

UUCC Board of Trustees

July 26, 2022

6:30 pm

Attendees: *Andy Foskey, John Standridge, Sally Peixoto, Judy Gallagher, Christian Horvath, Farin Cloyd and Camille Mason.*

Opening Words/Chalice Lighting: John

German artist Rebecca Horn from *Following the Light*, writes:

What can you say about God?

He's everywhere, in such a special frequency,

That our world can hardly recognize him.

We just have to train a bit more.



The James Webb Space Telescope's view of the galaxy NGC 7496

- a. What word or image stays with you from this passage?
- b. How does this passage touch you personally?
- c. How might this passage inform our work this evening?

Check-In

Read the [Board Covenant](#). Read by

Consent Items:

- Minutes
- Treasurer's Report
- VP Reports
- Staff Reports

John moved, Judy seconded approval of consent items. Unanimously approved.

Discussion re: the excellent summer environmental forum Selena has put together.

Board also agreed it could be advertised.

Updates:

There is a Sunday attendance form in the greeter cabinet. Please use the form when you are the Board Rep!

Membership List.... Andy said several people have been working on the list.

New Bylaws needed to be presented to the congregation. Entails bringing the congregation back to a meeting, perhaps in the fall to combine presenting the bylaws and the review of the budget. ***John made a motion to have an ingathering at the latest in October/early November to present the bylaws and budget review. Chrisitan seconded. Unanimously approved.***

Quarterly Council needs to meet. Andy will touch base with Dylan.

Christian would like us to think of revising the COVID policy. Andy asked staff and committees to brainstorm some ideas.

Decision Items:

- Set date for board retreat. Dates of September 3 or September 24 will be polled of the board to see which is better. Judy will send out a poll. John has offered his home for the retreat. Judy/Sally agreed to help plan...depending on the final date selected.
- Pam's affiliation agreement ([w Affiliation Agreement draft.docx](#))
Sally moved to approve the agreement and support Pam. Judy Seconded.
Amendment by Christian to acknowledge that this agreement doesn't add to the church budget. Unanimously approved.

Information/Planning:

- Disposal of old A/V equipment. Board agrees to let Gary Beale and Jon Littlefield sell the equipment we can no longer use. The funds go to the church and the Finance Committee can decide how the funds are spent. Any equipment not saleable can be donated at their discretion.

Check Out

Closing words: John

And this from Carl Sagan: "It is far better to grasp the universe as it really is than to persist in delusion, however satisfying and reassuring." "Our species needs, and deserves, a citizenry with minds wide awake and a basic understanding of how the world works."

Opening/Closing words for August: Christian

Sally will do minutes for the August meeting as Judy will be out of town.

Next Meeting is August 23 at 6:30.

VP & Staff Reports

UUCC Staff Reports - July 2022

Farin Cloyd - Administrator

- Created promotional content for Selina Duncan's Environmental Justice Adult Education series & Pam Johnson's Ordination.
- Adapted the OoS for readability and now includes a weekly calendar of community events - idea proposed by Selina Duncan.
- Working with UUCC friend Sunny Mills to build a Greeter program based on accessibility, diversity, and inclusion.
- Supporting Camille with personnel information as we continue to hire nursery workers and process background checks for RE teachers and assistants.
- Developed new ideas for UUCC website - planning on implementing a new Wordpress theme to help make the website more user-friendly.

Camille Mason - DRE

- Planned RE Independence Day Picnic with RE committee- picnic was well attended.
- Planned and prepared the lessons for RE.
- Contacted volunteers to teach and assist each Sunday
- Worked on registering families for RE
- Planning out the year for RE with RE committee and working on a community youth group

Cassandra Betro - Bookkeeper

- Updating current ACH pledges with first Volunteer Bank with written confirmation of members
- Moving physical records in compliance with our records retention policy
- Wrapping up year-end transactions
- Performing regular functions:
 - recording financial info in PowerChurch,
 - working with Finance Committee to identify correct expense accounts for all purchases,
 - monitoring cash flows,
 - communicating with Treasurer and Finance Committee

July Board Report - Religious Growth

Sunday Morning RE

1. Nursery is open, with plans to hire more workers (RE committee on standby as volunteers)
2. *Possibility* curriculum from Soul Matters for combined summer classes

3. Classes will be split by age group starting in September
 - a. The Spirit Play room is now much tidier

Special Events

1. Church-wide potluck for Independence Day with water slide went great
2. August 14 will be an ice cream social after multigen service
 - a. Further monthly special events to be decided at the retreat

Committee

1. Annual retreat August 13; we'll set goals and mission for the year, and plan ahead special events

Lifespan Learning

Summer Forum is ongoing:

1) Summary:

The 7-week Summer Study Series is almost halfway through. We've had 4 excellent speakers so far. On July 10th, a representative from greenspaces came and opened our eyes to conditions in the Chattanooga area - most strikingly, that Chattanooga is predicted to experience the 6th greatest increase in heat among cities in the US - and that a very large proportion of our population has no access to affordable air conditioning. We learned about the many programs that greenspaces offers, and how we can get involved.

On July 17th, we had two speakers, from Crabtree Farms and from the Southeast TN Young Farmers Coalition, who revealed the challenges in the local food movement, and their efforts to mitigate them. And on July 24th, a representative from the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy spoke to us about local and regional policies which either support or thwart the efforts to clean up our energy sources.

The original plan was for someone from the Southern Environmental Law Center, the Tennessee Environmental Council, and UTC to come speak to us for the next three weeks. Unfortunately, 2 of the 3 speakers have cancelled... but we'll figure out something! The last session will be on August 21st, when we plan to look at the work of each of the organizations, and decide what we can do as a community to support them.

2) Funding:

By selling native plants and vegetables, we were able to raise about \$300 ("plant funds"). I plan to do some more fund-raising in the next 3 weeks to ensure that we can cover all the costs, but I've been very encouraged by the community's response to each of the speakers. July 10th - \$50 was provided as an honorarium (300-50=250 plant funds); no collection taken

July 17th - \$50 honorarium for each speaker (250-100=150 plant funds)

\$124 collected after the presentation (\$74 contribution for Crabtree Farms; \$50 to cover transportation costs for out-of-town speaker from SeTNYFC)

July 24th - \$50 honorarium for the speaker (150-50=100 plant funds)

\$54 collected after the presentation (given to out-of-town speaker for transportation costs)

3) Attendance

July 10th - 25

July 17th - 22

July 24th - 16 (also, sandwiches provided by volunteers after the service)

Attendance has been lower than I would like, frankly. I'm sure this is due to lack of advertising. * I would like to ask the board for some guidance on this - if we could advertise on WUTC, we could bring more people into the church. What funding is available, and who is responsible? *

4) Conclusion

I really appreciate the opportunity to host this series - I think we've all learned a lot, and my hope is that what we learn will turn into action. I'd like to see our community become leaders in a loving, well-thought-out response to climate change, and the social inequities it exacerbates.

Respectfully submitted by Selina Duncan, July 26th, 2022

Board Report - Congregational Life - Christian Horvath

7/26/2022 (Main Points for Board Meeting in Blue) the blue didn't carry over!

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE ACTIVITIES

70th Anniversary UUCC

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1950s Cooking/Dinner Event with 50s Costumes or Fashion Show - tentatively planned for

September 2022 >> Christian will reach out to Gale Audier and Jen Horning to finalize the date

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Nicky Ozbek and Judy Gallagher are working on the UUCU history project with good progress.

1st and 3rd Wednesday Coffee

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Gathering has been well established with about 10 - 15 participant under leadership of Selina

Duncan. Last two gatherings focused on Supreme Court decisions.

Summer Adult Education Series ("Environmental Justice in Chattanooga")

> 3 of 7 events have taken place (Greenspaces, Crabtree Farms, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy).

Attendance varied between 16 and 21. Church members actively participated in providing snacks

and a small meal. Lots of excitement among the participants for this series.

Summer Nights Series ("Environmental Justice in Chattanooga")

3 events planned:

7/16/2022 - Bicycle Ride on Riverwalk to St. Elmo.

10 adults and 3 children participated (Twice as many as last year!).

7/30/2022 - Attend Base Ball game of Chattanooga Lookouts

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8/20/2022 - Attend Soccer Game of Chattanooga FC

ATTENDANCE

Sunday Worship (6/26 through 7/17-4 Sundays, no attendance record for 7/24)

Total Attendance increased to 74 in July despite summer time (63 in May)

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In Person Attendance: 53 Adults (48) and 7 children (2)

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Online Attendance: 14 (13)

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Attendance Tracking.

Repeated lack of attendance record. Board members should be given attendance form and

reminded to regularly record the attendance each Sunday.

Remember prior attendance: 77 adults + 20 children in 2019, 86 adults + 24 children in 2016

UUCC Board of Trustees
June 20, 2022
6:30 pm

Attendees: Chen Zhang, John Standridge, Sally Peixoto, Judy Gallagher, Christian Horvath, Rodger Miller, Amy Kusman, Rev. Mandy Goheen, Farin Cloyd and Camille Mason.

Opening Words/Chalice Lighting: Andy