

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
COMMON MINISTRY  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 8, 2024**

**Present:**

**Absent:**

Pastors	Bridget Flad Daniels		
Moderator	Tim Harder		
Vice Moderator	Clay Reese		
Treasurer	Sandy Polarek		
Clerk	Gail Hohenstein		
Education	Beth Piontek		
Gifts & Memorials	Kathy Baldwin	Mike Stepp	
Inreach & Membership	Denise Olson		
Outreach	Jammie VerGiesen		
Stewardship			
Worship	Zoe Harkoff		
Communications Coordinator		Ruth Homrighaus Mary Ann Hudson	
JOSHUA Liaison		Steve Hartman	
Guest(s)			

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

Moderator Tim Harder called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**Gathering Prayer:** Beth shared a prayer.

**Additions to the Agenda:** None.

**Congregational Joys and Concerns:** Joys and concerns were shared.

**Minister's Report:** Bridget will not be attending the gathering about disrupting political violence she mentioned in the January meeting. She has agreed to work with a religious studies class on black theology at St. Norberts which will involve 4-5 students embedded into the community for a semester. They will work with Bridget on church history, and attend worship. Their final project will be designed to help the congregation move forward on its anti-discrimination efforts. Bridget noted that the new sexton is working out wonderfully. With sadness, she reminded us that Ray's last day at the organ will be this coming Sunday. There will be a reception after church. The F Word project will be installed February 24. There will be a lunch-and-learn after the coffee hour on February 25. If anyone would be able to provide lodging to the curator of the exhibit on February 24, please let her know. The offerings for the Lenten movie series have been set. Beth agreed to write an article for the email newsletter one of the weeks in March.

**Clerk's Report**

The minutes for the regular meeting of January 2024 were approved (Sandy/Jammie). The Annual Meeting draft minutes were distributed to Common Ministry for review and Gail asked that any comments be provided to her by the end of February. Gail reminded us that she will not be present for the March meeting, and that upon appointment as Clerk pro tem, Heather Collins has agreed to take minutes at that meeting.

**Treasurer's Report**

Sandy distributed the regular financial reports for January (attached). January is always a big month for pledge receipts. Inreach budget looks large due to the T-shirt order awaiting repayments. Motion to accept the report approved (Sandy/Zoe).

**New Business**

- Annual Meeting Review: It was agreed that all went well.
- Banking Resolutions: The following were approved (Denise/Kathy).

1. *BE IT RESOLVED THAT*

- *Bridget Flad Daniels, Senior Pastor and Sandra Polarek, Treasurer, of Union Congregational United Church of Christ (“Church”); are hereby authorized to make withdrawals from the Church’s line of credit account (account numbers blocked for security purposes) with Associated Bank, N.A. (“Bank) and all such persons are granted access to all information and records pertaining to such account; and*
- *Bridget Flad Daniels, Senior Pastor; Sandra Polarek, Treasurer; Tim Harder, Moderator; and Clay Reese, Vice Moderator of the Church are authorized to sign checks and make withdrawals from the Church’s checking account (account numbers blocked for security purposes) and money market account (account numbers blocked for security purposes) with the Bank and all such persons are granted access to all information and records pertaining to such account; and*
- *Bridget Flad Daniels, Senior Pastor and either Tim Harder, Moderator; Clay Reese, Vice Moderator; Sandra Polarek, Treasurer of the Church are hereby authorized to sell, assign and endorse for transfer, certificates representing stocks, bonds, or other securities now registered, or hereafter registered in the name of the Church; and all such persons are granted access to all information and records pertaining to such stocks, bonds or other securities.*
- *Bridget Flad Daniels, Senior Pastor; Tim Harder, Moderator; Clay Reese, Vice Moderator; Sandra Polarek, Treasurer; and Katrina Catteruccia, Financial Secretary of the Church are hereby authorized to sell, assign and endorse solely for the purpose of transfer into the Church’s checking account (account numbers blocked for security purposes), certificates representing stocks, bonds, or other securities now registered, or hereafter registered in the name of the Church and are granted access to all information and records pertaining to such stocks, bonds or other securities.*
- *Katrina Catteruccia, Financial Secretary of the Church is granted access to all information and records pertaining to the above-named accounts.*

2. *BE IT RESOLVED THAT*

- *Bridget Flad Daniels, Senior Pastor, and either Tim Harder, Moderator, Clay Reese, Vice Moderator, or Sandra Polarek, Treasurer, are hereby authorized to sell, assign and endorse for transfer, certificates representing stocks, bonds, or other securities now registered, or hereafter registered in the name of Union Congregational United Church of Christ; and are granted access to all information and records pertaining to such stocks, bonds or other securities.*
- *Katrina Catteruccia, Financial Secretary is granted access to all information and records pertaining to such stocks, bonds or other securities.*

3. *BE IT RESOLVED THAT*

- *Bridget Flad Daniels, Senior Pastor, is hereby authorized to sign checks and make withdrawals from the Church’s checking account (account numbers blocked for security purposes) with Associated Bank, and is granted access to all information and records pertaining to such account.*
- *Katrina Catteruccia, Financial Secretary is granted access to all information and records pertaining to such account.*

4. *Whereas, Section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code permits a minister of the gospel to exclude from gross income (in computing federal income taxes) a church-designated allowance paid as part of their compensation to the extent it is used by for actual expenses in owning or renting a home; and Whereas, the Rev. Bridget Flad Daniels is compensated by Union Congregational United Church of Christ exclusively for the services as a minister of the gospel; and*

*Whereas, Union Congregational United Church of Christ does not provide the Rev. Bridget Flad Daniels with a parsonage, therefore, it is hereby resolved that:*

- *the total compensation for housing and salary paid to the Rev. Bridget Flad Daniels for calendar year 2023 shall be \$84,404 of which \$37,746 (45%) is hereby designated to be a housing allowance, and*
- *the designation of \$37,746 as a housing allowance shall apply to calendar year 2024 and all future years unless otherwise provided.*

- Common Ministry Orientation – No new members present.

### **Continuing Business**

- Generosity Team Update: No new update. Team is meeting later in the month to discuss the proposed Spring effort to connect with non-pledgers.

### **Ministry Reports (unless covered in Ministry meeting minutes)**

#### EDUCATION

All is going well, both in Faith Formation and Adult Education. Everyone who is actively involved with the youth groups agrees we need to split middle and high schoolers next year as participation in both groups has increased. They are discussing potentially using the OWL (Our Whole Lives) curriculum next year.

#### GIFTS & MEMORIALS

No report. Ward Bacon doing the Adult Education on Sunday, February 18.

#### MEMBERSHIP & INREACH

Next New Member Sunday will be May 19, with classes on April 25 and May 1. Sign-ups for “7 to Sup” are available in the Church Hall. There will be a breakfast between services on Easter Sunday.

OUTREACH

Making plans for the Juneteenth celebration. MLK day events were cancelled due to weather but materials which were purchased are either being used for the same projects on another date or being saved for next year.

STEWARDSHIP

Pew shortening has gotten great feedback. Pew cushion shortening plans are underway.

WORSHIP

Most work has been Easter planning. F Word project will begin February 25. The Maundy Thursday service will be an Agape meal. Good Friday will be a Tenebrae service. There will be 2 services on Easter. April Communion date has been moved the second Sunday. Haley has applied for and received a campus ministry grant from the Wisconsin Conference, which will allow for 4 choir internships. A committee to work on Ray’s successor has been established, and will include Tim, Zoe, Tracey Klickman, Emily Lakatos, Jade Hatton, Bridget, and Haley. There are plans for congregational input both in person and via a written survey, after which a position description will be developed. The hope is to begin interviewing in the spring. David Hassel and Elaine Moss will fill in through Easter.

**JOSHUA Report:** Steve has approached JOSHUA with his work on combatting white nationalism, and they are contemplating taking up that cause.

**Communications Report:** None

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Hohenstein  
Clerk

Next meeting: March 14 - 6 p.m.

**Upcoming Prayer/Snack Schedule:**

<u>Month</u>	<u>Prayer</u>	<u>Snack</u>
<b>March 14</b>	Zoe	Zoe
<b>April 11</b>	Jammie	
<b>May 9</b>	Denise	Denise

Union Congregational United Church of Christ - Green Bay WI  
Treasurer's Report as of January 2024 (Treasurer Budget Report)

Thursday, February 8, 2024

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Account #	Account Name	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Annual Budget Remaining
<b>Incomes</b>					
<b>General Operating Fund</b>					
	Total General Operating Fund	\$101,113	\$101,113	\$405,500	\$304,386
<b>Stewardship Ministry</b>					
	Total Stewardship Ministry	\$0	\$0	\$3,000	\$3,000
<b>General - Non Operating Fund</b>					
	Total General - Non Operating Fund	\$900	\$900	\$12,100	\$11,200
	<b>Total Incomes</b>	<b>\$102,013</b>	<b>\$102,013</b>	<b>\$420,600</b>	<b>\$318,586</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
<b>General Operating Fund</b>					
<b>Administrative</b>					
	Total Administrative	\$5,309	\$5,309	\$87,850	\$82,540
<b>Facilities</b>					
	Total Facilities	\$898	\$898	\$38,900	\$37,901
<b>Senior Pastor Expenses</b>					
	Total Senior Pastor Expenses	\$11,375	\$11,375	\$147,753	\$136,377
<b>Associate Pastor Expenses</b>					
	Total Associate Pastor Expenses	\$0	\$0		
<b>Lay Staff Expenses</b>					
	Total Lay Staff Expenses	\$12,424	\$12,424	\$168,172	\$155,747
	<b>Total General Operating Fund</b>	<b>\$30,108</b>	<b>\$30,108</b>	<b>\$442,675</b>	<b>\$412,566</b>
<b>Worship Ministry</b>					
	Total Worship Ministry	\$269	\$269	\$7,150	\$6,880
<b>Stewardship Ministry</b>					
	Total Stewardship Ministry	\$0	\$0	\$900	\$900
<b>Inreach Ministry</b>					
	Total Inreach Ministry	\$1,769	\$1,769	\$2,875	\$1,105
<b>Education Ministry</b>					
	Total Education Ministry	\$825	\$825	\$7,115	\$6,289
<b>Outreach Ministries</b>					
<b>Outreach B</b>					
	Total Outreach B	\$370	\$370	\$15,800	\$15,230
	<b>Total Outreach Ministries</b>	<b>\$370</b>	<b>\$370</b>	<b>\$15,660</b>	<b>\$15,230</b>
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$33,143</b>	<b>\$33,143</b>	<b>\$476,315</b>	<b>\$443,172</b>
	<b>Difference</b>	<b>\$68,870</b>	<b>\$68,870</b>	<b>(\$55,715)</b>	