caucus at General Assembly in Portland, Oregon, and wrote an Action of Immediate Witness which eventually passed.
- DRE attended General Assembly thanks to the generosity of the UUCC congregation, and a scholarship from the UUA. Mind blown.
- Painting begun by DRE and volunteers Brenda Ford and Cecile de Rocher on downstairs classrooms. The three of us will complete this massive undertaking by the end of July. Whew!
- DRE submitted a draft of her Contract for Employment to BOT and Minister. Awaiting approval.

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

- Steve Hollingsworth is in the process of getting WUTC ads together for the fall.
- Four members have requested waivers of pledge. Linda motioned that we accept the waivers, Buck seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

## **July 2015 Report from VP of Outreach Ministry**

### **Communication**

This committee continues to do its work communicating via Facebook, UUCC's webpage, WUTC, etc., as they plan for next year. Steve is in the process of getting a new set of WUTC announcements ready to push hard through September – when people are settling back down from summer. Steve is also working on upgrading the public-access routers upstairs & downstairs to faster dual-band routers. Facebook "Likes" are up to 688.

### **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; such as a planning for Transgender Musician, Namoli Brennet's fall concert.

In an effort to interest the entire church in Social Justice (SJ) issues, the SJ team is creating a brochure and preparing a survey to be completed by members of UUCC for the purpose of identifying 2 or 3 issues that interest the majority of the church members/friends. Beginning this fall, the SJ team will have a table in the fellowship area, so people can find out about upcoming activities and sign up for ones they may of interest to them. The SJ team would like for more people to be involved in social justice issues – whether they are members of the team or just active Social Justice UUs.

### **Membership**

During the stewardship campaign, members are identified that may need a one year waiver from bylaw requirements for active membership. This information is passed to membership who then makes recommendations to the board. At this time, there are 4 members recommended for waivers by Membership.

### **Other Business**

As a follow up on my report regarding The UUA Chalice Lighter Program, I sent an email on June 24<sup>th</sup> with the "Becoming a Chalice Lighter" form attached. I hope most, if not, all board members will join the Chalice Lighter program. We also need a plan to get more members of UUCC to sign up.

**Congregational Life:**

- Greg noted that someone had dumped most of a tree next to our dumpster. Perhaps cameras or signage are needed to discourage this practice. Buck mentioned that we have battery operated cameras, but the batteries run down quickly.
- Nicky Ozbeck and WOWsers have done a good job with scheduling speakers to fill the pulpit.
- Art on the Walls this month is by Jere Chumley.
- There have been issues with sound system and he is hoping to get them ironed out.
- Greg rehung the antenna for the assistive listening device.

**Transition Team Report:** John Standridge presented a summary of the Transition Team's latest meeting.

- Will look at agreement for fellowship and will rewrite it in more positive language, as the previous agreement was written when emotions and interpersonal cooperation were at a low point.
- The TT feels is it different than other generalist committees within the congregation. It was brought together to offer feedback and guidance to Cathy, at her request.
- The TT feels a need to look past the current good tidings spreading in the congregation and keep a focus on the future, looking at mission, vision etc. for generational longevity.

**Quick Report Items:**

- a. Person-in-Charge (PIC) Forms – Monique asked VP's to ask their committees when they plan to meet this year and please forward this information to her at least a week before the board retreat. Buck stressed that use of the building is on a first come-first served basis, and if a group is not on the calendar, it may miss out on building use.
- b. Parent Support Group/James Joyner – The board decided to place the parent support group facilitated by James Joyner under the aegis of adult religious education.
- c. Board Retreat Location & dates – Monique has tentatively scheduled the retreat at the Ronald McDonald House. No fee is charged, but they accept donations of supplies. If possible, she would like to schedule the retreat at the nature park at Enterprise South.
- d. Board Duties – August Roster was passed around to remind board members of their assigned Sunday responsibility.
- e. Wheelchair –Paul Adler will purchase a foldable wheelchair out of the Safety and Enhancement account #6330 and will store it in accessible location. We will ask Chris to announce it in the newsletter.
- f. Next Meeting—Aug. 20
- g. Opening/closing words for August - Pam

**Checkout:** Board members each said a few words for checkout.

**Closing Words:** Monique read closing words on “Doubt” by Robert T. Weston. The meeting was adjourned at 8:13.

Submitted by Pam Johnson