

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COMMON MINISTRY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAY 12, 2022**

Present:

Absent:

Pastors	Bridget Flad Daniels		
Moderator	Tim Harder		
Vice Moderator	Heather Collins		
Treasurer	Sandy Polarek		
Clerk	Gail Hohenstein		
Education	Beth Piontek	Benny Rieth	
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	
JOSHUA Liaison	Jeff Gibson		
Guest(s)			

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

Meeting held in person and virtually.

Moderator Tim Harder called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Gathering Prayer: Achim shared a prayer.

Additions to the Agenda:

Congregational Joys and Concerns: Joys and concerns were shared.

Minister's Report: In addition to the work that will be reported in the Ministry reports, Bridget has helped organize and attended several recent JOSHUA prayer services at the site of violent bloodshed in Green Bay. She is appreciative that she is able to attend. Her work on required recertification of "boundary training" is much more involved and time-consuming than previously. Her work with the Wisconsin Conference Racial Justice Task Force focusing on voter rights continues. She is working with other Brown County churches on a Pride worship and picnic scheduled for June 12. She attended the Northeast Association annual meeting virtually while Lou Norsetter and Steve Jones attended in person. The Wisconsin Conference annual meeting will be in June.

Clerk's Report

The minutes for the regular meeting of April 7, 2022 were approved (Heather/Beth).

Treasurer's Report

Sandy distributed the regular financial report (attached). The report was approved. The increase in expenses was anticipated due to several annual payments came due. (Denise/Achim) (NOTE: Headings for the attached file say "March" but contents of the report reflect data through April.)

New Business - None

Continuing Business

- **In-Person Ministry Task Force:** Betty reported that coffee hour and choir are back on Sundays. The Task Force is still trying to keep distancing during the services and is also keeping an eye on COVID reports. They are hopeful that we can keep moving forward.
- **Capital Campaign:** A small group composed of Tim Harder, Clay Reese, Mary Ann Hudson, and Bridget recommended that we engage The James Company as a capital campaign consultant. They will provide more complete services than the other candidates. They are very experienced and have a proven track record. Our representative lives in Appleton, so it is expected he would have a good understanding of local culture. The plan is to conduct a feasibility study prior to

launching a campaign. There was discussion on asking Gifts & Memorials to fund the consultant fees. Bridget will discuss with them. Bridget distributed a list of potential capital campaign projects. She asked that the Ministry Chairs discuss with their Ministries and provide input. There will be a listening session in June with the Congregation to discuss the potential project list. As Common Ministry had received the campaign consultant's proposal only this afternoon, it was agreed that a vote would be deferred.

- Generosity Team Update: The Team was happy to see we have implemented practice of including a narrative along with the quarterly statement. Thanks to Jeff Gibson for writing the first letter. The Easter Offering raised over \$3,600. An approach for the fall pledge campaign will be determined after decisions are made on the capital campaign.
- Assistant Pastor Search: The job description is posted in the National UCC website, with the Wisconsin Conference of Churches, Indeed, and will be soon on our social media. The team is working on an interview plan.

Ministry Reports (unless covered in Ministry meeting minutes)

EDUCATION

Survey got very limited responses. Not certain how to better reach the congregation. There was discussion about potential ways to proceed.

GIFTS & MEMORIALS -- No Report.

MEMBERSHIP & INREACH

Coffee hour will be held when volunteers sign up to manage it. There has been some interest. Hopefully we will soon be able to meet in the courtyard. There will be a New Member coffee hour on June 12 to welcome new members. We expect 4 to 6 new members to join, some of which are already getting involved in Church activities, which is great. Plans are afoot for an August picnic. The idea of a potential Chrismon project for newer members was discussed.

OUTREACH

Next Saturday will be both a food drive and a day to drop off goods for the rummage sale. Sherry Warren is leaving the area, so we will need to name another EPH liaison.

STEWARDSHIP

No report. They are going to try to develop a running list of things that volunteers can do rather than having a specific work day.

WORSHIP

Betty asked that we begin to think about creative approaches for worship services as we are able to return to interactive participatory services.

JOSHUA Report: Thanks for the JOSHUA report (attached).

Communications Report: No report.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was approved. After prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 7 p.m. (Achim/Heather).

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hohenstein
Clerk

Next meeting: June 9, 2022 - 6 p.m.
Prayer: Tim

Treasurer's Report ^{April} March 2022

	<u>Revenue</u> <u>2022 Actual</u>	<u>Expenses</u> <u>2022 Actual</u>	<u>2022</u> <u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Revenue</u> <u>2021 Actual</u>	<u>Surplus</u> <u>Remaining</u>
January	\$58,360	\$33,638	\$75,978	\$80,947	
February	\$25,928	\$34,898	\$27,778	\$23,891	
March	\$44,998	\$36,111	\$31,381	\$29,554	
April	\$22,174	\$48,103	\$52,978	\$47,819	
May					
June					
July					
August					
September					
October					
November					
December					
Total Giving	\$151,460	\$152,750	\$188,115	\$182,211	
From Surplus	\$1,281		\$40,384		\$39,103
Total Revenue	\$152,750				
Expenses	<u>April</u> <u>(thru March 31)</u>				
Actual:	\$152,750				
Budget:	\$163,592				

Comments:

Giving was down for April (\$22,174). Expenses were up (\$48,103). The Easter offering was \$3,637. Pledge and non pledge giving were down.

Respectfully submitted, Sandy Polarek

JOSHUA Liaison Report

May 12, 2022

JOSHUA Environmental Task Force

March Forth to Earth Day

Fridays from March 4 to April 22, 5 PM

Demonstrations at Washington Street and Walnut against Enbridge expansion into Wisconsin.

Prayer Circle

May 5 12 Noon

Golden House, 1120 University Ave

Religious Leaders Caucus hosted a prayer circle to pray for peace due to a recent domestic violence incident.

JOSHUA Board Mtg

May 16 6 PM

West Side Moravian Church 1707 S Oneida St

JOSHUA Board Retreat

May 21 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Mulva Library, SNC Campus 400 3rd St, De Pere, WI

JOSHUA is hosting a retreat for board members, staff, community members, and any other interested volunteers who would like to brainstorm effective ways for JOSHUA to grow. We will be planning an organizational "reset."

First Generation Immigrants and Refugee Celebration

June 25 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Bay Beach

We are hosting a celebration for the first generation immigrants and refugees in the Green Bay and surrounding communities. We'd like to welcome them and have them share dishes from their countries to make them feel at home. The purpose is to celebrate your presence and get to know you.

JOSHUA Celebration Picnic

June 25 2:00 pm - 8:00 pm Bay Beach

Join us at our picnic! We will have snacks and light conversation. It will be held at pavilion #6. We invite anyone currently supporting or interested in supporting JOSHUA!

JOSHUA Spring 2022 Newsletter

Link for details:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1m8aYcW1nln7WGv6ROZEznoCT21Rmv51KxjcvbbWglLU/edit?usp=sharing>

Newsletter Headlines

- **JOSHUA is launching an Immigration Task Force**
- **JOSHUA is seeking supporters who have expertise in non-profit fundraising or just want to help JOSHUA raise funds.**
- **JOSHUA is seeking anyone who enjoys event planning to help with our annual banquet.**
- **The annual JOSHUA electronics recycling event will take place on Saturday, September 10 from 8am-12pm.**

Submitted by

Jeff Gibson