

**Minutes**  
**UUFM Board Meeting**  
**February 6, 2020 6-8:05 p.m.**

**Present:**

Tony Filipovitch, President  
Penny Herickhoff, Vice President (attended via Zoom)  
Tom Little, Member at Large  
Andy Roberts, Member at Large  
Faye Mattison, Secretary  
John Knox, Treasurer  
Nancy Cramblit, Past President  
Rev. Rita Capezzi, Minister

**Not Present:**

Tricia Nienow, Member at Large

**Greeting and Check-In**

**Chalice Lighting and Board Covenant:** We are a welcoming people of diverse beliefs who commit to nourish the spirit, broaden the mind, nurture the earth and build community. May this flame we kindle remind us to strive, today and every day, to love beyond belief.

**Review Agenda for Adds/Revisions:** Move Joint Meeting with Finance Committee up to first item.

**Visitor's Forum:** Finance Committee Members—Bob Finley, Chair; Kay VanBuskirk, Dennis Cramblit

**Consent Agenda:** Attendance, January Board Minutes, Treasurer's Report, Committee Reports.  
Approved.

**Board Email Motion:** The Board voted unanimously to add Macey Forsyth, Child Faith Director, to the UUFM account ending in 3981 at MVFCU. Tony will obtain signatures from the four current account holders--Anthony Filipovitch, Linda Ganske, John Knox and Rita Capezzi. .

**Joint Meeting with Finance Committee:**

- Our mortgage is going down by \$600-700 per month.
- The electric bill is \$800 for one-half of the year. We receive 20% of the benefit from the solar panels for approximately the next 12 years.
- The committee will discuss Share the Plate with EdJ, including policy on how allocations are made and who decides. The next EdJ meeting is Wednesday, March 4, at 5:45 p.m. Note: Charity evaluators don't evaluate religious organizations.
- They cleaned up designated funds to revolving funds and moved out some outdated funds.
- The Finance Committee needs committee and team budget requirements before their next meeting the third Monday of March.
- The committee will explore ways for people to contribute, i.e. QR (Quick Response) code.

**Ministry Report:**

● **Guest Speakers—**

- ▷ Rev. Lisa Doege and Rev. Rita will participate in a pulpit exchange.
- ▷ Rev. Kelli Clement will preach on Sunday, February 23, on UU efforts to change a law that restricts the right to a woman's choice over reproduction. That Sunday and on March 1 (below), the children will go straight to CFD.
- ▷ Rev. Harlan Limpert will preach on Sunday, March 1, on UU efforts to create a law in

Minnesota to allow end-of-life choices. He and Rebecca Thoman, MD, will give a presentation after the service.

- ▷ On Thursday, February 27, local doulas who companion folks as they die will present a program open to the community.
- Rita will be able to turn UU101 over to someone else, and in time, the same should be true of UU201.
- Committee on Shared Ministry (COSM) needs a new member; they currently only have three members. Preferred qualifications include someone who can see the big picture.
- Some of our current youth leaders will drop off next year, so we will have a need for more leaders to step forward.
- Our youth may need more familiarity and comfort with the larger UU, so more of them will be willing to attend out-of-town events and youth conventions. Some of our youth live out of the Mankato area.
- A Greeter Celebration and Refresher was held on Saturday, January 25. The experience was a good one, with feedback from presenters and greeters about how to keep the Fellowship safe, ways to extend welcome into the Hospitality Hour, and how to best arrange the entryway to invite newcomers.
- **Technology in the Sanctuary—**
  - ▷ More folks than we knew are having problems hearing in the Sanctuary. Dick Nienow is raising a group to look at all the tech in the sanctuary, including hearing assist, computer and projector, and microphones. Rita has asked that the review be comprehensive and that some professional service be enlisted. She believes the Fellowship could leverage Faithify funds for consultation money and seek a Chalice Lighter grant for part of the costs of improvements.

#### Updates:

- **Lifetime Membership—**Margaret Preska and Beth Haugen. Penny sent special certificates to them on February 3.
- **Membership Certification—**109 adults were certified and submitted to UUA.
- **Upcoming Board Vacancies—**We will have vacancies for a Vice President, Secretary (unless Faye stays on for a second two-year term) and two at-large members (Andy will go off and Tricia's term is done).
- **Nominating Committee—**The Board will discuss this at our March meeting. The committee needs to be impaneled by April and will include the Past President (Nancy Cramblit), one Board member and one non-Board member. A slate of candidates will be presented to the congregation at the May Annual Meeting.
- **Call for Budgets by April for Committees, Teams and Board—**
  - ▷ The Finance Committee needs to start working on the budget in March.
  - ▷ Board Budget, to be finalized later—
    - Leadership Academy (\$1190 this year).
    - Annual Retreat (\$525 this year). This is not enough.
    - Regional Assembly (\$210 this year), Online General Assembly (\$160 this year).
    - Staff Recognition—Tony suggests budgeting for staff recognition from the Board, including an end-of-year gift.

#### Operating Pledge Drive:

- **Schedule—**
  - ▷ Committee/Team contacts are in progress; leadership pledges should be available soon. The brochure is not yet completed. In a few days, we will announce pledge totals so far.
  - ▷ February 26, 2020: Determine who hasn't pledged; send a mailing or contact them personally.

- ▷ March 8: Mailing to the congregation.
- ▷ March 29: Celebration event. John can sign people up with EFT forms at that time. So far, Nancy Cramblit is the only Celebration Team member.
- ▷ March 31: Pledge drive ends.
- ▷ April 1: Send EFT forms to those who wish to have their pledges auto-withdrawn. Prior to sending the EFT forms out, change the wording to make withdrawals continuing, so they won't stop without people's knowledge.
- ▷ April: Some followup may be necessary.
- ▷ Note: All new members who have joined since Rita has been with us are pledging.

**Discussion of Mid-Year Meeting:**

- Specific discussion results will go to the committees and teams.
- We will need to prioritize the large, general ideas generated through the discussion process.
- Rita raised a concern that the word "justice" is absent from the UUFM mission statement. Board discussion followed.

**Sunday Suppers Coming to an End:** Linda Ganske, Becky Rossow and Anika Rossow Strasser have managed the main organizing and cooking activities for Sunday Suppers (previously Food Not Bombs) since 2016. In order to use their time and talents in different ways, Linda, Becky and Anika will be stepping down. The last meal will be held on March 29. If the program is to continue, others will need to come forward. We may hold Table Talk discussions to gauge the level of interest in continuing the program.

**Motion to Adjourn at 8:05 p.m.:** John Knox; Second, Tom Little; approved.

**February Board Meeting:**

- Our next Board meeting will be on **Thursday, March 5, at 6 p.m.**