

UCOT Board Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2024, at 1:00 pm via Zoom

Meeting id 709 932 0303

President Emily Gillispie called the meeting to order at 12:57 pm. Also present were Chuck Fawns, Mimi Owensby, Annette Rubin, and Be Scott.

- I. **Opening Words:** Mimi read opening words by Kendyl Gibbons from Sources of Our Faith.
- II. **Minutes of the August Meeting:** Emily moved to accept the August minutes. Be seconded, and approval was unanimous.
- III. **Treasurer's Report:** Emily moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Annette seconded and the vote was unanimous. UCOT will be supporting the Holy Cross Hospital debt relief program. Mimi will ask Bette if she wants to make that announcement.
- IV. **Items for Discussion**
 - a. **Services, Circles, and Calendar (All)**
 - i. 2025 Calendar: Some details for the 2024 calendar were discussed first. Emily will ask some volunteers if they want to organize the Harvest Luncheon on October 20. Emily will check with Diana to see if Gary has confirmed that he will do the Animal Blessing in October 2024. If he cannot, will he do it in 2025? She will also ask Diana if she'd like to do a Winter Solstice service. December 21, 2024, is on a Saturday. Chuck will ask Donna Collins if she can lead a Burning Bowls service on December 29, 2024. Emily will draft a 2025 calendar containing Diana's service dates, a This I Believe service, a Fall Harvest Luncheon, the Day of the Dead, the Blessing of the Animals, a Winter Solstice service, and a Burning Bowl ceremony. She'll send it to the Board.
 - ii. Sound quality of the livestreaming: Emily moved we vote on whether to purchase the sound equipment Joe researched. Be seconded and the vote was unanimous.
 - iii. Livestreaming the 9/29 Fifth Sunday program: Sally and Be will both learn how to livestream a service. Be will be back up for Sally.
 - iv. UCOT Dinners: The Dinners for Six program is on hiatus until early 2025. Marsha Fawns has been talking with Nancy Schultz about a way to organize groups of different sizes.
 - v. Circles: Mimi has started to organize facilitators for 2025.
 - b. **Proposed 2025 budget:** We agreed that \$300 is a reasonable fee for guest ministers. We voted via email to give 5% increases to our three contract employees. Emily will ask Joe if the amount budgeted for ministers included pastoral care. {Addendum: Emily asked, and Joe said that those amounts are indeed in the budget. But since our discussion of volunteer-led services and guest ministers, Be thinks we're safe to leave the budget for Ministers where it was.}
 - c. **Pledge drive:** Be will send the Board the draft of the pledge drive letter. Annette will get a list of members from ChMeetings to email to Be. Be will purchase envelopes and postage. Mimi will print return address labels. Board members and a few others will call all the members to ask for feedback as part of the pledge drive. Be will ask Bette and Dianne Frost if they want to help with this. Annette, Emily, and Be will hand address the envelopes. We need the pledge forms and copies of the letter. Emily will sign the letters and fill in the names.
 - d. **Contract renewal with the Masons:** Chuck gave the draft contract to Dave on September 3 and is waiting for a response.

e. Miscellaneous Items:

- i. Diana approved having a Zoom component to UU 101. Annette will create the Zoom link and take her iPad. Emily will show Annette the WiFi booster and give her the password tomorrow.
- ii. Mya has shared information from the presidential search committee with Chuck.

V. Committee Reports

- a. Charitable Giving: Third-quarter payments have been sent out. Nothing else to report.
- b. Music: Nothing to report.
- c. Membership: Sara's training Zoom on ChMeetings took place. Annette plans to have a Membership Committee meeting soon, including our new members, Julian Spalding and Joanne Stringer, as well as continuing member Jo Gall. Annette removed the double entries of people on ChMeetings except for Mimi. She couldn't remove Mimi's duplicate because she has administrative access. She asked Mimi to remove it herself.

VI. Closing Words: Mimi read closing words.

VII. Next Meeting: October 12, 2024, at 1:30 pm via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Annette Rubin, Secretary