

UCOT Board Meeting Minutes

March 26, 2022 at 3:00 pm via Zoom

- I. **Attendance** - present were Bob Aubrecht, Chuck Fawns, Emily Gillispie, Joe Mazza, Mimi Owensby, Be Scott, and Dennis Scott.
- II. **Opening Words** - Mimi read from The Unexpected Stairway.
- II. **Minutes of the February Meeting** - Approved as written.
- III. **Treasurer's Report** - Approved as written.
- IV. **2022 service and circle schedules updates** - Bob reported that Munro has requested to be away for two months. Jeanne will provide the services for 7/3 and for 9/18, but the 7/17 Sunday is still open. Joe suggested that Doug Inhofe be contacted to see if he could make a trip out here for that date. Bob will contact Doug. Bob also asked if there was interest in doing a Fall Harvest event this year. Be and Emily said that people had enjoyed it a great deal in the past, and that we should have it again if at all possible. The Day of the Dead (Chuck and Marsha facilitating) is scheduled for 11/6. Joe confirmed that the lay leader schedule has been set.
- V. **Lost keys** – Joe volunteered to speak to Dave Cordova about getting two additional keys. We will pay for any cost associated with this. We will also need to get new locks and keys for the cabinet.
- VI. **Return to Dinners for Six or Eight** – Nancy Schultz had volunteered to coordinate this. It was suggested that an email be circulated to identify people who were interested. Bob will discuss this further with Nancy.
- VII. **Protocol for in-person services and circles** – Chuck had sent everyone an email describing the protocol being used by the Jefferson Unitarian Church in Denver for their in-person services. It was generally agreed that we should follow this example. Rachel, who is unvaccinated, would be asked to wear a mask and stay socially distanced from everyone. We would not require proof of vaccination to enter. The singing of hymns would be discontinued, since singing has been identified as a way that Covid-19 is easily spread. N95 masks would be provided at the door to anyone wanting one. The service would be broadcast over Zoom or a streaming service; that audience would be able to see and hear the service, but would not be able to speak. For circles, Be reported that Amy has sent out surveys about meeting in person and has so far received some positive responses. Dennis will follow up with Amy to see what the results are. It was agreed that in-person circles would follow the same protocol as services.
- VIII. **Charitable Giving Committee Report** – Mimi reviewed the 2022 CG Budget, highlighting those organizations that we would no longer donate to and those that have been added. She noted that there is also \$400 in reserves to be used as needed. The budget was approved as written.
- IX. **Communication / Media / Newsletter** – Mimi mentioned that she has submitted the thank-you notes that we received from recipients of the Medical Debt Relief programs, one of our UCOT Cares programs last year, to the newsletter, so that the congregation could be aware of how well-received and timely our donations were for the individuals being helped. She will continue contributing these kinds of responses to the newsletters in successive months.

- X. Small Groups** – Bob reported that the Men’s Group is meeting in person, and asked whether the Women’s Group would want to consider starting back up. Be replied that it seemed to her that the sharing circles were serving as a sort of “woman’s group”, as the majority of the participants were women. It was agreed that the Women’s Group as it used to be would remain dormant until someone steps forward wanting to re-instate it.
- XI. Sharing Circles** – Dennis reported that 11-12 people have been meeting each time. At the end of each session, the participants always remark upon how beneficial and valuable the circles are for them.
- XII. Closing Words** – Bob talked about the importance of resiliency for an organization in these times. He said that the characteristics of a resilient individual or organization are:
- self-awareness
 - realism
 - having the ability to keep calm under stress
 - empathy
 - self-control
 - motivation
 - optimism
- XIII. Next Meeting** – April 16, 2022 at 1:00 pm, either in person at the Aubrechts’ house, or via Zoom if needed.