

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COMMON MINISTRY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF AUGUST 11, 2022**

Present:

Absent:

Pastors	Bridget Flad Daniels		
Moderator		Tim Harder	
Vice Moderator	Heather Collins		
Treasurer	Sandy Polarek		
Clerk	Gail Hohenstein		
Education	Benny Rieth		
Gifts & Memorials	Paco Espinosa		
Inreach & Membership		Denise Olson	
Outreach	Achim Siefert	Christie Reese	
Stewardship		Clay Reese	
Worship	Betty Bienash		
Communications Coordinator			
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 in the Chapel Classroom.
Vice-Moderator Heather Collins called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Gathering Prayer: Jeff shared a reading.

Congregational Joys and Concerns: Joys and concerns were shared.

Minister's Report: Bridget reported that the bulk of her recent efforts has involved Personnel. Two nursery staffers have been hired and she is working on their orientation. She and Ryan Rieth are working with 2 members of Stewardship for hiring a Sexton. Interim plan is to hire a cleaning company to come in 1x/week to do basic cleaning. We really need church members to be vigilant and help out as they see things that need doing. We are very close to having an interim music director for September-January. During that time, the plan is for listening sessions about music program with both the church at large and folks involved in the music program to help hone the position description and then work on a long-term hire. The WI Conference UCC is conscious of the need to be forming leaders—both lay and clergy - and is launching a Leadership Forward campaign at 6 pm on August 23 at First UCC where they will describe their efforts to help form leaders for the coming years. Let her know if you are interested in participating. On Sunday, Bridget received a call from the alarm system reporting motion in one of the hallways. Apparently, the courtyard doors were not locked, and a homeless person came in to get out of the rain. The Green Bay police are handling. There is a strong need for donations for the parson's purse due to the large number of homeless people.

Clerk's Report

The minutes for the regular meeting of June 9, 2022 were approved (Betty/Sandy).

Treasurer's Report

Sandy provided the information from the attached report. The approved funds for the Capital Campaign feasibility phase have been transferred from Gifts & Memorials. The report was accepted (Achim/Benny). WPS has increased our monthly payment but we will likely also have a "catch-up" payment at the end of the year

New Business

- September meeting date change: Meeting rescheduled for September 7. Gail will not be available, so someone else will need to handle minutes.
- Feed My Starving Children: Jeff discussed and distributed information about the organization (see attached). Outreach will consider the program.

Continuing Business

- In-Person Ministry Task Force: Nursery is up and running. PrayGround will be in place soon. Worship has a survey in the bulletin about Communion elements (trays vs sealed packets). They are tweaking the wording of COVID statements in the email blast. Meeting again next week because of the current new CDC recommendations.
- Capital Campaign Update: Bridget reported the feasibility study team will be: Gail Hohenstein, Achim Siefert, Jeff Gibson, Tim Harder, Jason Ferry and Mary Hemminger. The team has met with John Clark. Jason, Mary and Bridget are meeting to craft some language for the project description and impacts, which will be distributed with the annual pledge campaign materials this year. There will be a survey distributed to the congregation about the capital campaign, there will be interviews with a handful of church members, and team members will be trained to conduct listening sessions with the congregation. Bridget found it interesting that a number of people are interested in the prospect of having some sort of outreach mission attached to the campaign.
- Generosity Team Update: The team agreed we won't be doing a pledge brochure this year but plans to continue congregational testimonials at the beginning of worship.
- Assistant Pastor Search: Given the number of other searches and the lack of receiving viable profiles, the team has put their work on hold pending viable candidates. They understand that they may need to work to re-tool the position description and bring that back to Common Ministry once the other positions are filled if we still do not have a strong candidate.

Ministry Reports (unless covered in Ministry meeting minutes)

EDUCATION

Benny reported they are working on getting PrayGround open, as well as getting volunteers for church school teachers and aides. Youth groups will be combined again and are all staffed. They will be meeting 2x/month (1st and 3rd Wednesdays) instead of every Wednesday. ReUnion Sunday will be 9/18. Getting Bibles ready to hand out. Bridget added she is working with families with children eligible for confirmation to work out the best times for them to meet.

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

No report.

MEMBERSHIP & INREACH

Picnic is this Sunday. They are hoping to have a tent available for the ReUnion Sunday meal. Moon Beach retreat is September 9-11.

OUTREACH

The election day bake sale netted over \$300. Food drive will be Saturday 9-12. Still looking for an EPH liaison.

STEWARDSHIP

Bridget reported they are working on computer memory upgrade.

WORSHIP

If interested in assisting with the AV staff, please let Betty know. There will be a special coffee hour to honor Seong on 8/28. Both Worship and Common Ministry want to express deep appreciation to Seong for her strong leadership, especially how she led us through COVID.

JOSHUA Report:

Jeff distributed his report (attached).

Communications Report: No Report

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was approved. After prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m. (Achim/Sandy)

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hohenstein
Clerk

Next meeting: September 7 at 6 p.m.
Prayer: Betty

Future Prayers:

September	Betty
October	Denise
November	Achim
December	Clay
January	
February	

Union Congregational United Church of Christ - Green Bay WI
Summary of Cash Activity for 01/01/2022 thru 07/31/2022

Wednesday, August 10, 2022

Page 1 of 1

Asset Account: 1.100.100 - Associate Main Checking 0587

Cash Balance as of 01/01/2022(at the beginning of the day)		\$115,535.33
Add Transactions From:		
Income	\$23,199.89	
Donations	\$208,582.35	
Transfers (debit)	\$20,100.70	
Journal Entries (debit)	\$1,440.70	
AK Collections (debit)	\$0.00	
Total Additions	\$253,323.27	
Subtract Transactions From:		
Payments	\$149,564.52	
Payroll	\$0.00	
Transfers (credit)	\$2,653.69	
Journal Entries (credit)	\$124,463.90	
Total Subtractions	\$276,682.11	
Cash Balance as of 07/31/2022(at the end of the day)		\$92,176.39

JOSHUA Liaison Report

August 11, 2022

JOSHUA Electronic Recycling Fundraiser

September 10, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

JOSHUA is partnering with St. Matthew's Church for an electronic recycling fundraiser. Come drop off your old electronics! You can sign up to volunteer here: <https://secure.everyaction.com/O67AIHFyIEmkOELzAQ1MFw2>
There will also be a table of bakery items for sale and a garage sale Join us!

Annual JOSHUA Banquet

October 13, 2022, 6 PM Riverside Ballroom

Featured speaker will be Tamra Oman, FREE Statewide Program Director. FREE is an organization of formerly incarcerated women associated with the EXPO organization. EXPO works to restore the rights and dignity of those affected by the criminal justice system. FREE and EXPO are in the process of developing a presence in the Green Bay area.

The banquet will also include an auction to raise funds to continue to support JOSHUA's work.

Changes on JOSHUA Environmental Task Force

Task force leader Bobbie Webster has decided to step away as leader. She expressed her concerns that JOSHUA does stand up for the rights of women.

JOSHUA Stand of Rights of Women/Abortion

The JOSHUA board decided to reach out the Religious Leaders Caucus for advice on how we should respond to questions pertaining to the rights of women.

Green Bay Community Church

Green Bay Community Church in the process of reviewing their possible joining JOSHUA. JOSHUA board executive committee is engaged with church leadership.

Updates:

Union Supporting UCC Grant for JOSHUA

The JOSHUA board decided not to participate in grant proposal.

Juneteenth Celebration

June 18

JOSHUA board members collaborated with the League of Women Voters to staff a table at the event.

JOSHUA First Generation Immigrants and Refugee Celebration

June 25

Approximately 50 children and the parents participated. It was an excellent opportunity to get to meet several immigrant families.

JOSHUA Celebration Picnic

June 25

Small but enthusiastic crowd enjoyed snacks and camaraderie.

Submitted by
Jeff Gibson