

Board Report dated for April 2023
Karen Binkley – President

Members of the Board – Tom Cunningham, Vice President, Nancy Luthy, Secretary, Christina Thrasher, Beth Lepore, Vic Elam

March 2022 - I began attending Board meetings as a member of the Board after a previous member resigned. Plans were made to update Kat's Letter of Call. The Evaluation Form for the minister was approved. It was recommended that we RESTART COFFEE HOUR! beginning the first week of April.

April 2022 – George Banziger reported that he would reapply in August for the Chalice Lighter Grant since his grant had been previously turned down.

Gwen Banziger reported that the Caring Committee had supported both members and friends with 102 cards, 134 delivered meals, 29 home visits, a hospital visit, 75 phone calls, and 45 gifts were delivered.

The pollinator garden on the West Side has become well established. The solar bench, donated by DuPont, was finally installed on the River Trail by the Armory.

Annie Warmke and Roger Kalter created a “Homecoming” theme to be celebrated the first Sunday of each month, to culminate in a “weekend of fun” in July.

Effective immediately, it was decided that the wearing of masks will be optional unless the rate of infection in Washington and Wood Counties increase above 5%.

Kat reported that FUUSM is entitled to 3 delegates plus a ministerial delegate at the Portland, Oregon General Assembly.

May 2022 - The evaluation of the minister is expected to be completed by June. It was determined that any changes to the COVID rules would be decided by the Board. Kat will post a “Mask Notice” each Sunday.

June 2022 – The Board voted to hire Ginny Jones for the position of Office Assistant. Elaine Barr is the new Chair of the Membership Committee. After much discussion, the Board determined that FUUSM would pay our “Fair Share” (\$7,786) to the UUA. Chris Hoke completed her 3-year term as President of the Board.

July 2022 – I attended my first meeting as President of the Board on July 11, 2022. The new Office Assistant had resigned for personal reasons so the position of Office Assistant was reposted. The following members of the Board began a new term - Tom Cunningham (new Vice President), Nancy Luthy (continued as secretary), Beth Lepore (continued), Christina Thrasher (new), Vic Elam (new), and Anita Newhart (continued). Each Board member was assigned as liaison to 1 or 2 FUUSM committees. The Board voted to hire Dawn Hewitt as Office Assistant beginning August 1!

August 2022 – Considerable time was spent updating employee benefits for staff, as recommended by the UUA. The Board determined that the Bylaws needed to be updated in time for a vote at the April Congregational meeting, The Board voted to have George submit his revised Chalice Lighter Grant proposal.

Board members agreed that the COVID risk had reduced enough to have Circle Suppers resume. YEA!

September 2022 – Joe Baker, Chair of the Building and Grounds Committee, proposed that we begin 3 projects that he had researched, totally \$11,715, including 1) repair the plaster in the Bell Tower, 2) removal of the current speakers in the sanctuary, and 3) addition of exterior lighting. The Board approved these three projects. An additional project, replacing the stoves in the kitchen, was determined to require more research. After all the evaluation forms for FUUSM employees had been revised, these forms were distributed to the assigned evaluators to be completed by the end of the 2022. One of the changes that had been made to the process was that an employee may request a third party to be present. After the evaluations were completed, they were to be filed in the employee's personnel file in the office and the Board secretary would keep an additional copy. FUUSM was awarded the Chalice Lighter Grant. Thank you, George.

October 2022 – A motion was made to hire Owen Cejka as a Child Care Attendant. Annie Warmke accepted the position as Project Manager for the Chalice Lighter Grant!

November 2022 – The Board voted to require background checks as a prerequisite for anyone being considered for hire and the Personnel Committee was to oversee this process. It was recommended that an announcement be made by Ted Goertzel that he was accepting Christmas donations for FUUSM employees before Christmas and this money would be distributed to employees based on the number of hours each employee worked.

December 2022 – Annie Warmke, Project Manager of the Chalice Lighter Grant project, shared with the Board how the project was progressing. Elaine Barr has been working closely with Annie as the group continues to brainstorm exactly how the grant money should be used. Due to Randall Kidder's shoulder surgery in December, he was unable to play at all of December's Sunday services. Concerns about a dog coming to church were discussed. Karen contacted the owner and she agreed to keep her dog on a leash and close to her at all times while at the church.

January 2023 – Our Building Use/Personnel Agreement was updated. For those scheduling weddings and memorial services and for groups wishing to use the building. Kat requested a budget item for the Religious Education program. The Board approved an RE teacher be hired for 3 hours a week @ \$15 and hour.

February 2023 - Al Tuttle and Joe Baker presented a plan for replacing the gas stove(s) and the purchase of ventilation hoods, the installation of a large screen TV in the sanctuary, and the repair of the sandstone support of the fence railing on Putnam Street. The Board requested that the Bd of Trust Governors fund these proposals.

Tom presented:

- revisions for the Bylaws,
- changes to the procedures for the Treasurer's position
- changes to procedures for the Evaluation of Staff/Minister
- changes to the Letter of Call.

All were approved by the Board. The revised Bylaws must be sent to the congregation in advance of the Annual Meeting at which time there will be a vote.

March 2023 – The Board voted to accept the Operating Budget for the year 2023-2024. Ted will send a copy to the congregation in preparation for the April meeting. The Board will assume authority over the Chalice Lighter Grant. Any contracts made by the Chalice Lighter Committee will be signed by the project manager and the Board President. The Board will host the April 8th Circle Supper in Fellowship Hall. The Agenda for the Congregational Meeting on April 23rd will include: Committee Reports, a vote to approve the 2023-2024 Operating Budget, a vote to approve the nominations for the new members of the Board and Committee on Ministries (the only 2 committees for which nominations are made) and “items for the good of the cause.”

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING WITH YOU
AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN THE SANCTUARY
APRIL 23, 2023**