

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
COMMON MINISTRY  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 13, 2025**

**Present:**

**Absent:**

Pastors	Bridget Flad Daniels		
Moderator	Heather Collins		
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	Jason Ferry		
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 Heather Collins called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

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

**Additions to the Agenda:**

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

**Minister's Report:** Bridget reported she has received a number of pastoral concerns, and reminded us that we should give others a good dose of grace. She and Christie Reese are working on WISE congregation development. Her exciting news is that we have hired an organist! His name is Franklin Beyer. He will begin playing for the Lenten season. We will give thanks for David Hassel's sharing of his musical gifts on his last Sunday, March 2. Much of the organ music library used by the church previously was the personal music collection of the former organist, and it is not available to us now. Bridget asked that we authorize an expenditure of \$1,000 from the Betty Brown fund to acquire organ music. The motion was approved (Sandy/Jason).

**Clerk's Report**

The minutes for the regular meeting of January 13, 2025 were approved (Denise/Beth). Annual meeting minutes were distributed for review.

**Treasurer's Report**

Sandy distributed a preliminary January report and the 2025 budget (both attached). The report was accepted (Sandy/Kathy).

**New Business**

- **ICE/Immigration Advocacy:** One of the early directives of the new Presidential administration is that facilities such as schools, churches and hospitals are no longer considered sensitive spaces for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs & Border Patrol, so ICE can now enter and take people from churches. Bridget has participated in training from the ACLU and the WI Council of Churches, and we should be aware and aware of action recommendations. There will be an adult education session in the spring with a representative from Casa Alba Melanie.

- Ministerial Boundaries: Discussion about appropriate boundaries for pastors.
- Banking Resolutions: The following annual banking/housing resolutions 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; Heather Collins, Moderator; and Jason Ferry, Chair of the Stewardship Ministry 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 Heather Collins, Moderator; Jason Ferry, Chair of the Stewardship Ministry of the Church; 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; Heather Collins, Moderator; Jason Ferry, Chair of the Stewardship Ministry of the Church; or 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 Heather Collins, Moderator, Jason Ferry, Chair of the Stewardship Ministry of the Church, 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.*
- ***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 2025 shall be \$91,298 of which \$39,262 (43%) is hereby designated to be a housing allowance, and*
- *the designation of \$39,262 as a housing allowance shall apply to calendar year 2025 and all future years unless otherwise provided.*

- Prayer & Treats Signup:

### **Continuing Business**

- Generosity Team Update: A few pledges are still coming in. The Generosity Team plans an Easter appeal to households which have not yet pledged for 2025.
- Bond of Union 125th Anniversary: No discussion.

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

#### EDUCATION

No additions.

#### GIFTS & MEMORIALS

Kathy presented the following motions which were both approved:

1. Grant request from Outreach and Worship ministries for \$15,000 for one year to fund an initiative for Justice and the Arts in the church and wider community. (Second Gail)
2. Request from Jeff Larson for \$3,000 for Green Bay Sail & Paddle to expand the sailing program for underserved populations. (Second Sandy)

#### MEMBERSHIP & INREACH

New Member Sunday will be April 6. A sign-up for Ministries' attendance at one of the classes was passed around. There will be a thank you reception for David Hassel on March 2.

#### OUTREACH

No Report.

#### STEWARDSHIP

Jason presented three requests for approval for distributions of capital campaign funds, all of which were approved:

1. Up to \$15,000 from the General Maintenance Fund to replace failing water heaters (Second Gail).
2. \$8,000 from the General Maintenance Fund for boiler maintenance. (Second Gail)
3. \$2,500 from the Mission Hub Fund for testing lower-level flooring to determine if abatement would be necessary for renovation of any affected areas. (Second Gail)

#### WORSHIP

No report.

### **JOSHUA Report:**

**Communications Report:** None.

Thank you to Gail for treats.

### **Adjournment**

Sandy/Denise.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gail Hohenstein, Clerk

Next meeting: January 13 - 6 .pm.

### **Upcoming Prayer/Snack Schedule:**

<u>Month</u>	<u>Prayer</u>	<u>Snack</u>
<b>March 13</b>	Heather	Heather

# Income: January 2025 Report (Prelim)

Total operating	\$42,053.
Room Rentals	916.
Total	<u>\$42,969</u>

## Expenses:

Administrative	\$4,496.
Facilities	2,225.
Senior Pastor	11,849
Lay Staff	<u>14,688</u>
Total	<u>\$33,259</u>

## Worship:

0

## Stewardship:

0

## Inreach:

\$85

## Education

\$296.	Admitted
<u>457.</u>	Nursery
\$753	

## Outreach

0

Total Expenses \$34,092

Difference \$58,870

Dear Union, JOSHUA is quite active in a variety of areas this Winter and Spring.

Highlights include:

1. Significant response to Immigration threats

-- see Collaborative materials and training with Casa Alba Melanie. We have several members and friends of Union who are participating in this effort. The other resource and training comes from Elanna Lopez, Immigration Law Firm Administrative Assistant (contact and follow up information at (414) 488-1200), P.O. Box 1226, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

2. Madison Action Day

-- See Poster posted on [JOSHUA4JLSTICE.ORG](http://JOSHUA4JLSTICE.ORG). This state-wide call to meet with legislative representatives is a call to gather at r Madison Masonic Center, 301 Wisconsin Ave, Madison, WI on April 10, 2025. Beginning at 8:a.m.. This day of community action has an entry fee of \$35/person early bird registration. Bus transportation is organized from out-state communities, including Green Bay.

3. Training for Budget analysis and response

-- in preparation for Madison Action Day will be offered at the Mauthe Center on the UWGB campus on February 27 from 6-8:00 p.m.

4. JOSHUA Housing Task Force to launch initiative at Tarlton Theatre TO BE ANNOUNCED soon.

Steve Hartman  
920-246-7539 (C)  
[sbhartman@gmail.com](mailto:sbhartman@gmail.com)

Revised

# Budget 2095

Income:	Operating Fund	425,500
	Stewardship	3,000
	General	15,000
		<hr/> \$441,500

Expense:	Administrative	52,900	* Tech Computers designated
	Facilities	40,600	
	Senior Pastor	154,354	
	Lay Staff	198,566	
		<hr/> \$446,420	

Worship:	8,600
Stewardship	900
Inreach	2575
Education:	6725

Outreach	* 15,600
----------	----------

---

480,800  
(39,320)

\* \$1992 (tech designated for  
computers)