

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COMMON MINISTRY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 11, 2021**

<u>Present:</u>		<u>Absent:</u>
Pastors	Bridget Flad Daniels, Jon Pahl	
Moderator	Tim Harder	
Vice Moderator	Heather Collins	
Treasurer	Jeff Gibson	
Clerk	Gail Hohenstein	
Education	Nancy Gibson	
Gifts & Memorials	Paco Espinosa	
Inreach & Membership	Denise Olson	
Outreach	Christie Reese	Achim Siefert
Stewardship	Clay Reese	
Worship	Betty Bienash	
Communications Coordinators	Ruth Homrighaus	Mary Ann Hudson
Guest(s)	Ben VerGiesen	

Meeting held via Zoom. Moderator Tim Harder called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Fellowship Room Proposal: Ben VerGiesen presented a layout and furnishing proposal for the Robert Bush Memorial Fellowship Room, which will be funded from a generous gift from the Robert Bush estate. It is intended to be a multi-purpose, multi-generational gathering space. Common Ministry will revisit the proposal at its March meeting.

Additions to the Agenda: None.

Congregational Joys and Concerns: Joys and concerns were shared.

Gathering Prayer: Jeff offered a reflection.

Common Ministry Orientation: Tim asked Ministry members to sign up for the gathering prayer for upcoming meetings. The procedures for Common Ministry minutes review were discussed.

Ministers' Reports: Bridget shared that she, Clay Reese, Jeff Gibson and Jeff Carels are participating in a 3-month course in cultivating congregational generosity. She was pleased to report that things are going well with Katrina Catteruccia's onboarding as our Financial Secretary, and that we expect the new Building Maintenance Technician (Sexton/Custodian) to begin March 1. Thanks to Mike VanStraten (our former long-term maintenance person) who has stepped in to do a once-over of the building during the month of February. The onboarding newly elected folks is in process. Bridget described the Wednesday night Lenten Zoom sessions that are being scheduled.

Jon reported PF is working on a project to gather an oral history of the congregation. He reminded us of the Wednesday evening Lenten session on Womanist Midrash. He mentioned a Lenten devotional will be available. As to Outreach matters, he again mentioned that the Brain Center continues to grow and reminded us of Give Big Green Bay next week.

Clerk's Report

The minutes for the regular meeting of January 14 will be approved at the March meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Jeff distributed the regular financial report (attached). Motion to accept the report approved (Heather/Paco).

New Business: None.

Continuing Business

- Reopening the Building Task Force Updates:
 - Outside Use:
 - City Request to Use Building for February and April Elections: City has chosen not to use space in February but would like to do so for April.

- Literacy Green Bay: The Church has received from Literacy Green Bay an expression of interest in using the former Mayflower Nursery School space. They are aware that we have a process to decide how to make the most appropriate utilization of this space and will put together a proposal for the church to consider as we also along with proposals from other groups. Don't need space until fall.
- Worship:
 - Other in-person gatherings: The COVID decision-making protocol presentation by Sherry Warren noted with gratitude. The Task Force continues to work to make sure all details are worked out for what is needed when we return to in-person worship. May be a couple of months, but when the time comes, there will be a need for a number of volunteers. On-line volunteer training will be available.
 - Technology: Clay: Cables have been run and cameras will be set up late next week for streaming. Thanks to the whole Reese family for their participation in the cabling.
- Generosity Teams: Bridget reminded us that the Budget and Priorities group had earlier recommended that we establish a team to focus on Congregational generosity, in light of the structural deficit we will face in the near future. We will need to encourage more generosity from the congregation and engaging in multiple forms of fundraising and revenue generation. The 4 persons who are participating in the training course mentioned above and other names were suggested as additional participants. The major focus of the group will be on funding the operating budget of the church.
- Former Mayflower Space/Building Usage: Tim dubbed the effort "Space Ministry." The plan is to form a Building Usage Task Force to operate with a focus both on mission and resource utilization and recommend the best use for the former Mayflower Nursery School space. Jon, Bridget, Tim, Christie and Nancy will participate, as well as a few non-Common Ministry volunteers.
- Report: Calvin Institute Grant proposal is in: Worship is Anti-Racism. Worship Ministry will largely be responsible for administering the grant. We should hear whether the grant was awarded in the spring.
- Tabled to March: Wi-Fi Access Points

Ministry Reports (Ministries are asked to report only items not covered in their minutes or which may need additional explanation or approval.)

EDUCATION — No additions.

GIFTS & MEMORIALS — No additions.

MEMBERSHIP & INREACH

There are a number of persons interested in church membership, so New Member classes will be held 4/22 and 4/26. 6 pm. Ministries are asked to sign up with Denise for one of the sessions and be prepared to describe their work to the potential new members. New Member Sunday will be May 9.

OUTREACH — No additions

STEWARDSHIP — No additions

WORSHIP

Betty shared that we will be working from Reflections from the Heart themes rather than lectionary in Lent.

JOSHUA Report:

Jeff reminded us again of the JOSHUA fundraising auction site beginning Valentine's Day.

Communications:

No report.

Adjournment

After prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hohenstein, Clerk

Next meeting: March 11 (Gathering Prayer – Jon)

Upcoming Gathering Prayer:

April Betty May Heather June Tim

**Union Congregational UCC
Treasurer's Report January 2021**

<u>Income</u>	<u>2021 Actual</u>	<u>2021 Budgeted</u>	<u>2020 Actual</u>
January	\$58,360	\$74,522	\$80,947
February	\$0	\$0	\$0
March	\$0	\$0	\$0
April	\$0	\$0	\$0
May	\$0	\$0	\$0
June	\$0	\$0	\$0
July	\$0	\$0	\$0
August	\$0	\$0	\$0
September	\$0	\$0	\$0
October	\$0	\$0	\$0
November	\$0	\$0	\$0
December	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$58,360	\$74,522	\$80,947

<u>Expenses</u>	<u>(thru January 31)</u>
Actual:	\$40,849
Budget:	\$46,199
Last Year:	\$46,672

Comments:

We start the year with revenue lagging the budget by about \$16,000 and expenses under budget by about \$5,500. Pledge income in January is typically the second highest month of the year. This year it was about \$10,000 less than budgeted and \$20,000 less than January 2020. Non-pledge income continues to outpace both the budget by about \$1,000 and 2020 by \$300.

Other than expected higher expenses for the financial secretary due to end of year and transition, there are no significant deviations from budget. Since January expenses were less than expected we start the year with a cash cushion of about \$17,500. Hopefully pledge income will come in stronger as the year goes on.

Respectfully submitted, Jeff Gibson