

**UNION CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
COMMON MINISTRY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF AUGUST 14, 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	Betty Bienash		
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 6:00 p.m.

Gathering Prayer: Betty shared a prayer.

Additions to the Agenda: None

Congregational Joys and Concerns: Joys and concerns were shared.

Minister's Report: Bridget informed us that at its annual meeting in June, the WI Conference voted to restructure and eliminate the regional associations. This will cut down on the middle level judicatory and will allow the whole state to be following the same processes and protocols.

Clerk's Report

The minutes for the regular meeting of June 12, 2025 were approved (Denise/Kathy).

Treasurer's Report

Sandy distributed the June & July budget summaries (attached). Motion to put on file was approved (Jason/Kathy).

New Business

- **2026 Budget Process:** Heather reported that the officers have begun meeting for general discussions on the 2026 budget. Staff salaries and building insurance are likely the areas which will see the largest increases. The Personnel Committee has been asked to provide a recommendation on staff salaries. Bridget noted that staff has been requested to provide input into budget lines that impact the work they do for the church. The Ministries were asked for their input on budget and advise Sandy of any changes they would recommend. Budget discussions will continue at future Common Ministry meetings.

Continuing Business

- **Generosity Team Update:** Bridget noted that the annual pledge campaign will repeat this year: "Because of You, Union Church Changes Lives". Bridget and Mary Hemminger are working on the pledge brochure, which will provide quotes from newer members on what they find most interesting here. The Campaign will begin on September 21 and dedication of pledges will be November 2. A follow-up campaign will then take place.
- **Review of the Church Rolls:** Process has begun. A letter has been prepared and the rolls will be reviewed next week. Common Ministry needs to approve folks who are moved from active to inactive.
- **Bond of Union 25th Anniversary:** Bridget reported that both Michael Lukens and Cathy Putman have agreed to write something for the newsletter on the subject of the Bond of Union.
- **WISE:** Survey has concluded and committee will meet next week.

- **Capital Campaign:** As of July 31, \$525,000 of the \$592,000 pledged has been received, which is ahead of projections. Biggest projects in the works are lower-level bathrooms. Partitions in the classrooms will follow.

Ministry Reports (unless covered in Ministry meeting minutes)

EDUCATION

Still looking for one more teacher for Sunday morning (2 times/month).

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

The Gifts & Memorials Ministry moved approval of a start-up grant of \$3,800.00 to fund curriculum materials and one session of training for 5 Union-affiliated facilitators for the Our Whole Lives (OWL) comprehensive sexuality education program for grades 4-6. OWL is a nationally-recognized, age-appropriate curriculum covering human development, relationships, personal skills, sexual behavior, sexual health, and the societal/spiritual aspects of sexuality. The Gifts and Memorials Ministry noted the expectation that further training in the OWL method would be built into the Education Ministry's budget in future years. Approved.

MEMBERSHIP & INREACH

Reunion Sunday will be September 14. A sign-up for help sheet for the potluck was passed around. Next New Member Sunday will be in November following classes in October. Retreat is coming up and it looks like we will have a great turn-out.

OUTREACH

Bridget reported that Outreach is requesting that Common Ministry authorize release of the last \$5,000 of its allocation from the Capital Campaign. The motion was approved (Denise/Gail).

STEWARDSHIP

Jason shared that project work is progressing well. Given the work on the lower level, this is an apt time to undertake a needed replacement of the boiler valves in the sanctuary. On behalf of Stewardship, he moved that we disburse up to \$7,500 from the capital campaign funds for valve replacement. Approved. He said there is work underway on the classroom dividers and on replacement of the AV mixer and new area microphones.

WORSHIP

Choir and Communion will return after Moon Beach, September 14. The bell choir schedule will shift to the 3rd Sunday of the month to allow some choir members to more frequently attend adult ed.

JOSHUA Report: Steve reported on the "A Bridge is Stronger than a Wall" prayer service coming up on August 24 at 1:30 in St. James Park. There will be a need for help hauling chairs over to the park and returning them after the service. JOSHUA was well represented in 25th anniversary of Wisdom. There will be an August 23 prayer vigil at GBCI also at the Governor's mansion in Madison. The JOSHUA annual meeting will be November 14 at the Village Grille.

Communications Report: No report.

Thank you to Betty for treats.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was approved (Denise/Kathy). After prayer, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Hohenstein
Clerk

Next meeting: September 11 - 6 p.m.

Upcoming Prayer/Snack Schedule:

Month	Prayer	Snack
September 11	Beth	Beth
October 9	Sandy	Sandy
November 13	Jason	Jason
December 11	Jammie	Jammie
January 8, 2026		

Union Congregational United Church of Christ - Green Bay WI
Treasurer's Report as of June 2025 (Treasurer Budget Report)

Monday, August 11, 2025

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Account #	Account Name	Previous YTD	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
Incomes					
<i>General Operating Fund</i>					
	Total General Operating Fund	\$211,063	\$32,663	\$249,782	\$423,800
<i>Stewardship Ministry</i>					
	Total Stewardship Ministry	\$300	\$0	\$0	\$3,000
<i>General - Non Operating Fund</i>					
	Total General - Non Operating Fund	\$5,966	\$100	\$10,940	\$15,000
	Total Incomes	\$217,329	\$32,763	\$260,722	\$441,800
Expenses					
<i>General Operating Fund</i>					
<i>Administrative</i>					
	Total Administrative	\$41,548	\$2,212	\$24,246	\$52,900
<i>Facilities</i>					
	Total Facilities	\$31,719	\$8,307	\$26,838	\$40,600
<i>Senior Pastor Expenses</i>					
	Total Senior Pastor Expenses	\$71,704	\$12,937	\$74,663	\$154,354
<i>Lay Staff Expenses</i>					
	Total Lay Staff Expenses	\$76,435	\$17,880	\$101,345	\$198,566
	Total General Operating Fund	\$221,408	\$41,337	\$227,093	\$446,420
<i>Worship Ministry</i>					
	Total Worship Ministry	\$5,827	\$285	\$3,720	\$8,600
<i>Stewardship Ministry</i>					
	Total Stewardship Ministry	\$450	\$0	\$0	\$900
<i>Inreach Ministry</i>					
	Total Inreach Ministry	\$2,854	\$0	\$679	\$2,575
<i>Education Ministry</i>					
	Total Education Ministry	\$3,721	\$184	\$3,751	\$6,725
<i>Outreach Ministries</i>					
<i>Outreach B</i>					
	Total Outreach B	\$6,000	\$1,000	\$6,000	\$15,600
	Total Outreach Ministries	\$6,000	\$1,000	\$6,000	\$15,600
	Total Expenses	\$240,262	\$42,808	\$241,245	\$480,820
	Difference	(\$22,932)	(\$10,045)	\$19,476	(\$39,020)

If the accounts in the subtotals have changed or if ledger and subsidiary account attributes have changed, Previous YTD totals may not represent a valid comparison.

Union Congregational United Church of Christ - Green Bay WI
Treasurer's Report as of July 2025 (Treasurer Budget Report)

Monday, August 11, 2025

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Account #	Account Name	Previous YTD	Period Activity	YTD Balance	Annual Budget
Incomes					
<i>General Operating Fund</i>					
	Total General Operating Fund	\$269,872	\$23,517	\$273,299	\$423,800
<i>Stewardship Ministry</i>					
	Total Stewardship Ministry	\$624	\$0	\$0	\$3,000
<i>General - Non Operating Fund</i>					
	Total General - Non Operating Fund	\$6,866	\$1,100	\$12,040	\$15,000
	Total Incomes	\$277,362	\$24,617	\$285,339	\$441,800
Expenses					
<i>General Operating Fund</i>					
<i>Administrative</i>					
	Total Administrative	\$53,342	\$6,161	\$30,407	\$52,900
<i>Facilities</i>					
	Total Facilities	\$33,631	\$961	\$27,800	\$40,600
<i>Senior Pastor Expenses</i>					
	Total Senior Pastor Expenses	\$83,498	\$12,337	\$87,000	\$154,354
<i>Lay Staff Expenses</i>					
	Total Lay Staff Expenses	\$88,415	\$17,062	\$118,408	\$198,566
	Total General Operating Fund	\$258,887	\$36,523	\$263,617	\$446,420
<i>Worship Ministry</i>					
	Total Worship Ministry	\$6,328	\$570	\$4,290	\$8,600
<i>Stewardship Ministry</i>					
	Total Stewardship Ministry	\$2,531	\$0	\$0	\$900
<i>Inreach Ministry</i>					
	Total Inreach Ministry	\$3,096	\$267	\$946	\$2,575
<i>Education Ministry</i>					
	Total Education Ministry	\$4,143	\$350	\$4,102	\$6,725
<i>Outreach Ministries</i>					
<i>Outreach B</i>					
	Total Outreach B	\$7,000	\$0	\$6,000	\$15,600
	Total Outreach Ministries	\$7,000	\$0	\$6,000	\$15,600
	Total Expenses	\$281,988	\$37,711	\$278,956	\$480,820
	Difference	(\$4,625)	(\$13,094)	\$6,382	(\$39,020)

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