

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COMMON MINISTRY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 13, 2022**

Present:

Absent:

Pastors	Bridget Flad Daniels		
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	Achim Siefert	Christie Reese	
Stewardship	Clay Reese		
Worship	Betty Bienash		
Communications Coordinator		Ruth Homrighaus Mary Ann Hudson	
Guest(s)			

*HOW DOES WHAT WE AS COMMON MINISTRY ARE DOING AFFECT THE
CHURCH'S RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE WORK?*

Meeting held via Zoom.

Moderator Tim Harder called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and began by expressing thanks to Nancy and Jeff who will be leaving Common Ministry.

Gathering Prayer: Jeff led a prayer.

Additions to the Agenda: None.

Congregational Joys and Concerns: Joys and concerns were shared.

Minister's Report: Bridget said most of her activities will be handled elsewhere in the meeting. She noted that GIFT (Gathered in Faith Together) has decided not to conduct a MLK service this year. Our church will have speakers from WISDOM and EXPO (a criminal justice reform organization) on MLK Sunday. The Advent and Christmas services turned out beautifully (other than not being able to sing). Thanks to everyone who contributed to making them possible.

Clerk's Report

The minutes for the regular meeting of December 9, 2021 were approved (Heather/Jeff). A thank you note from Eric Goska was received and read by Bridget.

Treasurer's Report

Jeff distributed the regular financial report (attached). The report was approved (Gail/Clay).

New Business

- **Budget Proposal:** Jeff presented the proposed budget for 2022. It includes filling the half-time staff person vacancy (Assistant Pastor) midway through the year. Many items were not spent this year due to COVID but were maintained at the same level for 2022. Budget lines with adjustments were discussed. Some members expressed an aspirational goal of increasing OCWM funding in the future if possible. Motion to increase staff salaries by 3% was approved (Heather/Tim) with Bridget abstaining. Motion to approve budget for recommendation for presentation at the Annual Meeting approved (Achim/Denise).
- **Annual Meeting Planning:** Bridget discussed the plans for the January 30 annual meeting, which will be held via Zoom. Like last year, Zoom polls will be used for voting. Zoom link and voting instructions will be sent out to the Congregation.

Continuing Business

- In-Person Ministry Task Force: The Task Force has been busy. Last Sunday's service had 15 people in person, and all were involved in the service or connected to someone involved in the service, so the response to messaging about not meeting in person has been well-received. Faith Formation has decided to not meet for a month and youth groups will meet via Zoom. If the Omicron surge necessitates suspending in-person gatherings longer, Faith Formation will create digital alternatives.
- Nominating Committee Report: Bridget shared that one position is yet to be filled.
- Space Ministry Task Force: The group met with DeLeers to talk about potential renovations for the Capital Campaign list. Their subcontractors will do a walk-through to create a rough budget proposal. A capital campaign consultant will be engaged to determine if we have the capacity to raise the funds to accomplish the renovations and will assist in planning the fundraising effort.
- Employee Testing Requirement: Testing requirement will continue; test kits are available.

Ministry Reports (unless covered in Ministry meeting minutes)

EDUCATION

No additions.

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

Paco, on behalf of G&M, moved approval of two recommendations, a grant to the Farmory of \$5,000/year for 2 years to cover operational costs and a grant to the Brain Center of \$1,160 to help with relocation expenses. Both grants were approved.

MEMBERSHIP & INREACH

No report except that although the Omicron variant has stymied membership efforts, one new member was added.

OUTREACH

The Congregation had a great response to the giving trees. Boxes for NEWCAP donations will be in the coat room. Announcements will be made. An upcoming Friday newsletter will include a description of the congregation's past efforts for immigration advocacy and promote a Sunday adult education presentation by a representative of Catholic Charities, which is leading the Afghan resettlement work in Green Bay.

STEWARDSHIP

Clay expressed that his confidence in the church's finances is high, and noted a commendable effort from Jeff. He also mentioned that Mark Smith has been really helpful with sustainability initiatives.

WORSHIP

All in report.

JOSHUA Report: Jeff shared information from the Transformational Justice group and noted an upcoming 5-week session by WISDOM addressing issues of mass incarceration. Bridget added that JOSHUA has been included as a recipient of Give Big Green Bay this year.

Communications Report: Bridget reported there have been website issues arising from the host company (GoDaddy) migrating our website to another server without notifying us, with the result that our ability to access the website was lost. Ruth was finally able, after much time and effort, to get a substantial portion of the website back. She is working on getting it back up and then Eric will make additional updates. We plan to move to a different organization to host the website. Ruth, MaryAnn and Shaun are very well versed on this. On-line giving was not lost and is still available.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was approved. After prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. (Jeff/Clay).

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hohenstein
Clerk

Next meeting: February 10, 2022 - 6 p.m. via Zoom
Prayer: Christie

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

<u>Income</u>	<u>2021 Actual</u>	<u>2021 Budgeted</u>	<u>2020 Actual</u>	<u>Surplus Remaining</u>
January	\$58,410	\$74,522	\$80,947	
February	\$25,948	\$26,095	\$23,891	
March	\$54,442	\$31,841	\$29,554	
April	\$38,682	\$48,375	\$47,819	
May	\$21,632	\$23,503	\$22,912	
June	\$15,580	\$32,764	\$33,698	
July	\$26,699	\$34,359	\$33,623	
August	\$46,775	\$24,822	\$21,889	
September	\$38,508	\$23,317	\$19,841	
October	\$39,109	\$31,154	\$22,812	
November	\$31,925	\$28,877	\$45,099	
December	\$47,291	\$48,846	\$51,291	
Total Giving	\$445,001	\$428,475	\$433,376	
 From Surplus	 \$24,134	 \$62,004		 \$38,120
 Total Revenue	 \$469,135			
 <u>Expenses</u>	 <u>(thru December 31)</u>			
Actual:	\$469,135			
Budget:	\$490,479			
Last Year:	\$482,297			

Comments:

At the end of budget year, revenue is above budget by \$16,500. (This is nearly the exact amount we received from the Employee Retention Tax Credit.) In December, Pledge Income was about \$1,000 under budget and Non-Pledge Income was about \$100 under budget. YTD expenses are under budget by about \$21,000. Pledge income YTD is \$7,400 or about 2% less than budget. Non-pledge income YTD is \$3,000 or about 7% above budget.

YTD revenue was below actual expenses by \$24,134. To cover the deficit we took that amount from the \$62,004 we had allocated from the preceding year's general balance. As a result, the general balance currently stands at just over \$47,000.

Respectfully submitted, Jeff Gibson