

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

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		
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 6:05 p.m.

Gathering Prayer: Achim led prayer.

Additions to the Agenda: None.

Congregational Joys and Concerns: Joys and concerns were shared.

Minister's Report:

Bridget reported that she will be representing Union at the installation of Rev. Adam Westrich at First UCC on Webster on Sunday, and encouraged Common Ministry members to attend as well. Through the Racial Justice Task Force of the WI Conference UCC she is participating in a White Privilege Seminar over the next several months. The NE Association has asked for recommendations of a Union member to be part of their Placement and Transition Committee. She is also working with Sandy Polarek on nominating for 2022 and with Advantage Bookkeeping to create a new chart of accounts. She reminded everyone to have "Annual Report" on their December agendas, as each group will need to have their Annual Report to Eric in the church office by Monday, January 3.

Clerk's Report

The minutes for the regular meeting of October 14, 2021 were deferred to the next meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Jeff distributed the regular financial report (attached). The report was approved (Heather/Achim).

New Business

- **Pledge Campaign update:** Bridget shared that the Pledge Campaign is off to a good start. Les VanVonderan will be leading the follow up team, and Bridget asked for volunteers to help make follow up contacts.

Continuing Business

- **In-Person Ministry Task Force:** Currently in a monitoring status, assessing how things are going.
- **Generosity Team:** The team will be developing a generosity calendar to encourage giving as an act of faith year round.

- Space Ministry Task Force: With the Brain Center leaving, the team has had to modify the remodeling plans. Union will be looking for not for profit, mission aligned tenants to utilize the vacated space. Todd Kane has confirmed with the city that we will not need architectural plans, but the number of fixtures in the restrooms to be updated is still an open issue. Bridget has had discussed the renovations with On the Mark Dyslexia Clinic.
- Employee testing follow up: Given the level of COVID in the community, the testing requirement for unvaccinated employees will continue. Common Ministry will review the testing requirement need monthly. Policy compliance issues will go through the Personnel Committee.

Ministry Reports (unless covered in Ministry meeting minutes)

EDUCATION

No report.

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

Currently determining budget for next year and developing a more structured request process.

MEMBERSHIP & INREACH

Report 2 new members joined. Will attempt an outside coffee hour in December. Two ideas will be brought to the In Person Task Force for consideration.

OUTREACH

Discussed the Blessing Box food drive and recent press releases and resultant TV exposure. Discussed need for help with the tree and wreath sales. Giving trees discussed.

STEWARDSHIP

The committee wants to thank Jone Wood and the Wednesday Weeders / Saturday Snippers and Cathy Putman for all of their work on the gardens this year.

WORSHIP

The November 21 Memorial Sunday and Adult Ed was discussed. The Pageant on December 19 was discussed. Reminder: worship on Pageant Sunday will be EXCLUSIVELY ONLINE

JOSHUA Report: The Annual banquet was held, and it did not raise nearly as much money as usual leaving JOSHUA with a significant deficit for the coming year.

Communications Report: The Communications Team has been a great help with the successful press release for the Blessing Box. The Union podcast development is in process as are some website enhancements. The on-line “giving” processing company now has an app which congregation members can use.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was approved. After Bridget led prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Harder,
Moderator

Next meeting: December 9, 6 p.m. via Zoom
Prayer: Clay

Union Congregational UCC
Treasurer's Report October 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	\$23,476	
March	\$54,442	\$31,841	\$29,563	
April	\$38,682	\$48,375	\$48,007	
May	\$21,632	\$23,503	\$23,955	
June	\$15,580	\$32,764	\$33,698	
July	\$26,699	\$34,359	\$32,622	
August	\$46,775	\$24,822	\$23,880	
September	\$38,508	\$23,317	\$18,087	
October	\$39,109	\$31,154	\$72,630	
November	\$0	\$0	\$0	
December	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Total Giving	\$365,785	\$350,752	\$386,865	
From Surplus	\$28,014	\$57,831		\$34,240
Total Revenue	\$393,799			
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>(thru October 31)</u>			
Actual:	\$393,799			
Budget:	\$408,583			
Last Year:	\$396,581			

Comments:

After ten months, revenue is above budget by \$15,000. This month, Pledge income was about \$7,900 over budget and Non-Pledge income was about \$250 under budget. As we enter the last two months of the year, it appears that the budget is in fairly stable condition. YTD expenses are under budget by about \$15,000. Pledge income YTD is \$7,800 or about 3% less than budget. Non-pledge income YTD is \$3,400 or about 9% above budget.

Continuing the expected trend, YTD revenue falls below actual expenses. To reconcile revenue with expenses we have dipped into the surplus at significantly less than we anticipated at \$28,014. The impact of the ERC is still helping us by preserving more of the allocated surplus.

Respectfully submitted, Jeff Gibson