

UUFM Mid-Year Meeting Minutes
1/12/2025

President Jon Peterson and past-President Sarah Sifers led the meeting.

The congregation read/spoke the chalice lighting words and Congregational Covenant of Right Relations in unison.

A quorum count was taken, yielding 41 members in attendance.

Tony Filipovitch moved approval of the agenda; Dennis Cramblit seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Sarah Sifers moved approval of the 2024 annual meeting minutes; Bob Finley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports and slides were shared in each of the following areas, with additions/comments noted in italics:

- Ministry Highlights

Diane Dobitz added that as a congregation we now pay an "honor tax" to Dakota indigenous peoples.

Election judges in the congregation were called out for recognition.

- Board Highlights

- Minister hired on a full-time contract basis
 - Hired Rev Diana Mclean for the minister position
- Choir director hired
 - Hired Mark Brekke for the Choir Director
- Staff hours for Administration and Youth/Young Adult Outreach increased to provide
- outreach support
- Committees Activities
 - Personnel committee
 - Buildings and Grounds
 - Pride Committee
 - Committee on Shared Ministry
 - Finance Committee

- Treasurer's Report (Liz Kipp shared two slides: a bar chart of income, expense, and deficit for our current fiscal year; and a line graph of our financial assets back to Dec. 2022)

Liz emphasized that flooding cleanup expenses and a subsequent water abatement project contributed to our projected deficit of ~ \$118,000 for the current fiscal year.

Kathy Brynaert asked if we should be considering further flood mitigation efforts.

Deb Fitzloff asked for a report on how our solar panels are doing. Liz responded that we essentially pay \$0 for electricity.

- Stewardship Campaign

Sarah Sifers reiterated three options related to the campaign and our budget for next year: stay the course; stretch; cut back.

Sarah indicated that the campaign will start on 2/9 with a closing celebration on 3/2 (this was subsequently changed to 3/9).

Sarah indicated that we will be looking at a pledge auto-renewal option. Laura Peterson indicated that such auto-renewal in "industry standard" in the non-profit realm.

Congregational Discussion/Input

- Discuss Changes to Bylaws to modify the Board to five members.

There was no discussion/input.

Kathy Brynaert moved to adjourn the meeting; Dennis Cramblit seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Lee Ganske, Secretary

1/29/2025