

BOARD MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 21, 2017  
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF CHATTANOOGA

**PRESENT:** Bart Solomon, President; Nicky Ozbek, President Elect; Monique Lewis, Past President; Mary Lou Reed, VP Religious Growth; Linda Park, VP Outreach Ministry; Link Christensen, VP Congregational Life Ministry; David Benn, VP Resource Ministry; Connie Cowherd, Secretary; Daidee Springer representing Bill Derrickson, Treasurer; Cathy Harrington, Developmental Minister, Mandy Cowley, Administrative Assistant.

**ABSENT:** Bill Derrickson, Linda Park

**GUEST:** George Helton

Bart called the meeting to order at 6:30 and lit the chalice. Nicky read the opening words. Joys and concerns were shared.

**MINUTES:** Corrections were made then approved by acclamation.

**MINISTER'S REPORT:** See attached report. Cathy also reports that the Interfaith group met with Bob Coker which went very well. Gun violence and congregational safety was discussed.

Faith Forward classes have been well attended. Six individuals are now ready to join UUC. She requests more funds be given to Membership Committee to extend Faith Forward Program to the next level. Bart asked her to bring more information, a proposal, and cost to the next Board meeting.

**RELIGIOUS GROWTH:** See attached report from DRE. In addition, Mary Lou reports she has been asked about repeating the Jane Goodall Masterclass. Update on DRE search is discussed below in Old Business.

**CONGREGATIONAL LIFE:** Link has no report. Congregational meals were discussed.

**RESOURCE MINISTRY:** David reports the stair lift is expected to be installed mid-December.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** See Bill's attached report. Daidee reports that all regular CD's changed to Treasury Bills for a better interest rate. She asked the Board which RE acct to put the money received from sales of RE's art project. It was recommended that the monies be put into the Youth RE account. The Board agreed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Congruency of Disruptive Behavior Policies: George Helton updates the Board regarding last month's Transition Team's Judith Pederson-Benn proposal: "Policy Regarding Procedures for Resolving Conflict" and the existing Agreement of Fellowship. He and Judith agree there is duplication between the two documents. Each has a different view as to how to proceed in updating UUC's current Agreement of Fellowship. Discussion followed. If Agreement of Fellowship is changed a congregational vote is needed because it was the congregation who voted to accept this Agreement. Nicky made a

motion that if congregational vote is needed, it can wait until the Annual Congregation meeting. Connie seconded. The motion was passed by acclamation.

- Young Adult Outing/Programs Suggestion: remains tabled until next meeting.
- DRE search/Budget request: Mary Lou reports the search committee is proceeding as planned. Expenses have been encountered for printing and food at meetings. She proposes money be set aside to cover this committee's expenses. Bart states he can find \$500 in new pledges. A separate DRE search account will be set up.
- Whether to begin Ministerial Search for Spring 2019: report from meeting with Keith Kron and vote: Meeting with Keith Kron took place on November 14<sup>th</sup>. He believed UUC was ready to begin search for minister start date in Spring 2019. According to our Bylaws, the Nominating and Leadership Committee presents a slate of 7 members at a Special Congregational meeting called by the Board President. Additional nominations may be made from the floor. The Ministerial Search Committee is elected by majority of voting members at this Special Congregational meeting.

Nicky move that we proceed with establishing a search committee. Link seconded. No abstains or objections. The motion was passed. **ACTION:** Goal is have a Ministerial Search Committee formed by April 2018. Bart will contact the Nominating Committee and report back to the Board.

#### **New Business:**

- Scheduling Mini Retreat for Governance: Settled on Saturday, Jan 6<sup>th</sup> 2018, 9AM – 12PM. Cathy and Link will plan an itinerary for the event then share with Board members.
- Whether/What new Safety Plan is needed: David Benn led a discussion in a variety of safety information for congregations. Discussion followed. The Board agreed that Sunday's Broad Rep/Usher would stay at the door during Sunday service. Also, we agreed to install a second security camera aimed at the door. The second camera will allow the administrative assistant to see someone approaching the door. David plans to be "proactive" in this matter.
- Initial Discussion re Stewardship Campaign Planning: This subject was discussed. The VP or Resources is responsible for this campaign. The VP can establish a committee for the campaign planning/implementation. Monique and Cathy agreed to help.

**No policies or procedures were approved at this meeting.**

#### **QUICK REPORTS**

- Board Rep/Usher Schedule: Dec 17<sup>th</sup>, Lynna Ruth and Mary Lou;

Dec 24<sup>th</sup>, Nicky and Dave;  
Dec 31<sup>st</sup>, Monique and Bill;  
Jan 7<sup>th</sup>, Bill and Mary Lou;  
Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>; Linda and Dave.

- Next Board meeting Dec 19<sup>th</sup>, Mandy will take minutes as Connie is out of town.
- Opening/closing readings for December is Mary Lou
- Closings words read by Nicky.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28PM

Minutes respectfully submitted on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Connie Cowherd, Secretary

## Minister's Notes

November 21, 2017

Faith Forward has been well-attended each Sunday and we have at least six people ready to join the church at a New Member Sunday in January. I request that Membership be given additional funds to increase the FF curriculum from Inquirers to Roots so that we can continue the classes beyond the 8 weeks intro.

Since we last met, I've attended a 3-hour Lay Pastoral Care meeting, a Finance Committee meeting, a DRE Search Committee meeting, a Small Group Ministry meeting and Soul Matters Small Group Facilitator Training, a Worship Committee meeting, several meetings with congregants, a meeting with board president, an Interfaith Clergy meeting/dinner and Thanksgiving Interfaith Service, weekly staff meetings, and was on call for the Chattanooga Police Department twice.

I have visited Maurine and George Olin at their home in Cleveland two times this month. They have 24-hour care at home but would love visitors and connections. George can't drive at the moment so they can't come to church.

The LPC committee is planning a fun time for the seniors Ground Hog Day luncheon and are working with the Signal Mountain folks to establish a group to meet regularly. Clair Hale and Bill Wynott are unable to come to church anymore so we are trying to find ways to bring the UUC community to them.

Our Healing of Memories workshop in October was a success and we trained five new potential facilitators. One of the new trainees is Native American and lives in South Dakota. Our local trainees will have an opportunity to co-facilitate in March 2018 here in Chattanooga and our SD Trainee will participate in a workshop April 2018 in Minnesota.

Last Saturday (Veterans Day) Judith, Wendy Werrick and Linda Park attended an event and passed out brochures, got names of Vets interested in the workshop in March, and obtained several contacts for recruiting participants for March

While Father Lapsley was in Chattanooga, he spoke to an audience of 50-75 students and teachers at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga about his journey and the Institute for the Healing of Memories. We also met with three students a few days later to begin conversation about workshops at the University with students and teachers.

Father Lapsley spoke on a panel at the lowest performing Middle School in Chattanooga, Orchard Knob. It was an event called, "The State of Our Boys." The students were spellbound as they listened to Fr Lapsley speak. The event was attended by our new police Chief and many other officers and other community leaders and activists. The link to an article in the Times Free Press is below:

<http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/life/entertainment/story/2017/nov/04/south-africpriest-brings-healing-process-chat/456118/>

## DRE Report for the Board of Trustees, November, 2017

### October RE attendance:

October 01: 16  
October 08: 11  
October 15: 10  
October 22: 20  
October 29: 12

Attendance was down in RE for the month of October, with an average of 13 children and youth each week. (As I write this, happy to report that our attendance yesterday, November 12th, was 28 kids!) No need to hit the panic button, just good to have an awareness that attendance is cyclical, and that our RE families are very busy folks with many demands on their time.

- Abundance was the theme for our November Children's Chapel. We invite our youngest UU's to fill various roles in Children's Chapel, including lighting the chalice, leading group meditation (You haven't lived until you've participated in a meditation led by a 5-year-old. It is Magical.) and sharing their joys and concerns. After Chapel, DRE and assistant Anne Cornwell created Gratitude Banners with the kids.
- DRE attended Lay Pastoral Care monthly meeting on November 1st. We began planning for the upcoming Groundhog Day Luncheon for Seniors.
- DRE attended Quarterly Council meeting with a great group of folks, presented reports for RE Committee & Lay Pastoral Committee.
- Senior High OWL class was cancelled due to our not meeting minimum registration number. We plan to try again in the spring.
- DRE days off: 11/26; 12/24.
- UU Kids service, "The Wheel of Thanks" on November 19th.
- Multigenerational "The Wonder of Winter Lights" service on December 17.
- We'll be taping the Labyrinth on the floor of the sanctuary on Sunday, December 17th, immediately following service.
- Speaking of which...please join us for our RE sponsored Indoor Walking Labyrinth on December 21st, from 5-8 p.m. All ages are welcome!
- RE Committee voted yesterday (Nov 12) to use real candles (rather than battery operated ones, as we did last year) for the Labyrinth. Comments in support of this decision were that the battery-operated candles did not give the same feel, and created a less warm atmosphere. Wendy Sapp is the coordinator for the Labyrinth this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay McCurdy

Director of Religious Education for Children & Youth  
UUC

## Board Report – VP Outreach Ministry – November 21, 2017

The Social Justice Team: In October, members of the Social Justice team prepared for, assisted with, and attended Father Lapsley's "Healing of Memories" workshops and training. Members of the team also went to a Veterans' Day event to publicize Father Lapsley's next visit in March, where he will be working with veterans and first responders. The team also continues to volunteer at Welcome Home, Father for the Fatherless, and attends various meetings and events related to social justice issues.

---

### Membership Team:

We have held 4 Faith Forward sessions after church on Sundays and already have 4-6 people who are interested in joining the church. Cathy and I decided we will have a New Member Sunday in January - the specific Sunday has not been determined as yet - but as one of the prospective new members said this past Sunday, it will be the perfect time for a new beginning for the new members and for the church. Even though we are really just getting started on the Faith Forward Program, we are encouraged by the participation and interest. We are eager to add on to the first 8 sessions by purchasing the next level of Faith Forward materials (a proposal will be forthcoming in the near future), so we can move visitors to members and members (old and new) into leadership. This is an exciting program and the more comfortable we become with it, the more successful we will become.

---

### Communications

Team: Anne Cornwell is stepping down as the chair of the Communications Team. She plans to remain on the team and is cross training Beth and others to help with the Newsletter. Chen has agreed to take over the chair on this team and wants to focus on using this team to reach out to the community for new friends and members. Of course, the regular responsibilities of this team will continue: ● Updating and maintaining the website. ● Posting on Facebook, Twitter and probably other places ● Advertising on WUTC when requested This team also remains available to work with committees on how to use some of the equipment we have at UUCU to increase the efficiency and create different ways to work together. They can, if requested, offer classes on google docs with an emphasis on how groups can use them in a collaborative way.

---

### Small Group

Ministry (SGM): As I mentioned before, Mary Lou (VP of RE) is normally involved in SGM - and she will be in the future. But for now, I'm working with Mandy, Wendy S and Cathy to determine if we are going to start new SGM groups in January or wait until next fall. Cathy and I attended facilitator webinar for Soul Matters Small Group Ministry program last Saturday. We have asked the congregation to sign up if they are interested in being in a "Small Group". Mandy, Cathy and I will be meeting next week to discuss how to proceed. After the webinar we attended, I can tell you that we are excited to be able to offer this program either in January or the fall.

Submitted by Linda Park, November 21, 2017

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's Report: available to members by contacting the church office.