

UCOT Board Meeting

May 16, 2020

Via Zoom

Members present: Bette Myerson, Bob Aubrecht, Mimi Owensby, Joe Mazza, Chuck Fawns, Dennis Scott, Barbara Scott and Margot Coleman

The meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.m., and Mimi was asked to light a candle.

1. **Opening words:** Chuck read *The Binding Unity*, by Howard Thurman, a Baptist minister who later left to help found the Church for the Fellowship of All Peoples (also known as the Fellowship Church) in San Francisco.
2. **Minutes of the April meeting:** The matching pledge donation program is an open-ended program, not limited as stated in the minutes. The minutes were approved with correction.
3. **Treasurer's Report** – Bette
There were a couple of things to be noted. We are behind about \$500, because we don't have plate donations from services. We have the additional \$5,000 in expenses, for UCOT CARES. It was suggested that the \$5,000 be considered an expense on the report. Also, annual pledges are behind, so this should be mentioned during the service. The report was approved with changes.
4. **UCOT Cares** – The total donated so far is \$13,485. There was some discussion regarding the anonymity of donors. One person has asked that he/she not be acknowledged. Some people felt that it was OK and some felt it wasn't OK. The board finally decided that in the need for oversight, Barbara will have access to the information as well as Bette. The motion was passed.
5. **New Items**
 - a. UU Zoom meetings for socially isolated (i.e., alone and or single)?
The board agreed that this is a good idea. It was decided that Barbara write an article in the Tempo section of the newspaper, which offers to have a social discussion on Zoom, or for people

- who don't have access to technology, a phone call. It was suggested that the first meeting be 6 to 8 people. The board felt that this was a good method of outreach for the church.
- b. We discussed how to reach certain members of the congregation that we haven't seen in church services. Barbara mentioned that Gary called everyone on our membership list but was unable to reach everyone.
 - c. Ministers stepped up for June - There were no ministers scheduled for the June services. Even though Munro usually takes June off, he agreed to do the second service, and Gary agreed to do the first service.

6. Committee Reports

- a. **Charitable Giving** - The committee is still listening to people who feel we should give more money to fewer organizations. Jane Starks will be speaking to the committee. Mary McPhail Gray will host the meeting on Zoom.
- b. **Stewardship & Finance Committee** - Bob will follow up to remind members to make their pledges.
- c. **Small Groups update**
 - Hope Group** - Dennis is hosting, and they are covering one chapter of *Silence Speaks* per meeting per month. Meetings last approximately an hour and a half.
 - Men's Group** - Approximately 12-15 men and topics vary.
 - Women's Group** - Only about six women were at last meeting.
- d. **Sharing Circles** - The meetings are going well. The group ranges from 10-12 people. Some people just "listen" and don't participate by sending emails.

7. Closing words: Dennis read *We Are All More Human than Otherwise,* by Richard Gilbert.

The next meeting will be June 27th, and we will discuss reopening. Bob agreed to send us the CDC guidelines regarding this possibility.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Margot Coleman, Secretary