

UCOT Board Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2023, at 1:30 pm via Zoom
Meeting id 709 932 0303

President Emily Gillispie called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm. Also present were Chuck Fawns, Joe Mazza, Mimi Owensby, Annette Rubin, and Be Scott.

- I. **Opening Words:** Be read opening words by Thomas Merton from *Trusting the Gold*, by Tara Brach.
- II. **Minutes of the November Meeting:** Joe moved to accept the November minutes. Mimi seconded, and the vote was unanimous.
- III. **Treasurer's Report:** Annette moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Be seconded and the vote was unanimous. Joe gave a pledge drive update. The goal was \$35,169, which was the total of last year's pledge drive. So far, we have received \$33,415, \$1754 less than the goal. There might be more pledges when this information is shared at the annual meeting. The ministers' line item is still fluid considering the unknowns with the minister search. Joe will work on budget adjustments before the annual meeting.
- IV. **Items for Discussion**
 - a. Services and Calendar (All)
 - i. Annual meeting agenda: Joe is stepping down from the Board. Everyone else will continue. There was discussion of whether we need an additional board member. Annette moved that Chuck become a voting board member. Emily seconded, and the vote was unanimous. Be moved to accept the annual meeting agenda as presented by Emily with one change: if Sara is unavailable, Annette will present the Membership Committee report. There was discussion about presenting the idea of forming a worship committee at the lay leader training tomorrow. More planning is needed, so it will not be mentioned yet.
 - ii. Ministerial search committee progress report: The committee has been given links to Diana's sermons, CV, and a newspaper article covering her social justice work. The committee has developed a job description for a part-time contract minister and a process to follow, based on the requirements and process used in 2014.
 - b. Circles: Mimi will coordinate the Sharing Circles in 2024. Emily will assist her with opening and closing and be her backup.
 - c. Establishing an emergency relief fund for our members: The topic was deferred till after the annual meeting, to the February Board meeting.
 - d. Julian has asked about the advisability of having a 5th Sunday program on March 31 since it is Easter Sunday. Emily moved to have him continue planning a 5th Sunday program that day. Be seconded, and the vote was unanimous. Richard Rubin is forming a UU study group which will meet at SOMOS on the second Thursday of the month at 10:30 am.
- V. **Committee Reports**
 - a. Charitable Giving: The committee has completed its reports on the organizations we donate to. Mimi is planning her report for the annual meeting.
 - b. Music: Nothing to report.
 - c. Membership: At the next meeting, Sara will train Annette and Jo on the CHMeeting program. The program has been upgraded for a larger congregation.

d. Caring Community: Emily will call Patsy to coordinate a little help for Be following Michael's hip surgery.

VI. Closing Words: Chuck shared two quotes: one by Sam Trumbore and the other by William Ellery Channing. The meeting was adjourned at 3:08 pm.

VII. Next Meeting: January 13, 2024, at 1:30 pm via Zoom

Addendum:

- It was determined that Sara will be away during the annual meeting. Sara said that she would provide Annette with some material to present on membership. The agenda was updated to replace Sara's name with Annette's.